POWER FOR GOOD

Steeple Renewables Project

5.1.1 Consultation Report Appendices Part H

[EN010163/APP/5.1.1]

Section 37(3)(c) of the Planning Act 2008

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

May 2025

RES is a registered trademark. Registered in England & Wales Number 1589963 | Registered office as above | www.res-group.com

Table of Contents

Purpose of this document 3

Table 1-1 List of documents in Appendix H 3

Appendix H-1 Regard had to statutory consultation responses from s42 a,b,c consultees 4

Appendix H-2 Regard had to statutory consultation responses from s42d consultees 5

Appendix H-3 Regard had to statutory consultation responses from s47 consultees 6

Purpose of this document

1.1.1. This document the Consultation Report Appendices contains information relevant to the **Consultation Report [EN010163/APP/5.1.]**. The Consultation Report has been prepared by Steeple Solar Fram Limited ("the Applicant") to accompany an application for a Development Consent Order ("DCO") for Steeple Renewables Project (the Proposed Development).

1.1.2. The report is submitted in accordance with section 37(3)(c) of the Planning Act 2008 (PA 2008), which requires that any application for an order granting development consent must be accompanied by a consultation report.

1.1.3. This document contains information which evidences or supports the information provided in the **Consultation Report [EN010163/APP/5.1.]**.

1.1 Structure of this document

1.2.1. The Appendices are as far as possible the order that are referenced within the Consultation Report.

1.2.2. A list is provided below in Table 1-1 of the documents within Appendix H.

Table 1-1 List of documents in Appendix H

Appendix No.	Appendix Title
Appendix H-1	Regard had to statutory consultation responses from s42 a,b,c consultees
Appendix H-2	Regard had to statutory consultation responses from S42d consultees
Appendix H-3	Regard had to statutory consultation responses from s47 consultees

Appendix H-1 Regard had to statutory consultation responses from s42 a,b,c consultees

Appendix H-1: Regard had to comments from consultees under s42(1)(a) of PA 2008

Table H-1 below sets out responses to the statutory consultation from consultees under s42(1)(a) of PA 2008 and the regard had to them by the Applicant. It should be read in conjunction with Chapter 6 of the **Consultation Report [EN010157/APP/5.1].**

Row ID	Consultee	Matter raised	Regard had under section 49 of the 2008 Act	Matter relevant to a design change? Y/N
1	Witham 3IDB	Witham 3IDB requested to be removed from the distribution list due to the fact that location is remote from any of the Board's administered from their office. They suggested that Trent Valley Drainage Board should be contacted for comments.	The Applicant notes this response and confirms the Trent Valley Drainage Board has been approached directly. Witham 3IDB has been removed from the Applicant's distribution list.	N
2	West Burton Solar Project	West Burton Solar Project registered its interest in the Steeple Renewables Project due to overlapping order limits. he DCO application for West Burton Solar Project was granted on 24th January 2025. West Burton Solar Project Limited requests protective provisions to prevent interference with the construction and operation of the project and note that ongoing discussions	The Applicant is in ongoing discussions with West Burton Solar Project regarding protective provisions. It is expected these will be agreed before the close of Examination. The route of the consented cable route for West Burton Solar Project has been accommodated within the Proposed Development design.	N

©RES is a registered trademark | Registered in England & Wales Number 1589961 | Registered office as above | www.res-group.com

		aim to ensure both projects can coexist. If construction timelines overlap, coordinated traffic management may be required to minimise local disruption.		
3	The Coal Authority/Mining Remediation Authority	The Coal Authority confirmed that the Steeple Renewables Project site lies within a Development Low Risk Area and therefore it has no specific comments. They advised the Applicant to review the Coal Authority's Standing Advice in the interest of public safety.	The Applicant notes the Coal Authority's Standing Advice and due regard will be given to the same as required.	N
4	STEP	United Kingdom Industrial Fusion Solutions, a subsidiary of the UK Atomic Energy Authority, is formally responding regarding the Proposed Development due to its overlap with the site of the planned STEP nuclear fusion plant at the former EDF West Burton Power Station. The Site is owned by EDF Energy (Thermal Generation) Limited and that UKAEA has the benefit of an Option over the Site. UKIFS has concern regarding the proposed underground cabling and potential compulsory acquisition powers associated with the Proposed Development as these may interfere with STEP's development.	The Applicant notes the comments and responds to the specific matters raised in UKIFS' below.	N
5		UKIFS and UKAEA request that the STEP site at West Burton not be encumbered by permanent third-party rights arising from the Proposed Development. While we do not object in principle to voluntary easements, we request that these include time-limited access rights during construction and	The Applicant has been, and continues to be, in discussions with UKIFS regarding routeing of the 400kV cable to connect to the West Burton substation and to negotiate protective provisions. It is the aim of the Applicant to minimise impacts upon the UKIFS and its future development plans for the site as far as possible.	Y

		"lift and shift" provisions to allow cable relocation if needed for STEP. We also request that protective provisions—similar to those included in the West Burton Solar Project Order 2025—be incorporated into the draft DCO to safeguard our interests, ensure future access to the site, and support compliance with development standards. We expect to maintain ongoing engagement with the Applicant to ensure these provisions are properly included.		
	Severn Trent	Severn Trent Water advised that the Applicant should confirm sewer details through on-site investigation. Severn Trent Water requires the following protective strips centred over sewer pipes: • 6m for sewers ≤225mm diameter • 10m for sewers >225mm and <1000mm • 15m for 6sewers ≥1000mm • 15m from the edge of any pumping station compound	Appropriate allowances have been made within the layout of the Proposed Development to avoid infrastructure within the easements. Road and cable crossings will be designed in consultation with Severn Trent Water.	Y
6		Severn Trent Water advised that the Applicant must confirm water main details through on-site investigation. Severn Trent Water requires that protective building-free zones are maintained as follows: • 6m wide strip centred over water mains <300mm diameter	There are no Severn Trent Water assets within the Order Limits.	Y

		• 12m wide strip centred over water mains ≥300mm diameter		
7	Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust	Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust stated that they have been in discussions with BSG Ecology to ensure that important species and habitats are considered in the Proposed Development. The Trust acknowledges that, although positive discussions took place in February 2025 in regard to biodiversity, the feedback is not included in draft documents due to time constraints.	The Applicant notes these comments and that no further response is required.	N
8		NWT notes Chapter 7 of the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) addresses Ecology and Biodiversity. It outlines the baseline biodiversity features of the Site and its Zone of Influence (ZoI), based on information available at the time of writing. A preliminary assessment is provided of the potential impacts of the Proposed Development during construction, operation, and decommissioning. The chapter also identifies measures to mitigate potential impacts and assesses the likely significance of residual effects. The final assessment will incorporate any necessary updates to the baseline and design information.	The Applicant notes the comments regarding the content of the PEIR and confirms the results of the EIA are fully reported on within the Environmental Statement.	N

9		The following ongoing assessments are noted: • Littleborough Lagoon – Lake condition assessment is in progress. • Off-site Trees and Buildings – Ground-level assessments for bats and barn owls are ongoing. Survey results, interpretation, and assessment will be presented in the Environmental Statement (ES) to confirm the baseline. • Bat Activity Survey – Analysis of later survey data is ongoing. The PEIR currently includes an interim evaluation and assessment. Full results, interpretation, and assessment will be provided in the ES. • Aquatic Invertebrate Survey – Sample analysis is in progress. The PEIR will be updated at a later stage to include results and interpretation. NWT welcomes the opportunity to review the final survey results and associated assessments once available.	All ecology survey work has been completed.	N
10		NWT stated that the ecological survey work did not initially cover additional areas added to the site boundary after the EIA Scoping Opinion request on 19th April 2024, including roads and railway sections. NWT acknowledge that these areas will be surveyed and included in the Ecology Chapter of the Environmental Statement and deem this satisfactory.	The Applicant notes the comment and that no further action is required.	N

11		NWT stated that the ecological survey work did not initially cover additional areas added to the site boundary after the EIA Scoping Opinion request on 19th April 2024, including roads and railway sections. NWT acknowledge that these areas will be surveyed and included in the Ecology Chapter of the Environmental Statement and deem this satisfactory.	The Applicant notes the comment and that no further action is required.	N
12		NWT identified within the site and two additional LWS within 100 meters of the site boundary. West Burton Meadow LWS and Clarborough Tunnel LWS, both located off-site but within 100 meters of the boundary, are designated for their habitat interest. Clarborough Tunnel LWS is also recognised as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), located 40 meters southwest of the site. Other LWS partially or wholly within or adjacent to the site include Blue Stocking Lane, High House Road Verges, Sturton Le Steeple, Mother Drain, Upper Ings, Thornhill Lane Drain, Littleborough, Littleborough Lagoons, and West Burton Meadow. NWT recognises that LWS' are crucial for biodiversity conservation, housing rare species, and representing the best examples of Nottinghamshire's habitats. NWT emphasises the importance of protecting and buffering LWS from development, as recognized in Local Planning Policies and the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), which cites the need to protect irreplaceable habitats. NWT supports the implementation of improved management of	The LWS at the Site will be retained and protected by embedded mitigation measures. Further enhancement to those within the Site will be delivered by improved management where possible, which detailed in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 7.14, Outline Landscape Ecological Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.7]**. Adverse effects to the LWSs are not expected.	N

		retained habitats, such as grasslands within nearby LWS, as part of the overall mitigation package.		
13		NWT has highlighted the need for detailed information on the proposed cable routes, installation methods, and associated impacts. It is advised that a defined Cable Route Search Area (CRSA) should inform ecological assessments, with surveys and stakeholder engagement guiding the final route selection prior to submission of the Development Consent Order (DCO) application. Concerns have been raised regarding potential impacts on Local Wildlife Sites (LWS), with a request for further clarification on how these sites will be safeguarded during both construction and decommissioning phases. While NWT supports the use of directional drilling beneath watercourses and hedgerows as a mitigation measure, additional information is sought on the cabling methodology and the specific LWS potentially affected. NWT recommends that all cabling operations be conducted in accordance with an Ecological Method Statement, under the supervision of an Ecological Clerk of Works, to ensure effective species protection and habitat restoration.	Details of the cable route are presented within the ES. No LWS are in or adjacent to the cable route; adverse effects to the LWSs are not expected from the cable route. Mitigation measures (such as directional drilling) for retained habitats are presented within the ES.	N
14		NWT stated that surveys undertaken in 2024 identified six breeding pairs of lapwing within the Eastern Biodiversity Mitigation Area, with an additional pair nesting nearby. Flocks of 30-50 of lapwings were also recorded in this area during the summer and a pair of meadow pipits was	Surveys of trees and buildings at the Site for barn owl have been completed, and assessment of potential effects to barn owl are included in the Ecology chapter of the ES. Prior to the commencement of works that could give rise to disturbance impacts on nesting barn owls,	N

		observed likely breeding in the same location. Skylark, yellow wagtail and lapwing are Red listed, SPIs and a Species of Conservation Concern in the Nottinghamshire BAP. Meadow pipit is Amber listed and a Species of Conservation Concern in the Nottinghamshire BAP. [redacted]	the features with barn owl nesting / roosting potential would be inspected by a barn owl-licensed ecologist to ensure that no nesting behaviour, or dependant young are present These measures are included within the **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.1, Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]**.	
15		[redacted] Nine arable fields have been identified for the delivery of skylark mitigation measures. These large arable fields support low densities of skylark due to the limited presence	The Applicant acknowledges the comments and the Skylark Mitigation Strategy has been updated and provided as an appendix to the **ES Volume 2, Appendix 7.13 Skylark Mitigation Strategy [EN010163/APP/6]**. The updates have incorporated the proposed additional measures suggested by the Wildlife Trust.	N

		of deterrent boundary features. While we agree that fields designated for other biodiversity measures may contribute to the overall area available for nesting skylark, these are expected to support lower densities than land specifically managed to benefit skylark. NWT encourages further enhancement through land management practices such as using spring cereals, maintaining weedy overwinter stubbles without herbicide use, and installing beetle banks. The Trust supports the cessation of nitrate and phosphate use through the conversion of arable land to grassland, which is expected to reduce runoff and improve water quality in nearby ditches and watercourses. Though, clarification is sought on whether such applications will continue on retained farmland within the DCO boundary. The Trust also supports the phased approach to the LEMP, helping to minimise disturbance and support bird productivity.		
16		NWT notes that the PEIR currently concludes that dormice are likely absent from the site due to its distance from Treswell Woods, the intervening habitat quality and the condition of hedgerows on site. The Trust notes that clarification will be sought from the Nottinghamshire	Nottinghamshire Dormouse Group were contacted via email on 10 March 2025 for further information on the local distribution of dormouse.	N

		Dormouse Group and the assessment will be updated accordingly.		
17		NWT notes that 2024 field surveys confirmed that badger activity is widespread across the Site. The Summary of Designed-in Measures states that all main badger setts will be retained within an appropriate buffer throughout the construction, operational, and decommissioning phases of the Proposed Development. However, it is also noted that: 'Securing and implementing protected species licences, such as for bats or badgers, where impacts to avoid an offence under the relevant legislation cannot be avoided' may be required. Furthermore, paragraph 7.8.103 under 'Badger Construction Phase Impacts' states: 'The Proposed Development will seek to retain all setts within appropriate buffers, with the intention of fully protecting them during construction.' NWT seeks clarity on the strategy for badger setts, as the above statements seem to contradict each other.	At the PEIR stage the potential impacts to badger setts were still not confirmed as design work was ongoing. The Ecology chapter of the ES provides confirmation that the majority of badger setts at the Site are retained and protected by appropriate habitat buffers. Where potential impacts to a badger sett are unavoidable, and risk to the sett cannot be controlled by precautionary methods of working, those setts will be temporarily closed under a Natural England badger development licence for the duration of the construction works.	N
18		NWT noted that the draft layouts for the proposed mitigation areas were not included within the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) submission, however shared gratitude that BSG Ecology provided additional documentation for review. The Trust is broadly	The Applicant notes these comments. These comments have been considered and fed into the design where they are considered to be appropriate. Further details on the design of the Biodiversity	Y

		supportive of the mitigation proposals but offer the following comments and recommendations. Eastern Mitigation Area NWT supports the creation of wet woodland habitat, however recommends this habitat type is not introduced within areas where scrapes are proposed. Ground-nesting wading birds prefer open areas for nesting, as trees and other tall structures provide perching places for avian predators. Fenton Gorse - NWT recommends that natural regeneration is considered for this site to allow wildlife to benefit from successional habitats. Management of Fenton Gorse would also allow the creation of a varied scrub structure. Peninsula - NWT supports the concept of the area in theory, however notes that it will be essential to ensure that the botanical interest of the Littleborough Lagoon Local Wildlife Site (LWS) is not adversely affected. A bund in this location could provide valuable foraging habitat along the water's edge, act as a loafing area for wildfowl, and help to create a more sheltered waterbody by reducing exposure to prevailing winds. Ongoing management would be required to maintain an open character. With regard to grazing, NWT states that large cattle is	Mitigation Areas are provided in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 7.14, Outline Landscape Ecological Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.7]**.	

		preferrable to sheep due to them producing a more diverse sward. Conservation grazing should be prioritised over commercial grazing. NWT supports the creation of a 5m buffer between the LWS ditch and adjacent agricultural land, where wet scrapes could be created. Western Mitigation Area NWT recommends creating grassland in the Western Mitigation Area, allowing the adjacent woodland to extend and create a scrub edge to the woodland. The Trust would also welcome the inclusion of beetle banks instead of broader field margins as these features are likely to deliver greater benefits for skylarks. Tenant farmers may be able to receive funding under the Sustainable Farming Incentive (SFI) scheme for the management of such features. NWT would also welcome the inclusion of lapwing plots within this area, although acknowledges that the Eastern Mitigation Area may already provide suitable nesting and foraging habitat for lapwing.		
19		NWT highlights that low intensity grazing beneath solar panels can contribute to grassland management, support biodiversity, and enable continued agricultural use.	Habitat management prescriptions are provided in outline, which are presented in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 7.14, Outline Landscape Ecological Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.7]**. Options for graziers will be	

		The Trust notes that commercial grazing is unlikely to benefit wildlife. While sheep are commonly used due to their size, it is recommended that grazing is carried out with a biodiversity-led approach, incorporating low stocking densities to retain structural diversity in the sward. Structural grassland during winter benefits invertebrates, and grazing should be suspended during parts of spring and summer to support flowering plants. The most significant biodiversity gains are expected when grazing is ceased from April to September. This approach can enhance wildflower and invertebrate diversity, with additional benefits for small mammals and foraging birds. A suitably qualified ecologist should oversee the development of a site-specific conservation grazing regime.	explored locally to provide sheep for grazing. Where sheep are not available, grassland management at the Proposed Development can be undertaken by mowing. This would be overseen by a suitably qualified ecologist.	
20		NWT recognises that the Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) will be a key document for minimising construction-phase impacts on biodiversity. Measures may include the appointment of an Ecological Clerk of Works (ECoW) to deliver training, oversee biodiversity-sensitive activities, and ensure compliance with environmental legislation and planning conditions. Construction compounds should be sited in areas of lowest ecological value. Reasonable Avoidance Measures (RAMs) are expected, such as covering excavations overnight and appropriate storage of hazardous materials in line with COSHH regulations. Low-pressure vehicles with turf tyres or	The Applicant notes these comments. These comments have been considered and fed into the CEMP where they are considered to be appropriate. Further details are provided in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.1, Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]**.	N

		rubber tracks should be used to minimise soil compaction. Access roads should be constructed to a high standard, with the minimum required width, appropriate drainage, and sediment control; options such as timber or road mats may help reduce the impact on vegetation. Site managers should carry out routine checks on fencing, litter, and materials storage. Environmental monitoring of water and soil will be necessary during construction, with a focus on sediment control in watercourses.		
21		NWT recognises that decommissioning activities are likely to be broadly similar in nature to those undertaken during construction, and equivalent environmental controls should be applied. Given the likely increase in habitat extent and ecological value over the operational period, it is anticipated that areas of higher-value habitat will be retained where possible. The loss of habitats established over a 40-year period would be undesirable. The decommissioning phase should therefore be subject to assessment, with potential ecological impacts appropriately mitigated in accordance with relevant policy and guidance in place at the time.	The Applicant notes the comment and agrees that decommissioning effects will be similar in character to the construction stage, and the assessment of effects in general throughout the ES chapters are equal to or less than the construction phase effects. Ecological effects are assessed for the decommissioning phase in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 - Ecology and Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.2.7]**, with appropriate mitigation in place. Land within the Order Limits is intended to be returned to its original use as far as possible and practical with areas of established mitigation left in situ where possible and in agreement with the landowner. As part of the DCO application, the Applicant has produced **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.2, Outline Decommissioning Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4],** outlining	N

			procedures during the decommissioning phase to ensure no significant adverse environmental effects remain.	
22		NWT notes that the Site will be protected by fencing and states that the ES should detail mitigation measures to avoid significant impacts on species movement during both construction and operational phases. Consideration should also be given to restricting mammal access to areas specifically designed to support ground-nesting birds. Furthermore, the Ecological Impact Assessment (EcIA) should identify where monitoring is required in relation to mitigation, compensation, and enhancement measures. It should clearly set out the monitoring methodologies, success criteria, timing, implementation mechanisms, and the frequency and duration of both monitoring and reporting. Monitoring should be used to confirm implementation, assess effectiveness, provide early warning where measures are underperforming, and guide corrective action where necessary. Monitoring provisions should be secured via planning conditions or legal obligations.	The Applicant notes this comment. The **ES [EN010163/APP/6]** provides information on fencing mitigation measures such as the use of mammal gates, the final details of which are subject to detailed design. Further mitigation, compensation and enhancement measures are also set out within the ES, together with proposed monitoring. These measures are secured by Requirements to the DCO.	N
23		NWT notes that while Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) are currently exempt from mandatory Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) requirements until an anticipated commencement date in November 2025, and specific	The BNG assessment work has identified that the Proposed Development will deliver over 10% gain for terrestrial and aquatic habitats.	N

		guidance on the application of statutory BNG to such projects remains forthcoming, a BNG assessment will be included in the Environmental Statement using the current Defra metric, subject to further consultation. The Trust welcomes that the Proposed Development is committed to delivering net gains in biodiversity across habitats, hedgerows, and watercourses, with over 400 hectares allocated for mitigation and enhancement. This presents a significant opportunity for large-scale habitat creation and enhancement and may serve as a benchmark for future solar developments. NWT encourages the delivery of at least a 10% biodiversity net gain in line with the Environment Act 2021. Habitats should be secured for the duration of the scheme. The mitigation hierarchy of avoidance, mitigation, and compensation remains applicable. Site-specific enhancement measures should also address the needs of Nottinghamshire Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) species and habitats, as well as Section 41 Species and Habitats of Principal Importance under the NERC Act 2006.		
24		NWT notes that several other solar developments of comparable scale and in close proximity to the Proposed Development are currently in progress or under consideration. An assessment of potential in-combination effects should therefore be included.	The Applicant notes this comment and confirms in-combination effects are considered in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 - Ecology and Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.2.7]**. The Applicant is also liaising	N

		Coordination between project teams is encouraged to promote habitat connectivity across sites, thereby delivering enhanced ecological outcomes and supporting national ambitions such as the 30x30 target. Establishing coherent links between key landscape features would represent a significant biodiversity gain at a county level.	with other developers in the area on coordinating schemes where possible.	
25		NWT recommends that the rent and Belvoir Vales National Character Area (NCA) should inform the selection of woodland types and planting schemes. All new planting should use native species, ideally of local provenance, that reflect the characteristic flora of the NCA. While common hawthorn dominates existing hedgerows in the area, their biodiversity value can be enhanced through the introduction of additional native shrub species, varied planting compositions, and appropriate long-term management. Many hedgerows within the solar and biodiversity park are currently species-poor, fragmented, and maintained in a short, narrow form. There is a clear opportunity to enhance these features by infilling gaps with diverse native species and managing them to develop a taller, broader structure. New hedgerow planting should be prioritised where it contributes to improved connectivity between woodland blocks.	The Applicant notes these comments and confirms additional planting, including of hedgerow, is secured through the **ES Volume 2, Appendix 7.14, Outline Landscape and Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.7]**.	Y

26		NWT suggests that where works cannot be avoided in proximity to high-value ecological features, further detailed assessment and appropriate mitigation should be undertaken. The buffer zones proposed in Appendix 1: Table 7.5 are generally considered satisfactory. While specific buffer distances for mature trees are not yet defined, it is noted that arboricultural advice will be sought. For trees or buildings confirmed to support bat roosts, buffer distances should be determined on a case-by-case basis, reflecting species-specific requirements, roost type, and the nature of the construction activity. The level of disturbance generated by different development components (e.g. solar arrays, access roads, battery storage) should also be taken into account. This approach is considered appropriate.	Individual tree root protection areas are specified in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 6.5, Arboricultural Impact Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.6]** and have been incorporated into the designed-in measures. Potential bat roost trees and buildings have been retained and incorporated into semi-natural habitat buffers. The potential for residual adverse effects from disturbance to potential bat roost features has been considered within the **ES [EN010163/APP/6]**.	N
27		Sturton le Steeple Parish Council has indicated that its position is based on the findings of an independent, community-led working group, Fields for Farming, which undertook a local consultation by contacting all residents. The group received 738 responses to its request for feedback on the Proposed Development, with 732 respondents (99.2%) opposing the development of a large-scale solar farm on designated agricultural land within the community. While the Parish Council recognises the importance of renewable energy, it has expressed concerns about the suitability of the proposed location.	The Applicant notes the Parish Council's comments and the findings of the working group. Responses to the specific representations made by the Parish Council are responded to below.	N

28		Sturton le Steeple Parish Council highlights that the Sturton Ward Neighbourhood Plan has been reviewed to reflect the community's priorities in light of major energy infrastructure changes. The updated plan supports solar development only where it is appropriately screened, protects landscape character, and includes comprehensive ecological mitigation. It also emphasises the importance of safeguarding heritage assets. The Parish Council states that the Proposed Development does not align with these local planning principles and would likely be refused if assessed at the local level.	The Applicant notes the comment. Within the submitted **ES Volume 1 [EN010163/APP/6.2]** are the following chapters, **Chapter 6 - Landscape and Visual Impact and Residential Amenity [EN010163/APP/6.2.6]**, **Chapter 7 - Ecology and Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.2.7]** and **Chapter 9 - Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9]**, which fully assess the likely significant landscape, ecological and heritage effects arising from the Proposed Development. The findings of the assessments show compliance with the policies within the Sturton Ward Neighbourhood Plan. The **Planning Statement [EN010163/APP/7.1]** further sets out the need for the Proposed Development, and how it is in accordance with national and local planning policy.	N
29	Sturton-le-Steeple Parish Council	Sturton-le-Steeple Parish Council highlighted that 95.5% of surveys showed concern for the loss of countryside and wildlife habitat. The council stated that species are at risk of disturbance or displacement due to the Proposed Development, which poses a significant risk to biodiversity and environmental health. The council emphasised that the scale of the solar farm is disproportionately large relative to the community, threatening the rural character, scenic value, and agricultural identity of the area. Additional concerns include potential impacts on soil quality, natural drainage, and broader ecosystem stability.	The Applicant acknowledges that the Site supports biodiversity and a range of flora and fauna. Detailed surveys and studies have been completed by independent ecological consultants to establish the pre-development ecological baseline, and these have informed the design process, the scope of which was agreed with consultees. The Proposed Development retains, protects and enhances the majority of the habitats with increased biodiversity value such as hedgerows, arable field margins, woodlands, trees, watercourses, and ponds. Significant areas of new habitats are proposed including	N

			wetlands, woodland, hedgerows and meadow grassland. An assessment of the biodiversity value, as assessed via the Statutory Biodiversity Metric Tool, has been undertaken to evaluate the habitats on Site (**ES Volume 2, Appendix 7.12, Biodiversity Net Gain [EN010163/APP/6.3.7]**); this has identified that there would be a biodiversity net gain of habitat units 54.93%, hedgerow units 35.53% and watercourse units 14.68%. An Ecological Impact Assessment has also been undertaken to evaluate the ecologically important features on the Site and how they may be affected by the Proposed Development (**ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 - Ecology & Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.2.7]** and **Appendices associated with Chapter 7 – Ecology & Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.3.7]**) With mitigation in place, no significant adverse effects on designated nature conservation sites or important habitats are likely. Most species-impacts are scoped out, or are likely to be neutral, not significant, or slightly beneficial in the long-term. Effects on skylark are assessed as adverse (locally significant).	
30		Sturton le Steeple Parish Council stated that 95.7% of residents object to the use of productive farmland for the Proposed Development. The Parish Council highlights that	The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's food security. Indeed, the reverse is true: the solar	N

		the site supports local food production and the livelihoods of many families.	industry is working closely with Britain's farmers to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground underneath to recover, while providing income for the farming business. Solar farms also help regenerate soil quality and so are helping to ensure the continued availability of high-quality agricultural acreage for future generations.	
31		The Parish Council shared residents' views advocating the mandating of solar panels on all new housing developments rather than using productive agricultural land.	The Applicant notes the comment. Unfortunately, solar panels on new buildings is out of the Applicant's control. Furthermore, new buildings would not be able to accommodate the amount or scale of solar panels proposed by the DCO and the UK Government has recognised that rooftop and ground-mounted solar arrays are required to tackle the climate emergency and achieve net zero.	N
32		The Parish Council stated that 86.7% of residents expressed concerns about the potential loss of agricultural jobs stating that the proposed site for the solar farm is currently active agricultural land that supports a variety of crops, which is vital not only for local food production but also for the rural economy. The Parish Council stated that converting this productive farmland into a solar energy site will result in the loss of agricultural jobs, impacting those who depend on the	The Applicant acknowledges the concerns raised regarding impact on local businesses as a result of the Proposed Development. As part of the planning application, the Applicant has assessed the impact on socioeconomic receptors, which includes local businesses within the local area. The assessment itself and the findings of it can be found in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10 - Socio Economics [EN010163/APP/6.2.10].**	

		industry for their livelihoods, which could have serious economic repercussions for the local community.		
33		The Parish Council highlighted that 81.9% of residents have raised concerns about the high number of projects currently in the planning process, including the Nuclear Fusion project, quarry operations, National Grid upgrades, and other large solar developments. Residents estimate that if the RES project proceeds, up to 90% of the parish could be industrialised, which would have a profound impact on the local community.	The cumulative impacts of the Proposed Development, together with other nearby developments—including solar projects such as Land North West and South of Field Farm, Wood Lane, Sturton le Steeple (planning reference: 20/00117/FUL), and Land East of Bumble Bee Farm, Gainsborough Road, Saundby (planning reference: 22/00358/FUL)—have been comprehensively assessed across all relevant technical chapters of the Environmental Statement. Full details of the cumulative effects assessment are provided in **ES Volume 1, Chapters 6 through 17 [EN010163/APP/6.2.6 – 6.2.17]**. With regard to the National Grid proposals, easements have been adhered to within the Proposed Development and all cables associated with the Proposed Development will be underground, and no new overhead lines and associated poles will be required.	N
34		76% of residents have expressed strong concerns about the anticipated increase in traffic during the construction phase. A project of this scale will introduce a significant amount of heavy machinery and traffic into our small rural community. The existing infrastructure is inadequate to cope with such an increase, which could disrupt daily life and present safety risks, particularly for residents and schools. Additionally, the		

		noise, dust, and overall disruption during construction would negatively impact the quality of life for those living nearby.		
35		A number of residents commented on climate change and the 'bigger picture'. Here are some examples: "Importing food and drink from overseas does nothing to reduce climate change. By reducing the amount of space for food production, would only increase food mileage and could negate the good created by solar energy. Development of brownfield sites for industry or housing should include a clause for solar energy to be incorporated" "Solar panels are not green. How are they made? Where do the materials come from? We are sold a lie!" "We need to keep all the farmland free from development of all kinds if we want to be a substantial country. Crops are failing all over the world and with climate change the position will only get worse". "The amount of land suitable for agriculture on our planet is fairly fixed and we are already reaching the limit to its ability to feed us. Climate change and building developments are reducing the available agricultural land year on year, so	The Proposed Development can still be used for grazing and can support continued food production. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's food security. Indeed, the reverse is true: the solar industry is working closely with Britain's farmers to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground underneath to recover, while providing income for the farming business. Solar farms also help regenerate soil quality and so are helping to ensure the continued availability of high quality agricultural acreage for future generations.	N

		further reducing it by deliberately covering it with solar panels rather than on buildings, is clearly insane. This is being done for short term profit with no thought for the future".		
36		The Parish Council strongly objects to the planning application for the Proposed Development due to the significant historical connections the community has with the Mayflower Pilgrims advising that Sturton le Steeple is a key location in the Pilgrim story, and the Parish Council has been working closely with Bassetlaw District Council to enhance local tourism. This includes commissioning a significant sculpture, mostly funded through Rural England funding. The Parish Council advised that it takes great pride in our Christian heritage and its ties to the Mayflower Pilgrims, and that it is seeing the benefits of tourism in the area. The Parish Council's aim is to further promote this heritage by welcoming more visitors, using our sculpture and information board as focal points, and offering refreshments at the village hall. The Parish Council is collaborating directly with Bassetlaw District Council to increase awareness of Sturton le Steeple as part of the Pilgrim Trail. A large-scale solar farm, if improperly located, would detract from the area's heritage, overshadowing the village and undermining efforts to create a tourist destination focused on celebrating our important historical links. We urge the	The Pilgrim Trail is not a heritage asset; it is a series of historic sites associated with the origins of the Mayflower Pilgrims. Related heritage assets, e.g. the Grade II* Listed Church of St Peter and St Paul in Sturton le Steeple are considered where relevant, and are included in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 - Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9]**, and **ES Volume 2, Chapter 9, Appendix 9.1 - Cultural Heritage Technical Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**.	

		preservation and enhancement of this area to promote our strong heritage alongside Bassetlaw District Council.		
37	Fields for Farming – via Sturton-le-Steeple Parish Council	Fields for Farming highlights that the Proposed Development is part of a broader pattern of speculative applications for large-scale solar developments across the Trent Valley in North Nottinghamshire and West Lincolnshire. Energy generation should not come at an unacceptable cost to local communities, land, and ecosystems. The group stated that the village should not be surrounded by a vast expanse of solar panels. Unlike other solar farms that extend lengthwise over fields, this proposal would enclose the village entirely, significantly impacting the local environment and community.	The UK has a legally binding commitment to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050. As one of the cheapest and most rapidly deployable forms of renewable energy, solar will play an important role in achieving this commitment. The need to connect to the existing electricity transmission network, largely dictates the spatial location of utility scale solar farms. The **Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3]** explains the Proposed Development's design evolution including site location. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3 -Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** provides more information regarding site selection. The location has been chosen for a number of reasons including connection agreement, proximity of grid connection, good access, screening provisions and offsets to sensitive receptors/ physical constraints can be achieved. Alternative sites have been considered but were discounted for numerous reasons such as proximity to heritage assets, ecological designations etc.	N
38		Fields for Farming advised that the area is primarily rural, featuring farmland dotted with small villages and hamlets.	The cumulative impacts of the Proposed Development, in conjunction with other nearby developments—including	

		However, it is already home to four major nationally significant infrastructure projects currently under development. The group stated that if they include the transmission lines from solar farms located on the east side of the Trent, which will pass directly through the parish en route to West Burton, the total rises to five. The area is simply unable to accommodate the cumulative impact of such large-scale industrial development.	West Burton C (planning reference: 22/01713/FUL), and solar projects such as Land North West and South of Field Farm, Wood Lane, Sturton le Steeple (planning reference: 20/00117/FUL), and Land East of Bumble Bee Farm, Gainsborough Road, Saundby (planning reference: 22/00358/FUL)—have been fully assessed across all relevant technical chapters scoped into the Environmental Statement. Full details of the cumulative effects assessment can be found in **ES Volume 1, Chapters 6 through 17 [EN010163/APP/6.2.6 – 6.2.17]**.	
39		Fields for Farming have welcomed the STEP nuclear fusion project to our area, recognizing its national importance as a pioneering initiative aimed at researching and, hopefully, delivering green electricity. This aligns with their commitment to supporting continued energy production in the Trent Valley. Fields for Farming also acknowledge the need for the region to contribute to renewable energy efforts and have expressed support for a smaller-scale solar project on land to the west of Sturton le Steeple.	The Applicant notes these comments, and that Government policy promotes the development of a mix of energy technologies, including nuclear and solar, to tackle the climate crisis. The Proposed Development is a critical national priority infrastructure and will deliverable considerable clean energy.	N
40		Fields for Farming commented that the cumulative impact on this village is huge and will irreversibly change the nature and community of a rural area. The region is already carrying a disproportionate share of large-scale energy and infrastructure projects, including the ongoing quarry	The cumulative impacts of the Proposed Development, in conjunction with other nearby developments—including West Burton C (planning reference: 22/01713/FUL), and solar projects such as Land North West and South of Field Farm, Wood Lane, Sturton le Steeple (planning reference:	N

		operations, which will bring increased noise, dust, and traffic. Our primary concern is the combined effect of several major projects that are either already underway or approved in the area. West Burton C, the gas power station, is located on Gainsborough Road, which is the only designated HGV route into the village. The STEP Fusion project, which has recently received a £420 million government investment, will also be accessed via this same road. During construction, the site will accommodate up to 10,000 workers, all of whom will need to use this single access route.	20/00117/FUL), and Land East of Bumble Bee Farm, Gainsborough Road, Saundby (planning reference: 22/00358/FUL)—have been fully assessed across all relevant technical chapters scoped into the Environmental Statement. Full details of the cumulative effects assessment can be found in **ES Volume 1, Chapters 6 through 17 [EN010163/APP/6.2.6 – 6.2.17]**.	
41		The Associated Industries Quarry, although approved in the early 2000s, has recently begun operation, requiring the removal of significant farmland to extract sand and gravel. This project is initially planned to last 25 years, but an extension is already anticipated. The operation will generate up to 1,000 lorries per week, travelling along the same minor road—equating to one lorry every 3 minutes. There are plans to increase this to 2,000 lorries per week, with a lorry leaving every 90 seconds, causing noise, air pollution, road damage, and significant travel disruption for local residents heading to Gainsborough. In addition, the reclamation of power station ash from Bole Ings, a new cable corridor, and pylons from the offshore	The cumulative impact assessment provided in the **ES [EN010163/APP/6]** of traffic generated within the zone of influence has been analysed and data provided for the local highway network including the Quarry access road.	

		windfarm in Hull are planned to pass through the village, connecting to the grid at the decommissioned High Marnham Power Station. Furthermore, the 600 MW West Burton Solar Farm, being developed by Island Green Power, will bring cables across the Trent and through the countryside to connect to the West Burton grid.		
42	Stow Parish Council	Stow Parish Council noted that the Proposed Development is not relevant to their village in Lincolnshire. They requested to be removed from the consultation database as the project does not affect their locality.	The Applicant notes the comments and has removed Stow Parish Council from its distribution list.	N
43	North Leverton with Habblesthorpe Parish Council	North Leverton Parish Council asserts that the Proposed Development is in contravention of the Sturton Ward Neighbourhood Plan Policy, references Policy 2a 1, policy 5 1, Policy 5 2f Policy 12 2 d, Paragraph 18.5 and 18.6. The Proposed Development is in conflict with these polices because: • The project will harm the landscape character of the ward in direct conflict with the ward plan. • As they will be 3.6m tall, the hedges will not screen the panels from view, again in direct conflict with the ward plan • The site selection was based on a period of January to	Regarding landscape character effects, NPS EN-1 sets out at paragraph 5.10.5 that *'Virtually all nationally significant energy infrastructure projects will have adverse effects on the landscape, but there may also be beneficial landscape character impacts arising from mitigation'*. EN-1 goes on to state at paragraph 5.10.6 that *'Projects need to be designed carefully, taking account of the potential impact on the landscape. Having regard to siting, operational and other relevant constraints the aim should be to minimise harm to the landscape, providing reasonable mitigation where possible and appropriate'*. In the case of the Proposed Development, it is recognised that some localised effects on landscape character would arise, but it is considered that the project has minimised potential harm to the landscape though the design of the Proposed Development and the provision of appropriate	N

		March 2024. This does not appear sufficient to base a whole area of solar panels on	mitigation. These impacts are considered against the benefits of the Proposed Development within the **Planning Statement [EN010163/APP/7.1]**, which also considers the Proposed Development's compliance with local planning policies.	
44		The eastern part of the site falls within a drinking water protected area. What will the Applicant be doing to ensure the water is protected during the construction, operation and lifetime of the Proposed Development? The report states that there remains potential for the release of hazardous materials which could impact local watercourses. The report continues on to say that the effects could be ' temporary, direct and of local importance', there is no clarity on what this statement means. The parish council is seeking firm guarantees that the watercourse will remain unaffected.	Protection of drinking water and surface water is assessed within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 8 -Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Flood Risk and Drainage [EN010163/APP/6.2.8]**. Impacts on drainage and flood risk discussed within **ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.2, Surface Water Drainage Strategy [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.2, Flood Risk Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]** . The Applicant notes concerns raised regarding the potential for release of chemicals to the ground / groundwater during construction. This is discussed within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 8 - Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Flood Risk and Drainage [EN010163/APP/6.2.8]**.	N
45		The parish council still has questions in regard to the date of construction and the length of the construction period, including whether the Applicant considered the STEP and National Grid proposals when deciding on timelines for construction or generally as part of project development.	The construction phase of the Proposed Development is currently anticipated to begin in 2027 and span for 24 months, targeting completion and operation in 2029; this will be dependent on the final design of the Proposed Development and potential environmental constraints on the timing of construction activities. The Applicant notes there is an intention for a nuclear fusion	N

			development (STEP) at the former West Burton A Power Station site. The proposed STEP development will not be located within the Order Limits of the Proposed Development. As the STEP development does not have a design as yet, this project cannot be assessed in the cumulative effects assessment within the **ES [EN010163/APP/6]**. The Proposed Development does not include any link to the proposed nuclear fusion development (STEP) at the former West Burton A Power Station site. Additionally, the New 400 kilovolt (kV) electricity transmission connection - North Humber to High Marnham proposal has been scoped into the cumulative effects assessment, and is considered in technical ES chapters, as required. Refer to **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6 through to Chapter 17 [EN010163/APP/6.2.6 - 6.2.17]** for full details of the cumulative effects assessment.	
46		Within the consultation documents the Applicant has proposed the maximum substation height as 11m AGL which is almost 5 times bigger than what was presented during the initial consultation. With this increase, how can the parish be sure the height of the substation will not increase again. This increased height now means there will be potential for significant visual effects for a number of properties. This	The design of the Proposed Development is now fixed for the purpose of the DCO submission. Previously the scheme parameters were still evolving as the design iteration work was undertaken. An assessment of visual effects on residential properties is provided within the LVIA. Following the PEIR stage further design iteration work has resulted in greater offsets from residential properties, which in combination with the proposed mitigation planting, would help to limit potential effects.	N

		visual effects need to be fully assessed before the project receives consent.		
47		The ground level survey work has identified trees that provide potential features that support nesting barn owls. Evidence of nesting birds was discovered. These trees are set to be felled as part of the Proposed Development, however more surveys need to take place to ensure the owls are protected. The report states that "with mitigation in place, no significant adverse effects on designated sites for nature conservation or important habitats are likely" this is in direct conflict with other parts of the report that state the converse.	All trees with barn owl suitability are to be retained and protected from damage in habitat buffers. Prior to the commencement of works that could give rise to disturbance impacts on nesting barn owls, the features with barn owl nesting / roosting potential would be inspected by a barn owl-licensed ecologist to ensure that no nesting behaviour, or dependant young are present These measures are included within the **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.1, Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]**. The Ecology chapter of the **ES [EN010163/APP/6]** is consistent throughout in its assessment of designated sites and important habitats, in that there will be no significant adverse effects to the feature following mitigation. The potential for adverse effects to ecological features including designated sites and important habitats, has been identified in the Ecology chapter in the absence of mitigation; this is the standard approach to ecological assessment. It is possible that the author of the comment has misinterpreted the approach to assessment as inconsistency. The Applicant reiterates that the ecological assessment has not identified any adverse effects to designated sites or important habitats	N

			following the implementation of mitigation measures which they are committed to.	
48		The parish council notes that identified secondary and tertiary watercourses were noted as dry during the site visit taken on a dry sunny day. The parish asks when this assessment will be revisited to ensure that the Proposed Development will not increase flood risk and cause drainage issues.	The Flood Risk Assessment considers events up to the 1 in 100 year plus climate change event, it doesn't assume that conditions will remain the same as during the site inspection. All assessment and mitigation is based on the 1 in 100 year plus climate change event. The inspection undertaken was appropriate to understand the local hydrology, and more weather extreme conditions have been assessed using appropriate consultation, modelling and data sources. No further assessment is required.	N
49		The parish notes that construction activities have the potential to result in the release of chemicals to the ground, which may percolate into underlying aquifers. This remains a concern given the classification of the area as prime agricultural land and the proximity of local watercourses. While the report states that construction-related effects will be temporary, the parish observes that this appears to conflict with other sections of the document. Clarification is requested regarding the long-term implications for soil and water quality.	The Applicant notes the comment and agrees there is potential for the release of chemicals to the ground during construction. However, management measures will be followed in accordance with **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.1, Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** to ensure best practice is followed to minimise the risk of release of pollution or sediment. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 8 - Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Flood Risk and Drainage [EN010163/APP/6.2.8]** fully details the assessment on ground conditions and concludes that	N

			hydrogeological impacts are not anticipated to be not significant.	
50		The parish notes that while the project may generate some temporary local employment during the construction phase, ongoing operational requirements appear minimal. The parish seeks clarification on how the Proposed Development will deliver long-term economic or community benefits for local residents.	The Applicant has considered job creation, and these effects are outlined in the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10 – Socio Economics [EN010163/APP/6.2.10]** jobs are expected to be created during the construction phase and the decommissioning phase. There are a range of benefits which can be expected during the construction phase, operational phase and decommissioning phase, together with the implementation of **ES Volume 2, Appendix 10.1, The Outline Supply Chain, Employment and Skills Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.10]**	
51		The parish notes that the report references potential benefits to Bassetlaw through business rates and government reinvestment. However, these claims appear speculative and are not currently supported by verifiable evidence. The parish requests further detail to substantiate how such benefits would be secured and delivered locally.	The benefits of the Proposed Development are outlined in the DCO application. The proposed mitigation and monitoring measures will be secured via various management plans, including **ES Volume 2, Appendix 10.1, The Outline Supply Chain, Employment and Skills Plan** [**EN010163/APP/6.3.10]** which will be agreed with the local planning authority prior to construction of the Proposed Development commencing and will be substantially in accordance with the outline versions submitted with the DCO Application. These measures are secured by requirements within the DCO, which are enforceable obligations.	N

52		The parish notes that the report states the land will remain in agricultural use through grazing during the operational phase of the Proposed Development. However, local farmers have raised concerns regarding the practicalities and safety of grazing livestock—particularly sheep—amongst the infrastructure. The parish requests further detail on how this will be implemented in practice and whether any supporting evidence or successful case studies exist to demonstrate feasibility.	The Applicant notes the comment. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 7.14, Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.7]** includes measures to secure grazing onsite. Options for graziers will be explored locally to provide sheep for grazing. Where sheep are not available, grassland management at the Proposed Development can be undertaken by mowing.	N
53		The parish notes that the Proposed Development will utilise high-grade, productive agricultural land. The parish is concerned about the long-term loss of this land for food production and believes it should be preserved to support national self-sufficiency. The parish also notes that the report references potential impacts on land drainage, with restoration proposed only at the end of the operational period—some 42 years later. The parish seeks further detail on how drainage impacts will be managed throughout the lifetime of the development to prevent long-term harm to the local environment.	The Applicant understands that there are concerns regarding the loss of agricultural land locally and nationwide, however only 0.06% of land in the UK is currently occupied by solar and if the UK had a 70GW solar output this would only occupy 0.4% of land nationally. Solar farms are specifically designed to be dual purpose and allow for the generation of clean electricity alongside agricultural purposes such as sheep grazing. Typically, a solar farm uses approximately just 5% of the total ground area of a site, meaning a significant proportion of land is left available for uses such as sheep grazing and habitat re-wilding. The impact on agricultural land use as a result of the Proposed Development is fully assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 15 – Land Use and Agriculture [EN010163/APP/6.2.15]**	N

			ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.2, Surface Water Drainage Strategy [EN010163/APP/6.3.8] has been prepared showing how runoff from the Development will be managed. Runoff will be stored on-site within attenuation features and discharged to the on-site watercourses at no greater than greenfield rates. The Drainage Strategy has been developed in consultation with the Lead Local Flood Authority and Trent Valley Internal Drainage Board.	
54		The parish notes that while the report concludes there will be negligible effects, it also acknowledges the potential for temporary after-image experienced by pilots flying over the site. Given the proximity of RAF Waddington, RAF Coningsby, Gamston Airport, Sandtoft Airport, and the potential reopening of Doncaster Sheffield Airport, the parish considers this a matter requiring further investigation. The parish requests that additional research and consultation be undertaken to fully assess any aviation safety implications of the Proposed Development.	Glint and glare impacts upon aerodromes (licensed, unlicensed and military) within 15km of the Proposed Development have been considered. The military aerodromes mentioned are greater than 24km and 48km from the Proposed Development. The assessment of any aviation effects for developments over 20km is not a usual requirement and therefore no significant impact is predicted upon these RAF aerodromes. For two unlicensed aerodromes, the glare intensity is categorised as having 'potential for temporary after-image'. Glare within this category requires assessment in context to the aerodrome's operations. The assessment had concluded that the instances of yellow glare could be operationally accommodated for, and that the Proposed Development will not impact the operations at these two aerodromes. No significant impacts are predicted upon the remaining	N

			nine aerodromes assessed, including the potential reopening of Doncaster Sheffield Airport.	
55		The parish notes that the Proposed Development does not exist in isolation. A number of large-scale solar farm proposals are under consideration across a broad area extending from the south of Doncaster through Gainsborough and across the north of Lincoln. The cumulative impact of these developments has prompted the formation of the 7,000 Acres action group, and the parish requests that wider regional implications be taken into account. The parish also notes concerns regarding the overall efficiency of solar panels, with reference to international rankings highlighting the UK's relatively low cost-efficiency for solar energy generation. Given the lack of detailed information, conflicting statements, and limited assessment of cumulative impact, the parish is concerned that the long-term implications for the local community and future generations are not fully understood. Furthermore, the parish notes that this proposal appears to have been considered in isolation, without reference to the STEP programme or proposed new pylons. The parish requests a comprehensive assessment that	The Applicant acknowledges the range of views on energy technologies. Solar can already produce as much as 30% of the UK's electricity at different points throughout the year, and in 2020, solar provided more than 4% of the UK's total energy supply. One of the advantages of solar energy is its versatility across all regions of the UK. Solar panels do not require direct sunlight to function and can generate power consistently throughout the year, even on cloudier days. Moreover, the reliability of solar power is bolstered by the ability to accurately predict sunlight hours for each day, facilitating precise forecasts of solar energy generation. The PEIR outlined the Applicant's assessments of the potential impacts of the Proposed Development carried out to date, to support the community in making informed responses to the consultation, including information on cumulative impacts. The PEIR and the non-technical summary were available on the Applicant's website, at deposit points and at consultation events. A full cumulative assessment is available in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 2 - EIA Methodology & Public Consultation [EN010163/APP/6.2.2]**. This chapter provides updated	

		considers all associated infrastructure projects in combination.	information on the environmental assessments at the submission of the DCO, following feedback received at consultation and progress of the preparation of the DCO application. The Applicant notes these comments. To ensure the community were properly informed of the proposals the Applicant produced a suite of documents for the statutory consultation. This included the consultation newsletter, project navigation document, consultation brochure. These documents provided and overview of the Proposed Development and the various environmental and technical assessments.	
56	National Grid Electricity Transmission	Please refer to the Holistic Network Design (HND) and the National Grid ESO website for an overview of the strategic vision for the UK's expanding electricity transmission network: Holistic Network Design – National Grid ESO **Onshore Project – North Humber to High Marnham** Further details, including an interactive map, are available on the project website: North Humber to High Marnham – National Grid National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET) requests that all existing and planned assets be given appropriate consideration, in recognition of their critical role in the UK's energy distribution network. NGET remains committed to proactive collaboration with project promoters, supporting	The Applicant is in detailed discussions with the North Humber to High Marnham project team regarding OHL routeing and coordination between the Proposed Development and National Grid's scheme. These will continue throughout the course of the Examination of the Proposed Development and the preparation and submission of National Grid's proposed scheme.	N

		the successful delivery of both parties' initiatives wherever reasonably possible. To facilitate this, NGET encourages continued engagement and consultation regarding any interactions with its existing or future infrastructure, including land interests, connections, consents, or other relevant matters. This dialogue should ideally occur ahead of the submission of any Proposed Development Consent Order (DCO). The Great Grid Upgrade represents the most significant transformation of the electricity grid in generations. As the UK moves towards a cleaner, greener energy future, NGET's infrastructure projects across England and Wales are playing a vital role in connecting more renewable energy sources to homes and businesses. For further information on current projects, please visit NGET's network and infrastructure webpage: Infrastructure Projects – National Grid Where a project is identified to be interacting with or in close proximity to NGET infrastructure, NGET welcomes early engagement to support coordinated and effective planning. These infrastructure upgrades are essential for enhancing the network's capacity to connect the growing number of offshore wind farms and to deliver clean, green energy to where it is most needed.		

57		National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET) would like to highlight the importance of engaging early where any development may interact with or be located near its existing or planned infrastructure. This engagement is vital to ensure that potential impacts on operational assets, land interests, connections, consents, and other relevant matters are identified and addressed in a timely and coordinated manner. Given the critical role of NGET's assets in supporting the UK's energy distribution, it is essential that both existing and future infrastructure is fully considered during the development process. NGET is committed to working collaboratively with promoters to enable the delivery of successful, mutually beneficial projects wherever reasonably possible. The UK's electricity network is undergoing a significant transformation. The Great Grid Upgrade represents the most substantial overhaul in generations, as the country transitions to cleaner and greener sources of energy. Through major infrastructure projects across England and Wales, NGET is helping to facilitate the connection of renewable energy to homes and businesses nationwide.	The Applicant is in detailed discussions with the North Humber to High Marnham project team regarding OHL routeing and coordination between the Proposed Development and National Grid's scheme. These will continue throughout the course of the Examination of the Proposed Development and the preparation and submission of National Grid's proposed scheme.	

		Developers are encouraged to maintain ongoing dialogue with NGET at the earliest stages of planning, particularly where proposals are likely to interact with or be in proximity to key infrastructure. This proactive approach supports the shared objective of delivering projects efficiently, while safeguarding the integrity and functionality of the national transmission system.		
58		National Grid's overhead lines are protected by Deeds of Easement and/or Wayleave Agreements, which grant full rights of access for the purpose of retaining, maintaining, repairing, and inspecting these critical assets. **Key Requirements and Considerations:** • **Minimum Safety Clearances:** Statutory electrical safety clearances must be observed at all times. No proposed buildings or structures should be located closer than 5.3 metres from the lowest conductor of an overhead line. National Grid strongly advises against the construction of any permanent structures directly beneath overhead lines. These requirements are outlined in the publicly available ENA Technical Specification EN 43-8 Issue 5 (2019) – *"Overhead Line Clearances."* • **Ground Level Changes:** Any proposed alteration to ground levels beneath or near overhead lines could reduce safety clearances	The Applicant notes the comments and confirms appropriate stand offs have been incorporated within the Proposed Development's design. The Applicant has contacted NGED to progress protective provisions and anticipates these will be agreed before the close of Examination.	Y

		and must be carefully evaluated. Sufficient clearance must be maintained under all circumstances to ensure ongoing safety and compliance. • **Health & Safety Guidance:** All personnel working near overhead lines must be familiar with the Health and Safety Executive's (HSE) Guidance Note GS6: *"Avoidance of Danger from Overhead Electric Lines"* (available at www.hse.gov.uk). This guidance sets out best practices for working safely in proximity to high-voltage infrastructure. • **Restrictions on Equipment and Structures:** No plant, machinery, scaffolding, or buildings should encroach within 5.3 metres of high-voltage conductors, taking into account the maximum "sag" and "swing" of the lines under worst-case conditions. Overhead line profile drawings showing these conditions can be provided upon request. • **Landscaping Considerations:** Where landscaping forms part of a development proposal, only low-growing and slow-growing species should be planted directly beneath or adjacent to overhead lines. This helps prevent vegetation from breaching safety clearances as it matures.		

		• **Excavation Near Towers:** Drilling or excavation works must not impact the foundations or structural support pillars of existing transmission towers. These foundations often extend beyond the visible base of the tower. Detailed foundation drawings are available on request and should be reviewed before any intrusive groundworks are undertaken. • **Underground Cables:** National Grid's high-voltage underground cables are protected through Deeds of Grant, Easements, Wayleave Agreements, or under the New Roads and Street Works Act. These protections ensure NGET has full access for maintenance and inspection. Therefore, no permanent or temporary structures should be constructed over or within the easement strip without prior agreement. • **Preservation of Ground Levels:** Ground levels above underground cables must remain unchanged. Altering the depth of buried cables can negatively impact the performance, safety, and thermal rating of the circuit. Any proposed changes in ground level or construction within the vicinity of cables must be discussed with NGET in advance.		

59	Network Rail	As the proposed development involves interaction with Network Rail's operational railway, it is strongly recommended that all potential areas of concern to Network Rail are fully considered and addressed within the planning documentation. It is essential that the developer engages directly with Network Rail's Asset Protection team for the Eastern Region. Early consultation will ensure that any construction-related activities associated with the proposed development are planned and managed in a manner that safeguards the integrity and safety of railway infrastructure.	The Applicant notes this comment and confirms it is actively engaging with Network Rail to discuss the protection of its apparatus within the Order Limits.	N
60		Network Rail has a vested interest in understanding the full potential impact of the proposed development on its infrastructure in the surrounding area. This assessment should identify any necessary improvements or mitigation measures required to accommodate the development, all of which must be funded by the developer to ensure the continued safe and efficient operation of the railway network. Before any design or construction work is carried out in proximity to, above, or below Network Rail's infrastructure, a **Basic Asset Protection Agreement** or a **Structures Agreement** may be required. The developer is therefore	The Applicant notes this comment and confirms contact has been made to progress protective provisions and any other agreements that may be required.	N

		requested to engage with Network Rail's **Asset Protection Eastern team** as early as possible. Network Rail has established **standard protective provisions** for third-party developments that may affect operational railways, land, or associated assets. These provisions must be included on the face of the Development Consent Order (DCO) as a minimum requirement. In addition to the above, several legal and commercial agreements may be necessary. These may include (but are not limited to): • Method statements • Connection agreements • Property agreements • Easements (subject to Network Rail's business, technical, and wider rail industry approval processes) This list is not exhaustive and may evolve following detailed discussions as more information becomes available about the proposed scheme. It is important to note that Network Rail reserves the right to amend its position based on any further details received regarding the proposed DCO and its potential impact on operational railway infrastructure, land, or assets.		

		Finally, the developer should be aware that they may be responsible for **all charges and/or costs** incurred by Network Rail in connection with the proposed DCO. Network Rail appreciates the opportunity to provide comments as part of this Section 42 Consultation. Should further information or clarification be required, the relevant contacts remain available for support and discussion.		
61	North and South Wheatley Parish Council	The proposed development would significantly alter the character of the local countryside, particularly through the adverse impact on existing public footpaths. These routes are well-used by residents for recreation and daily activities, and their transformation as part of the scheme would contribute to a sense of industrialisation within a small rural community.	The Applicant is not proposing the permanent closure of any footpaths or PRoWs as part of the Proposed Development. The DCO Application is supported by **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3 - Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** which sets out details on how Public Rights of Way, and the two permissive paths to be created by the Applicant, will be managed to ensure users safety during the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Proposed Development. It details that the diversions and safety measures will be implemented as a priority, so that local communities are still able to safely enjoy the enhanced connectivity routes from the start of construction.	N
62		The Proposed Development is likely to render the land beneath the solar arrays unsuitable for agricultural use or livestock grazing. Furthermore, the land's permeability is likely to decrease, potentially increasing surface water runoff.	**ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.2, Surface Water Drainage Strategy [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]** for the development ensures runoff is managed appropriately throughout the lifetime of the development without increasing flood risk off-site. As part of the development, as an enhancement	N

		This could exacerbate existing flood risk in nearby communities such as Sturton le Steeple and South Wheatley.	measure, detention basins have been proposed to intercept overland flow with the aim of reducing the existing flood risk to Sturton le Steeple.	
63		The area has already been heavily impacted by infrastructure development, including power stations, associated electricity pylons—such as the newly installed National Grid pylons—and the ongoing development of West Burton for nuclear fusion. The introduction of large-scale solar farms could negatively affect property values without providing a corresponding increase in local employment opportunities for residents.	The cumulative impacts of the Proposed Development alongside other developments in close proximity to the Site have been fully assessed across all technical chapters scoped into the **ES [EN010163/APP/6].** Refer to **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6 through to Chapter 17 [EN010163/APP/6.2.6 - 6.2.17]** for full details of the cumulative effects assessment. Significant cumulative residual effects are identified only for ecology and biodiversity, socioeconomics and climate change. Significant beneficial effects are realised on employment and economic contribution as a result of the combined effect of the Proposed Development with other developments during the construction, operation and decommissioning phases. During the construction phase a significant adverse cumulative effect is identified for accommodation demand. This presents a worst case scenario should the other developments construction timeframes overlap, however, in reality this is unlikely and the significance level identified would be reduced. In regard to ecology and biodiversity, a local to district level significant adverse cumulative effects anticipated for breeding skylark birds. When considering cumulative effects with other renewable generation projects with the	N

			Proposed Development during the operational phase, there would be a beneficial cumulative effect on climate change through the contribution to the UK's legally binding emission reduction targets. A summary of the cumulative effects identified within the technical chapters of the ES is set out in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 18 – Summary [EN010163/APP/6.2.17].** In regard to STEP the Applicant notes there is an intention for a nuclear fusion development (STEP) at the former West Burton A Power Station site. The proposed STEP development will not be located within the Order Limits of the Proposed Development. As the STEP development does not have a design as yet, this project cannot be assessed in the cumulative effects assessment within the ES. However, any future application for that development will need to consider the cumulative impacts between STEP and the Proposed Development. The Applicant acknowledges the concerns raised in relation to changes in property values as a result of the Proposed Development. It is not considered that the Proposed Development would impact property value, and in any event the impact on house prices is not a material planning consideration in the determination of this application.	
64		The amount of land proposed for the solar farms appears to be speculative, and no strategic plan has been provided, such	The Applicant notes the comment; however the Proposed Development needs to be large in scale to	

		as the actual land required to generate 400MW of solar energy versus the land needed to ensure the UK's food security, among other factors. Additionally, there has been no comprehensive plan outlining the proposed acreage for solar farms across the rest of the UK or in each county. Overall, the scale of the proposed solar farm—overwhelmingly large for the local rural communities—could have a significant impact on the wellbeing and mental health of many residents.	produce enough clean energy to be economically and technically viable. However, great care has been taken in its design to minimise environmental and visual impacts wherever possible. A **Planning Statement [EN010163/APP/7.1]** has been submitted as part of the application, explaining the reasons for the Proposed Development being large scale solar generation, and setting out the context, requirement and contribution of the Proposed Development to securing and decarbonising UK energy supply. The Applicant is committed to the opportunity to repower the region with clean, green and affordable energy and replace the energy produced by the West Burton A power Station. Additionally, as part of the DCO process the Applicant carried out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to assess the likely significant effects (both positive and negative) the Proposed Development could have on the environment and local area. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6 through to Chapter 17 [EN010163/APP/6.2.6 - 6.2.17]** provide details of a wide range of topics and the respective findings.	
65		The Proposed Development will have a significant negative impact on local farming, potentially ending multi-generational family-run farms and displacing both workers and labourers. Additionally, it will likely reduce business	Solar farms provide valuable income for farmers, as the land can still be used for grazing and can support UK farmers to continue food production on other parts of their land. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present	

		opportunities for many agricultural-based industries in the region.	a risk to the UK's food security. Indeed, the reverse is true: the solar industry is working closely with Britain's farmers to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground underneath to recover, while providing income for the farming business. Solar farms also help regenerate soil quality and so are helping to ensure the continued availability of high-quality agricultural acreage for future generations. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10 - Socio economics [EN010163/APP/6.2.10]** covers a full assessment of impacts and benefits regarding jobs and employment.	
66	Natural England	Natural England states that Chapter 7 (including Appendix 7.2) accurately identifies the internationally designated sites within 30km of the proposed development, including: • Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC • Thorne and Hatfield Moors SPA • Hatfield Moor SAC • The Humber Estuary Ramsar • The Humber Estuary SAC • Thorne Moor SAC It is also noted that the Humber Estuary SPA falls outside the 30km search radius, and as such, further assessment of the	The Applicant notes these comments.	N

		potential impacts on this designation has been excluded from the scope.		
67		Natural England (NE) generally advises that functionally linked land may extend up to the maximum foraging distance for designated bird species. However, the number of birds foraging typically decreases with distance from the protected site, thereby reducing the land's importance to the maintenance of the designated population. For species associated with the Humber designations, the typical maximum foraging distance is 20km. Given the distance between the development site and the Humber Estuary SAC/Ramsar (and further to the SPA), NE considers it unlikely that the proposed site is functionally linked. Nevertheless, NE welcomes a review of the breeding and wintering bird survey results in this context. NE has reviewed Appendices 7.4 and 7.6 and is satisfied with the survey methods used. As noted in our EIA Scoping Response regarding wintering birds, if there remains any uncertainty about site usage by species associated with international designations, additional surveys may be needed during a second winter. However, NE considers the wintering bird survey conducted over a single year sufficient for a robust assessment. Paragraph 7.8.11 indicates that the surveys did not show	A full assessment on the potential impacts to relevant statutory designated sites within 30 km of the Site had been included in the **ES [EN010163/APP/6]** and **Report to Inform Habitat Regulations Assessment [EN010163/APP/5.5].** No further wintering bird surveys are proposed on the basis that the previous survey work is considered to be robust and did not identify any activity that indicates the presence of functionally linked land that could be affected by the Proposed Development.	N

		'significant activity' from qualifying bird species at the development site, although some activity was recorded. While NE advises that this activity is likely insignificant due to the distance from the designations and expected foraging distances of the species, the paragraph clarifies that only an 'initial assessment' has been made regarding functionally linked land. NE recommends that the recorded activity be included in the formal report to inform a Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA), ensuring that all relevant evidence and rationale is presented to the Planning Inspectorate and the Secretary of State for their consideration as the competent authority. NE would be happy to engage with the applicant on the HRA report prior to the DCO submission.		
68		At this stage, there has been limited further assessment regarding potential impact pathways to the Humber sites or other international designations. Given the intervening distances and hydrological separation, impacts to other international sites are considered unlikely. However, the formal report to inform the Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) should clearly identify any potential impact pathways and provide a justification as to why impacts to each designation are unlikely.	A full assessment on the potential impacts to relevant statutory designated sites within 30 km of the Site has been included in the **ES [EN010163/APP/6]** and **Report to Inform Habitat Regulations Assessment [EN010163/APP/5.5].** The outcome is that there will be no direct or indirect impacts to any statutory designated sites.	N

69		Natural England recognises that some consideration has been given in design to avoid BMV (Best and Most Versatile) land, particularly in relation to areas where land will be sealed. Paragraph 15.7.5 states that any temporary sealing of agricultural land is confined to the lowest grade of BMV land (Grade 3a). Natural England welcomes this approach but advises that the goal should be to completely avoid BMV land, including Grade 3a. Further consideration should be given to avoiding BMV land wherever possible, and this should be clearly outlined in the Environmental Statement (ES). Natural England also notes that habitat creation proposals can lead to permanent or irreversible land use changes if they are intrusive and prevent land from being returned to agricultural use. However, habitat creation does not automatically result in permanent loss of BMV land. With careful planning, the long-term agricultural potential of the land can be preserved. For example, converting arable land to species-rich grassland would not cause an irreversible land use change, as the soil remains undisturbed and can be returned to agricultural use. Similarly, habitat creation that alters water table levels but leaves the soil intact can allow for a return to BMV land.	The impact on agricultural land use as a result of the Proposed Development and land quality is fully assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 15 - Land Use and Agriculture [EN010163/APP/6.2.15].** It includes land of BMV quality, which is not prohibited in policy. The Applicant recognises that there are concerns regarding the loss of and use of agricultural land. The Proposed Development is reversible and there will be no significant loss of or impact on the resource.	N

		Since ALC grading is based on long-term agricultural potential (influenced by factors such as climate, site, and soil), not on short-term nutrient levels or specific cropping practices, it is possible to implement permanent biodiversity enhancements without compromising the land's long-term agricultural capability. Nonetheless, careful consideration should be given to siting biodiversity measures, with an emphasis on avoiding BMV land where possible.		
70		It is noted in the Non-Technical Summary (page 2) that the proposed development is designed to have a lifespan of 40 years, with decommissioning set to begin 40 years after operations commence. Natural England welcomes this time limit and recommends that it be secured within the DCO. The Non-Technical Summary further indicates that after 40 years of operation, the entire site will be available to revert to its original use for agricultural purposes, as determined by the landowner and the global markets at that time. This includes areas previously used for biological mitigation during the development. Additionally, paragraph 15.4.2 mentions that any soil resources disturbed by the development will be handled in a way that preserves their capabilities, ensuring the land can be fully restored to its original ALC grade after	The Applicant confirms the operational life and decommissioning of the scheme is secured in the DCO. As regards paragraph 15.7.6, the matter related to the potential to restore areas such as the sub-station, which has been addressed in the **ES [EN010163/APP/6].**	

		decommissioning. However, paragraph 15.7.6 notes that any development elements remaining post-decommissioning will total less than 20 hectares. NE seeks clarification on this point and requests confirmation regarding the commitment to restore all agricultural land to its original ALC grade. This commitment should be formally secured within the DCO or appropriate control documents, such as the Soil Management Plan (SMP).		
71		Natural England notes that the Proposed Development is situated well beyond the typical 2km foraging distance for Nightjar, the sole qualifying feature of the Thorne and Hatfield Moors SPA, making impacts to this designation unlikely. Furthermore, Nightjar were not recorded during any bird surveys conducted to date. No significant impact pathways have been identified between the proposed development and the following sites: Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC, Hatfield Moor SAC, and Thorne Moor SAC.	The Applicant notes these comments.	N
72		Natural England notes that the Proposed Development is situated well beyond the typical 2km foraging distance for Nightjar, the sole qualifying feature of the Thorne and Hatfield Moors SPA, making impacts to this designation unlikely. Furthermore, Nightjar were not recorded during any bird surveys conducted to date. No significant impact pathways have been identified between	The Applicant notes these comments.	N

		the proposed development and the following sites: Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC, Hatfield Moor SAC, and Thorne Moor SAC.		
73		The Proposed Development is hydrologically connected to the Humber Estuary (SAC/Ramsar). However, given the distance to the Humber Estuary and the implementation of appropriate construction management measures, any significant effects on the qualifying features of the Humber Estuary sites due to changes in water quality are unlikely.	**ES Volume 1, Chapter 8 - Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Flood Risk and Drainage [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.3, Water Framework Directive Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]** reflect this conclusion. Appropriate construction methods have been proposed to avoid any appreciable effects on the Humber Estuary sites.	N
74		Clarborough Tunnel SSSI, located approximately 40m from the development boundary, is the only SSSI identified within Natural England's Impact Risk Zones (IRZs). NE agrees with this assessment and considers impacts on other SSSIs from the proposed development unlikely. Paragraph 7.8.12 states that the nearest part of the development to Clarborough Tunnel SSSI is the Western mitigation area, and thus no operational impacts on the SSSI are expected. NE concurs with this assessment. However, it remains unclear what specific construction activities may take place near the SSSI. NE advises that potential impacts to the SSSI could arise through certain pathways, which should be addressed in the Environmental Statement.	A full assessment on the potential impacts of the Proposed Development on relevant nationally designated statutory sites and the need for further mitigation is included in the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 4 – Proposed Development [EN010163/APP/6.2.4.]**	N
75		Although the proposed development site is not immediately adjacent to the SSSI, there remains a slight potential for	The Applicant notes the comment. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.1, Outline Construction Environmental**	N

		direct harm to the designated features, such as through the tracking of construction vehicles. To mitigate this risk, it is essential that the Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) incorporates measures to raise awareness among construction workers of the sensitive features in close proximity to any construction activities.	**Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** is submitted with the DCO application, including measures relating to the management of Ecology and Biodiversity receptors.	
76		The proposed development is not situated within, nor does it impact the setting of, any nationally designated landscapes. As a result, Natural England has no specific comments regarding the landscape implications of the proposal. However, reference to Natural England's National Character Areas is welcomed and it is recommended that the development avoids negative impacts and, where possible, enhances local distinctiveness.	It is noted that Natural England have no specific comments in relation to landscape and visual matters. Notwithstanding this, the Proposed Development has indeed sought to avoid impact to and, where possible, enhance local distinctiveness. As such, no significant effects are predicted on the National Character Areas.	N
77		The nearest part of the development to the Clarborough Tunnel SSSI is the Western Mitigation area, where enhanced grasslands and woodland planting are proposed, which is welcomed. Natural England encourages the use of species mixes that complement the SSSI, where appropriate, particularly considering the calcareous nature of the SSSI, influenced by the gypsum through which the tunnel passes. This would enhance connectivity and provide supporting habitats for the diverse breeding bird and insect populations found on the SSSI. Additionally, there may be further opportunities to improve	The Applicant notes and welcomes this comment. The Western Mitigation Area will be used for arable cropland and include skylark plots in cereal crops. There will be an increase in field margin widths and plant diversity, enhancing existing hedgerows and managing fields with a crop rotation that includes fallow fields or bird mixes. This is illustrated on **ES Volume 3, Figure 6.9, Landscape and Ecological Mitigation Strategy [EN010163/APP/6.4.6].**	N

		connectivity along the railway lines extending east from the SSSI. For example, a narrow habitat buffer along the northern branch of the railway line to the intersection with the Trent Valley Minor Green Corridor (Figure 6.7 sheet 4) could be considered.		
78		Given the proximity of the SSSI to the development site, construction traffic emissions could potentially affect the SSSI, specifically through ammonia, NOx emissions, and subsequent nitrogen deposition. Chapter 14 (Air Quality) outlines the screening criteria for evaluating impacts on ecological receptors, which include a 1000 AADT or 200 HDV AADT increase on the Affected Road Network (ARN) within 200m of a sensitive site. Paragraph 14.3.23 notes that construction traffic is unlikely to pass within 200m of Clarborough Tunnel SSSI, and any traffic-related changes are expected to remain below the relevant thresholds. NE supports this consideration and suggests that where such circumstances apply, impacts can be ruled out. However, this information should be clearly presented in the Environmental Statement to demonstrate the likely absence of any traffic-related emissions impacts on Clarborough Tunnel SSSI.	Construction traffic routing is not proposed to travel with 200m of the Clarborough Tunnel SSSI as shown in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 – Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13].** Therefore, there are not expected to be any significant impacts to ecological receptors identified at Clarborough Tunnel SSSI.	N
79		Due to the proximity of the SSSI to the development site, construction dust could potentially affect the SSSI, primarily through smothering. Appendix 14.3 presents a dust assessment in accordance with IAQM guidance, identifying	The Clarborough Tunnel SSSI has been considered within **ES Volume 2, Appendix 14.3, Construction Dust Risk Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.14].** The SSSI is classified as a medium sensitivity receptor, which when	N

		the SSSI as a sensitive receptor within 50m, which is noted positively. However, Table A1.9 classifies the ecological sensitivity as 'low,' despite the SSSI being of medium sensitivity. NE advises that the ecological sensitivity should be revised to 'medium' in line with the SSSI designation. NE acknowledges the mitigation measures outlined in Table A14.11 and considers them likely to be sufficient to avoid significant adverse effects on the SSSI. These measures should be secured within the outline Construction Environmental Management Plan (oCEMP) and DCO requirements. Additionally, Table A14.11 states that the Dust Management Plan 'may include' monitoring, but NE recommends that monitoring be a mandatory component of the plan, particularly at the SSSI and other sensitive ecological receptors. This will ensure a flexible approach is implemented, allowing for timely action if unacceptable dust emissions are identified.	combined with distance from the source of dust emission is defined as having a low area sensitivity, in line with IAQM guidance. The Construction Environmental Management Plan is secured by way of DCO Requirement.	
80		Although the proposed development site is not immediately adjacent to the SSSI, there remains a slight potential for direct harm to the designated features, such as through the tracking of construction vehicles. To mitigate this risk, it is essential that the Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) incorporates measures to raise awareness among construction workers of the sensitive features in close proximity to any construction activities.	The Applicant notes the comment. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.1, Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** is submitted with the DCO application, including measures relating to the management of Ecology and Biodiversity receptors.	N

81		Natural England generally supports the approach taken to avoid impacts on protected species, in line with the mitigation hierarchy. However, it is noted in paragraph 7.7.4 that protected species licences may be required if impacts cannot be avoided, specifically for Badgers and Great Crested Newts (GCN) as mentioned in paragraphs 7.8.109 and 7.8.136. Natural England refers the applicant to PINS Advice Note 11 Annex C, which outlines what PINS expects in relation to protected species licencing. This note states that by the end of the examination, PINS should be able to report to the Secretary of State on the likelihood of obtaining any necessary protected species licences. If a licence is likely to be required, NE recommends using the Pre-Submission Screening Service. This allows for the assessment of a draft licence application, and if deemed appropriate, NE can issue a Letter of No Impediment (LoNI), confirming that there are no foreseeable barriers to obtaining the licence after DCO consent. While some information may be lacking in a pre-consent draft licence application, NE will work with the applicant to ensure the necessary details are included in the Environmental Statement to demonstrate the likelihood of obtaining the	The need for protected species licences is included within the **ES [EN010163/APP/6]**. The outcome is that licences for bats and great crested newts are not likely to be required. A badger development licence is likely to be required for temporary impacts to a small number of setts. The Applicant intends to submit a draft badger licence application to Natural England during the Examination period to allow a Letter of No Impediment to be issued.	N

		required licence. Costs for this service may be covered under an existing DAS contract with NE, if applicable. In cases where surveys suggest that no licences will be needed, it may not be feasible to submit a draft licence application before consent. In this case, the examination can proceed without a LoNI. Should post-consent surveys reveal the need for a licence, the application must be made in the usual manner, and NE cannot provide a position on the likelihood of approval without reviewing the draft licence application. It is important to note that the responsibility for determining the need for a licence rests with the developer. The applicant should refer to NE's protected species standing advice for guidance.		
82		Natural England states that soil is a vital and finite resource, playing a crucial role in ecosystems by supporting functions such as carbon storage, water infiltration, nutrient cycling, and food provision. To ensure the sustainability of the development, it is essential to manage soil resources carefully and minimize any adverse impacts. Protecting the land's potential for future use and maintaining its inherent capability is key. This can be achieved through proper soil management, careful re-use, and minimizing soil disturbances. Natural England welcomes the completion of an Agricultural	The ALC has been completed for all the areas where there is the potential for disturbance, as per NE's comments. There are areas within the Order Limits where there is no intention for any disturbance to the soils or land profile and where the uses will be for biodiversity. In those areas there is no potential for there to be any disturbance to the land quality, and as the resource will be unaffected and the use will be temporary, ALC surveys are not considered necessary.	N

		Land Classification (ALC) survey in accordance with the 1988 guidelines, with a density of one auger boring per hectare, supported by soil pits for each soil type. However, it is noted that the survey has been conducted only for areas where solar infrastructure is planned, excluding other parts of the site. Natural England advises that a full ALC survey should be conducted for all agricultural land within the order limits, including the cable route and enhancement areas, before consent is granted. Without a comprehensive survey, the applicant cannot adequately demonstrate adherence to the 'avoid' principle of the mitigation hierarchy. Soil disturbance, including trafficking, can lead to degradation of soil quality, and it is crucial to assess baseline conditions to avoid Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. The survey should also inform the necessary soil handling practices and establish a baseline for comparing the land's restoration. Some flexibility in the survey methodology along the linear route may be necessary to accurately represent the ALC grade. The Planning Inspectorate's EIA Scoping Opinion (ID 3.10.2) clearly states that the survey should cover the entire proposed development, including the cable route, and follow relevant guidance (e.g., Natural England Technical Information Note TIN049, 2012). If an alternative methodology is used, justification should be provided.		

		It is noted that the full ALC survey report has not been included in the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR), and as such, Natural England is unable to provide further comment at this stage.		
83		Paragraph 15.7.1 presents the preliminary results of the Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) survey, indicating that 12% of the site is ALC Grade 3b (non-BMV land), 6% is ALC Grade 1, 21% is ALC Grade 2, and the remaining 61% is ALC Grade 3a. While these results are provisional, they highlight the significant proportion of the site classified as Best and Most Versatile (BMV) land. Once the ALC survey is complete, the results should be incorporated into the Environmental Statement (ES). This should include a breakdown of the land take for each element of the development—such as Solar PV, mitigation/enhancement areas, retained agricultural land, substations/BESS infrastructure, construction compounds, cable routes, and access tracks—along with the proportion and amount of BMV land affected. This will assist the Planning Inspectorate in assessing the overall impact of the proposal on agricultural land quality and soils. The different impacts of each development element on agricultural land and soil health should be addressed in the Soil Management Plan (SMP).	The Applicant notes Natural England's agreement with the conclusions of the ALC survey. The Applicant confirms full details of these results are in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 15 – Land Use and Agriculture [EN010163/APP/6.2.15]**.	

		Magnitude and Significance of Effects on BMV Land Tables 15.2 and 15.3 outline the sensitivity and magnitude criteria for impacts on Best and Most Versatile Land. Natural England agrees with the assignment of high magnitude to any permanent loss of 20 hectares of BMV land. Additionally, NE concurs with the classification of Grades 2/3a and Grade 1 land as having High and Very High Sensitivity, respectively.		
84		Natural England welcomes the commitment to submit an outline Soil Management Plan (oSMP), as it is crucial for protecting the soil resource across the development site. The SMP should cover the entire site boundary and include any activities involving soil handling or other potential soil impacts, including during pre-commencement stages. It is essential that the plan outlines the involvement of a qualified soil specialist throughout the construction, operational, and decommissioning phases. Additionally, the SMP should adhere to DEFRA's Code of Practice for the Sustainable Use of Soils on Construction Sites.	The Applicant notes Natural England's comments and has incorporated the same into its **ES Volume 2, Appendix 15.2, Outline Soil Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.15]**.	N
85		Natural England welcomes the use of the Statutory Biodiversity Metric for the preliminary Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) calculations.	Biodiversity Net Gain is not currently a mandatory legal requirement for NSIPs. There are Local Plan policies relating to the delivery of measurable biodiversity gain. A BNG report using the Statutory Biodiversity Metric is	

		While paragraph 7.8.40 outlines that BNG will be delivered in accordance with relevant legislation and policy, there is no firm commitment to achieving a minimum of 10% BNG within the PEIR. NE recommends that, although not yet mandatory, a commitment to achieving at least 10% BNG in habitat, hedgerow, and river units be included in the Environmental Statement (ES). If feasible through the BNG Assessment, NE would also support a commitment to exceeding the minimum 10% gain. It is also welcomed that areas potentially designated for mitigation have been excluded from the current BNG calculations. Appendix 7.12 (Preliminary Biodiversity Gain Report) mentions the creation of a Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan (HMMP) to secure the management of enhancements. NE notes that the PEIR also refers to a Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP) and suggests that the functions of the HMMP could potentially be incorporated into the LEMP.	provided in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 7.12, Biodiversity Net Gain [EN010163/APP/6.3.7]** which indicates that the Proposed Development is likely to deliver a minimum of over 10% of biodiversity gain (terrestrial area habitats, hedgerows and watercourses).	
86		Natural England notes that there will be no direct loss to Ancient Woodland as a result of the Proposed Development. Therefore, NE has no specific comments on this matter but refers to its Standing Advice for Ancient Woodland, Ancient Trees, and Veteran Trees.	The Applicant notes this comment and that no further action is required.	

87		The site is intersected by several Public Rights of Way (PRoW), and Natural England welcomes the intention to develop a Public Rights of Way Management Plan. The addition of new footpaths, as shown in Figure 6.7, is also a positive step toward enhancing the accessibility of the local PRoW network. An assessment of the Accessible Natural Greenspace profile and the Accessible Green Infrastructure layers using the NE Green Infrastructure mapping tool reveals that, despite the rural nature of the area, there is limited greenspace provision and accessible Green Infrastructure in both the development site and its surroundings. Consequently, the creation of permissive footpaths and accessible enhancement areas will significantly improve Green Infrastructure for local communities. NE recommends prioritising access to the PRoW network for these communities to further enhance their connectivity to the site and surrounding areas.	The Applicant notes the comment. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** is submitted with the DCO application. This includes **ES Volume 3, Figure 3.3, Public Rights of Way Plan [EN010163/APP/6.4.3]** to identify and minimise potential areas of conflict to PRoW routes affected by the Proposed Development. It will be implemented during the construction phase and throughout the operational phase. PRoWs may require temporary alteration during construction but will remain unchanged during operation. The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW and the addition of two significant permissive routes within the Proposed Development is included.	
88		Natural England notes that the proposed connection to the grid will be made at the former West Burton Power Station, which is also earmarked for the development of the STEP Nuclear Fusion Reactor. Although this project is still in its early stages, NE raises the question of whether any collaboration has occurred between the two developments.	Cumulative impact assessment with projects in the vicinity of the Proposed Development is presented within the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6 through to Chapter 16 [EN010163/APP/6.2.6 - 6.2.16]**. As STEP does not have a design as yet, this project cannot be assessed in the cumulative assessment. At the EIA stage of the STEP DCO application, which will then have a detailed design, the	

			potential effects in conjunction with the Proposed Development will be assessed. The Applicant has been, and remains, engaged in ongoing discussions with UKIFS to ensure effective coordination between both projects. These discussions include consideration of the proposed routeing of the 400kV cable connection to the West Burton substation, as well as the development of appropriate protective provisions. The Applicant is committed to working collaboratively with UKIFS to support the successful delivery of both schemes, while seeking to minimise potential impacts on UKIFS's current operations and future development plans wherever reasonably practicable.	
89	National Highways	National Highways acknowledges that the site is not directly accessed from the Strategic Road Network (SRN) and is sufficiently distant to avoid any physical impacts on the SRN. Access to the site will be via the local road network. As such, National Highways has no further comments regarding site access.	The Applicant notes these comments and that no further action is required.	N
90		The proposed development does not share a boundary with the Strategic Road Network (SRN) under National Highways' ownership and operation. However, it is acknowledged that the precise route for the cable infrastructure connecting to the existing substation at the West Burton Power Station is still being determined. The Applicant should identify any sections of the cable route that cross or are in proximity to the SRN for National Highways' review.	The Applicant notes these comments and confirms that the proposed site does not share boundaries with the SRN. There will be no cable routing that will cross, abut or lay adjacent to the SRN.	N

		National Highways encourages continued collaboration to understand how the cable routing may interact with its assets. This will allow National Highways to provide guidance on the necessary technical approval processes required to ensure that National Highways' assets remain protected.		
91		Based on a review of Chapter 13: Transport and Access in Volume 1 of the PEIR, National Highways acknowledged that the submission of the Technical Note: Development Trips Source: Civil Design - Construction Traffic & Workforce Profiles for Steeple Solar (Ref: 04954-8516404) by RES, dated 10 September 2024. This Technical Note should be submitted to National Highways for review to ensure that the assumptions and methodologies regarding construction traffic generation are fully evaluated. Additionally, we note the construction traffic route outlined in Figure 13.1 of the PEIR, directing traffic to A1M Junction 34. National Highways requires The Applicant to provide a detailed, evidence-based estimate of the traffic flow accessing the SRN during the construction phases. This should include separate figures for workforce and delivery trips, broken down by time periods, for review.	This information is included in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 – Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.3.13], ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.1, Transport Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.13],** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** set out the construction traffic flow information accessing the SRN at A1(M) Junction 34 on the agreed restricted traffic routing for construction. The data is broken down by workforce and delivery trips, and time periods.	N
92		National Highways acknowledges that a Transport Statement and an outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) will be prepared in due course. It is essential that National Highways is consulted to ensure all relevant considerations are addressed. While it is understood that the traffic generated during the operational phase of the development will have minimal impact on the SRN, it is recommended that the Applicant clearly outlines the anticipated traffic levels during the operational stage in the Transport Statement for reference. The outline CTMP should include the expected construction	This traffic flow information is provided in in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 – Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.3.13], ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.1, Transport Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.13],** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** as requested.	N

		traffic flow during the AM and PM peak hours, specifically during the period with the highest construction traffic volume. Additionally, junction capacity assessments at SRN junctions along the proposed construction routes may be necessary, depending on the anticipated traffic demands, and these should be determined through further consultation.		
93		At this stage, the requirement for any abnormal loads and their respective routes has not been specified. National Highways anticipates receiving details regarding the routing of any abnormal loads within the Transport Assessment. For transporting abnormal loads via the National Highways network, arrangements can be made by contacting the appropriate authorities.	The Applicant notes this comment and confirms these considerations are set out within **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]**.	N
94		National Highways has a standard set of protective provisions that must be secured within the DCO and recommends early engagement to discuss these provisions, and any amendments should be formalised through a Side Agreement with National Highways.	The Applicant notes this comment and is open to negotiating protective provisions with National Highways where appropriate based on the extent of interactions between the Proposed Development and National Highways' network.	N
95	Health and Safety Executive	Chapter 4 of the PEIR provides no indication that hazardous substances requiring Hazardous Substances Consent (HSC) will be present as part of the Proposed Development. We would highlight that HSC is required where any substances listed in Schedule 1 of the Planning (Hazardous Substances) Regulations 2015 (as amended) are stored or used on, under, or over land at or above the controlled thresholds. The 'addition rule' set out in Schedule 1 should also be applied when considering sub-threshold quantities. Should the scheme be amended or further clarity be	The Applicant notes these comments.	

		required, the applicant is advised to consult the relevant Hazardous Substances Authority.		
96		Regulation 5(4) of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 requires that the assessment of significant effects includes, where applicable, an evaluation of the potential significant effects arising from the development's vulnerability to major accidents. The Health and Safety Executive's (HSE) role in Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) is outlined in the Planning Inspectorate's Advice Note 11, Annex G – The Health and Safety Executive (www.gov.uk). This document includes a section on "Risk Assessments," which references the relevant legislation mandating risk assessments and the HSE's involvement. In response to HSE's comment within the EIA Scoping Consultation, as set out in PEIR Chapter 17: Miscellaneous Issues, Table 17.1: Consultation Responses, the applicant has noted that "details relating to consultation with West Burton A Power Station, and any future assessment (if required), will be set out within the subsequent Environmental Statement (ES). Section 17.7 of the current PEIR, titled "Major Accidents and Disasters," includes an initial consideration of potential events related to or impacting the development. However, HSE advises that these matters should be further explored in line with the guidance provided in Advice Note 11, Annex G. Specifically, it may be beneficial for applicants to conduct a risk assessment as early as possible to ensure that their design and operational approach comply with relevant health and safety legislation as the development progresses. It is important to note that risk assessments submitted and	The Applicant confirms the design of the Proposed Development, and its main components have been sited carefully to avoid impacting West Burton A Power Station. The design of the Proposed Development is in accordance with relevant Health and Safety legislation, and the health and safety of workers in the construction, operation and decommissioning stages of the Proposed Development has been assessed in the Major Accidents and Disasters section of **ES Volume 1, Chapter 17 - Miscellaneous Issues [EN010163/APP/76.2.17]**.	

		approved by the relevant planning authority are not required to be considered by HSE.		
97	Historic England	Historic England notes the assertion that the construction phase of the Proposed Development would not result in direct physical impacts to designated heritage assets. However, we draw attention to the proposed commitment to a programme of targeted trial trench evaluation. We recommend that this strategy also encompasses areas where no known remains have been identified ('blank areas'), to ensure a comprehensive assessment of the potential for non-designated archaeological remains. We support the Planning Inspectorate's previous observation that the Environmental Statement should consider the need for intrusive archaeological evaluation, and agree that this should be developed in consultation with the relevant local planning authorities. With regard to the proposed cable route, while it is stated that no areas identified for cable infrastructure coincide with key areas of archaeological potential identified to date, we would highlight the current limitations of the baseline survey work. A more robust and complete baseline is required to fully assess the potential for harm to non-designated heritage assets, which will inform the development of an appropriately proportionate mitigation strategy.	Certain areas of the Site, considered to have the highest potential for significant archaeological remains have been avoided through the design of the Proposed Development, so as to preserve these remains in situ. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.3, Archaeological Mitigation Strategy [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]** provides further information with regard to these areas and the methodology for ensuring preservation. As outlined in detail above, programme of targeted pre-determination trial trenching is proposed, focussed on the 'fixed' areas of development where there is no flexibility **(ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.4, Outline Written Scheme of Investigation for Pre-Determination Trial Trenching [EN010163/APP/6.3.9])**. Further trial trenching and/or mitigation will be undertaken post-determination, as outlined in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.5, Outline Written Scheme of Investigation for Post-Consent Archaeological Works [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.1, Cultural Heritage Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]** provides a detailed assessment of the Site's archaeological potential, informed by **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.2, Magnitude Surveys Geophysical Survey Report [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**. As	N

			noted above, a programme of pre-determination trial trenching targeting large, and 'fixed' elements of development is proposed. It is considered that the inherently flexible nature of the type of development allows a range of potential mitigation options, which are provided in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.5, Outline Written Scheme of Investigation for Post-Consent Archaeological Works [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**.	
98		The NTS states that operational impacts will be indirect only; however, the potential for mid-life maintenance should also be considered within the impact assessment. Regarding the Grade II* listed Church of St Peter and St Paul (NHLE: 1275773) in Sturton le Steeple, the NTS acknowledges potential impacts on long-distance views but concludes no effect on the asset's significance. This should be evidenced with reference to Historic England's guidance on setting. Chapter 9 of the PEIR references ZTV analysis but notes that setting is not dependent solely on visibility; further assessment is therefore recommended. Decommissioning is not expected to result in physical effects on heritage assets, but this should be demonstrated through a clear methodology within a Decommissioning and Construction Management Plan (CMP). As baseline archaeological data remains incomplete, it is not currently possible to fully assess potential impacts on known or unknown remains. We support the Planning Inspectorate's recommendation	Potential impacts associated with half-life maintenance are considered within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 - Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9]**. A detailed assessment of potential impacts to the significance of the asset is provided in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.1, Cultural Heritage Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**. The key and contributory elements of the asset's setting (both visual and non-visual) are considered in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 - Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9]**. The effects of decommissioning on archaeological remains are considered, and are discussed at 9.7.19 of **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 - Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9]**. Where areas of archaeological interest are identified, then specific protocols with regard	N

		that effects on archaeological assets during decommissioning should be addressed in the ES.	to decommissioning may be required, as outlined in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.3, Archaeological Mitigation Strategy [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.5, Outline Written Scheme of Investigation for Post-Consent Archaeological Works [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**.	
99		We note that the Segelocum Roman Town Scheduled Monument (NHLE: 1003669) has been removed from the red line boundary and that development has been offset from the asset. Nonetheless, consideration should be given to the potential presence of associated archaeological features within the wider landscape—such as trackways or roads—which contribute to the monument's significance. Reference is made to colluvial deposits and ridge and furrow. We recommend that their potential to obscure underlying archaeological remains be assessed, with appropriate mitigation measures outlined. Although the PEIR identifies beneficial effects from site restoration to agriculture, it also notes the presence of visible earthwork remains identifiable via Lidar. These features should be specifically considered in the impact assessment. Finally, while the PEIR states that significant remains could be avoided or preserved through 'no dig' construction methods, we would highlight the need to assess potential crush or compression effects on below-ground archaeology, and for this to inform the mitigation strategy.	The Segelocum Scheduled Monument has been excluded from the Order Limits, and the development has been offset from identified archaeological remains to the west of the asset. Where potentially contemporary significant archaeological remains have been identified in the wider vicinity, these have also been excluded from the Proposed Development, as outlined in section 9.8 of **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 - Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9]**. Due to the nature of the scheme, it is considered that impacts to other potentially associated archaeological features in the wider landscape could be mitigated via a variety of possible measures, as outlined in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.5, Outline Written Scheme of Investigation for Post-Consent Archaeological Works [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.4, Outline Written Scheme of Investigation [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**. These have been prepared, outlining the methodology for further evaluative works, and a range of mitigation options, depending on the results	Y

100	Health Security Agency	We have reviewed the submitted documentation and wish to provide the following comments: The applicant has referenced several local roads within the development area, including Wheatley Road, Station Road, Gainsborough Road, and Wood Lane in the north-western portion of the Site, as well as Littleborough Road and Common Lane in the eastern portion. We request that the applicant confirms whether any residential properties are located along these roads in the forthcoming Environmental Statement (ES).	The Applicant notes this comment and confirms whether any residential properties are located along the stated roads in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 – Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13].**	
101		Assessment of Accidents and Fire Risks The current submission does not fully address the risks or impacts associated with potential accidents, such as fires, particularly in relation to the lithium-ion batteries to be used for energy storage. It is acknowledged that these batteries carry a risk of spontaneous ignition, which could release a range of pollutants with possible adverse health effects. In the event of a fire, various substances could be emitted into the environment, potentially impacting public health. Given the development's proximity to residential properties, it would be beneficial to assess the potential products of combustion that could be released during a major fire, as well as any other emissions from the battery storage units. This should include an evaluation of the possible health effects on nearby communities. Recommendation: We recommend that the Environmental Statement (ES) include an assessment of potential accidents and fires that could lead to uncontrolled environmental releases, with a focus on the associated health impacts.	The Major Accidents and Disasters section of **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14 – Miscellaneous Issues [EN010163/APP/6.2.17]** assesses the risk of an uncontrolled fire event to relevant local residents, habitats and species, landscape features, surface water and groundwater. It is acknowledged that in the unlikely event of a fire, air pollutants could be released. However, the Applicant maintains that through appropriate mitigation measures secured through the **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.1, Outline Construction and Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4], ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.2, Outline Decommissioning Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4],** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.3, Outline Fire Risk Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** the risk is low and not further considered.	

102		Land Contamination and Construction Environmental Management Plan It is noted that the Phase 1 GeoEnvironmental Assessment identified a low risk of contamination across most of the site, with the potential exception of the proposed Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) area. Should any of the contaminants identified in the assessment be encountered, the Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) should set out appropriate measures to mitigate potential exposure pathways to sensitive receptors.	The Applicant notes the comment. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.1, Outline Construction and Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** is submitted with the DCO application to ensure best practice is followed to minimise the risk of contamination due to construction activities.	
103	Canal and River Trust	PEIR Chapter 6 – Landscape and Visual Impact and Residential Amenity We note that 26 Assessment Viewpoints have been identified (paragraph 6.6.32 and Table 6.3), as shown on Figure 6.6. Of these, only Viewpoint 26 appears to be located in the immediate vicinity of the River Trent. We recommend that the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) considers whether additional viewpoints from the River Trent should be included, to provide a more representative assessment of potential visual impacts when viewed from the river. This should include consideration of both river users (e.g. boaters) and walkers using the riverbank. We suggest that viewpoints in the vicinity of Littleborough, Marton, or Torksey may be appropriate to illustrate the extent to which the Proposed Development would be visible from the river corridor. (Please also refer to our related comments on Chapter 16.)	The potential for visibility of the Proposed Development from the River Trent has been considered carefully as part of the LVIA process. Zone of Theoretical Visibility plans (**ES Volume 3, Figures associated with Chapter 6 - Landscape and Visual Impact and Residential Amenity [EN010163/APP/6.4.6].)** illustrate the highly limited potential for any visibility from the river, which is primarily a function of the high embankments that bound the majority of the river as it passes through the study area. The Proposed Development is offset from the river to a notable degree.	
104		Biodiversity Mitigation Areas We note the provisional identification of two Biodiversity Mitigation Areas—Eastern and Western—which are intended to deliver biodiversity mitigation and enhancement and are	Canal and River Trust were emailed by BSG Ecology on 11 March 2025 inviting them to discuss the Biodiversity	

		not proposed for development. The Eastern area lies adjacent to the River Trent, and habitats within this area are expected to support mitigation without being adversely affected during construction or operation. It is understood that the design of these areas is still in development, with the intention to enhance existing habitats and create new ones. We recommend that the Canal & River Trust is engaged in the development of the Eastern Biodiversity Mitigation Area, given its proximity to the River Trent.	Mitigation Area designs. No response was received with sufficient time to incorporate any input.	
105		Flood Risk and River Trent Navigation It is noted that a Flood Risk Assessment will be prepared in consultation with the Environment Agency, Nottinghamshire County Council (as Lead Local Flood Authority), Trent Valley Internal Drainage Board, and other stakeholders (paragraph 8.1.4). This consultation should also include the Canal & River Trust in its capacity as Navigation Authority for the River Trent. While paragraph 8.6.5 states that the River Trent is under the control of the Environment Agency, we wish to highlight that the Canal & River Trust is the Navigation Authority and holds freehold land interests in the riverbed. We note the confirmation at paragraph 8.7.19 that there are currently no proposals for increased runoff to, or new outfalls into, the River Trent, and that no impact on passing boat traffic is anticipated.	The Applicant thanks the CRT for clarification of their role in relation to the River Trent. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.3, Flood Risk Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]** includes reference to consultation responses received from the CRT and acknowledges the CRT as a consultee. The Flood Risk Assessment acknowledges the CRT's role as Navigation Authority and its freehold land interests in the riverbed. The Applicant acknowledges that the CRT notes the confirmation that there are no proposals for increased runoff to, or new outfalls into, the River Trent and that no impact on passing boat traffic is anticipated.	
106		Use of the River Trent for Freight Transport It appears that no consideration has been given to the potential use of the River Trent, as a commercial waterway, for transporting materials to the site. While it is acknowledged that waterborne transport may not prove to	The Applicant acknowledges the comment. The River Trent is not considered suitable for deliveries and does not have the associated infrastructure for haulage or passenger transport near to the site. Road	Y

		be a practical alternative in this instance, we recommend that its feasibility is at least explored. This would help to determine whether it could provide a viable means of reducing traffic movements on the local highway network.	transport will therefore be required to transport deliveries from the existing ports/docks etc. to the site access points. It is therefore unlikely to be viable to transport materials and equipment by river and by road.	
107		Glint and Glare Assessment – Impact on River Users The Planning Inspectorate's Scoping Opinion advises that the assessment area should include river users on the River Trent, to determine whether glint or glare may result in a Likely Significant Effect (LSE). This reflects the comments made by the Canal & River Trust, as recorded in Appendix 2 of the Scoping Report. While the PEIR (paragraph 16.3.32) refers to potential impacts on public rights of way and waterways, this appears limited to considering effects on pedestrians alongside waterways. It states that significant effects from glint and glare are not expected for pedestrians or observers on PRoWs and waterways. However, the PEIR does not address potential impacts on boat navigation. Given that this section of the River Trent is a commercial waterway used by both freight and leisure vessels, we consider it essential that the Glint and Glare Assessment includes specific consideration of effects on vessels navigating the river. This will help determine whether the Proposed Development may give rise to LSEs for river traffic and, if so, identify appropriate mitigation measures.	The Public Rights of Way and waterways have been considered separately, with public rights of way pertaining to pedestrians walking, and waterways pertaining to boat navigation and river traffic. The Proposed Development would not give rise to LSEs due to the baseline conditions, the separation distance of 900m between the location of solar panels and that the reflection intensity is similar for solar panels and still water. This is further mitigated by the proposed landscaping plan. No significant impact is predicted upon Public Rights of Way (pedestrians walking) and waterways (boat navigation and river traffic).	N
108	Anglian Water	Further Comments on Table 8.4 – Stakeholder Engagement Location and Nature of Water Supply Infrastructure Appendix 17.1 (Utilities Reports) includes plans identifying	The Applicant has contacted Anglian Water and awaits a date for a meeting to discuss project interactions including the water booster station on Station Road. The Applicant continues to progress protective provisions	Y

		Anglian Water's potable and decommissioned water pipelines. Section 17.5.13 of Chapter 17 (Miscellaneous) also acknowledges utilities potentially affected by the Proposed Development. Anglian Water holds a freehold interest in a water booster station with associated easements on Station Road, Sturton le Steeple, adjacent to Crow-Tree Farm. This asset was identified in a completed Land Interest Questionnaire (LiQ) by Anglian Water's Estates Team and shared with the project team following a meeting on 11 February 2025. A primary access point for construction and operation is proposed nearby, as shown in Figures 2.1, 2.2 and 13.1. Further detail is required to understand the interaction with this asset and to ensure the scheme is designed to avoid any adverse impact. The current Protective Provisions in Section 10, Part 1 of the draft DCO are insufficient. Anglian Water's standard Protective Provisions were provided on 11 February 2025, and we expect these to be adopted in the version submitted for Examination. We welcome continued engagement to ensure agreement on asset protection and connections ahead of the Examination. A follow-up meeting is being arranged, with discussions expected to cover: Impacts on Anglian Water assets and required mitigation. Design measures to minimise interaction with critical infrastructure and avoid diversion or mitigation works, including those with carbon implications. Requirements for pre-construction surveys.	with Anglian Water and expects these to be agreed before the close of Examination.	

		Inclusion of Anglian Water's Protective Provisions in the draft DCO.		
109		We note and welcome the inclusion of measures within the Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) to safeguard Anglian Water's assets, with final details to be confirmed post-consent. Reference is also made to this in Section 17.5.17. Anglian Water requests to be consulted on the finalisation of these details, where relevant.	The Applicant notes the comment. Appropriate protective provisions are in discussion with Anglian Water and will be included within the DCO. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.1, Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** is submitted with the DCO application, and a final Construction Environmental Management Plan will be produced at the detailed design stage.	N
110		Water Supply and Drainage Strategy We note that the full Environmental Statement (ES) will set out water usage requirements and identify a water source for all stages of the Proposed Development. Section 8.6.23 acknowledges that, where new connections are sought, water supply for domestic use will be prioritised over non-domestic demand. At the construction stage, Section 8.7.5 states that water use will be limited, primarily for potable and welfare needs, dust suppression, and wheel washing. However, given the current uncertainty regarding the feasibility of a new connection to the Anglian Water network or a licensed abstraction from the River Trent, further assessment is required within the ES. The potential for rainwater harvesting and reuse is to be explored, alongside consultation with Anglian Water and the Environment Agency where a new connection is proposed. During the operational phase, Sections 8.7.20–8.7.21 note that water demand will remain minimal, limited to BESS cooling, firefighting, and welfare facilities. Nonetheless, due to ongoing uncertainty around water supply options, further	Rainwater harvesting will be used where possible during the construction and operational phases to minimise the demand for water from other sources. The Applicant has submitted an enquiry to Anglian Water to confirm what volumes of water are available to serve the Proposed Development. Should demand not be met by rainwater harvesting and the available Anglian Water supply, water can be sourced from the River Trent or the Ordinary Watercourses crossing the Site. Water would not be abstracted at times of low flows. Alternatively, water can be brought onto the Site using a bowser.	N

		assessment is also required at this stage. Any reliance on new connections or abstraction may place additional pressure on existing water resources—an issue that will become more significant over the lifetime of the Proposed Development due to climate change impacts. As noted in Chapter 2 (EIA Methodology), there are several other developments in the area with the potential for cumulative effects on water demand. It is therefore essential that the ES clearly sets out how the Proposed Development will be supplied with water and whether a connection to Anglian Water's network is required. Our previous comments outline the necessary process for submitting service connection requests. Drainage Strategy We welcome confirmation that the Drainage Strategy, to be provided as part of the Flood Risk Assessment, will include further detail on the use of rainwater harvesting and reuse (Sections 8.7.5, 8.7.20, and 8.11.20).		
111	Environment Agency	Surveys have not covered key protected species like water voles and otters. This lack of thorough surveying undermines the effectiveness of mitigation and environmental enhancements on site. It is important to include the Biodiversity Mitigation Areas (Eastern and Western) in surveys for otters and water voles. The results will provide a clearer picture of the populations in the area, helping to ensure proper mitigation for these species.	Targeted surveys for otter and water vole were not undertaken in the Biodiversity Mitigation Areas because no development is planned there, and significant impacts on otter / otter habitat can be scoped out. Notwithstanding this, surveys of the ditches and drains as part of the habitat baseline work were undertaken in the Biodiversity Mitigation Areas. As part of this, surveyors would record the presence of field signs for any notable species (including otter and water vole) if/where present. No direct evidence of otter or water vole use of the mitigation areas was recorded.	N

			Natural England, Local Planning Authority Ecologists and Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust have not raised any concerns or objections as to the robustness of the survey work for otter or water vole. It is concluded that the work undertaken provides a robust basis for determining the otter and water vole baseline at the Site. Further survey work in the Biodiversity Mitigation Areas would not give any greater certainty to potential impacts or influence the design or mitigation proposals. Residual minor risks to otter and water vole will be managed by implementation of appropriate working methods during construction / decommissioning and habitat management during operation; these are outlined in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.1, Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan** [**EN010163/APP/6.3.4**] and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 7.14, Outline Landscape and Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.7].** On this basis, no further surveys are proposed to establish baseline or inform mitigation.	
112		The assessments carried out to date have not accounted for all relevant protected species. In particular, river lamprey and sea lamprey—both of which contribute to the designation of the Humber Estuary Special Area of Conservation (SAC)—have not been referenced. The absence of these species from the assessment raises concerns that appropriate mitigation has not been considered, increasing the risk of harm. The River Trent and its associated tributaries are functionally	The Applicant notes these comments. River lamprey and sea lamprey were listed in the Humber Estuary SAC designation in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 7.1, Designated Sites [EN010163/APP/6.3.7]**	N

		connected to the SAC, providing important habitat for both species. The potential impacts on these species, as well as on the conservation objectives of the SAC, have not been adequately addressed. It is therefore recommended that river lamprey and sea lamprey be included in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), with appropriate mitigation measures developed where relevant impact pathways are identified.	No impact pathway has been identified to the SAC and specific mitigation measures are not proposed.	
113		The information provided does not include sufficient detail on mitigation measures to protect fish during the construction and decommissioning phases. Activities such as open-cut trenching for watercourse crossings could negatively affect notable fish populations. Robust measures to control pollution and fine sediment runoff into waterbodies should be clearly outlined in the Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP). Where open-trench methods are proposed, it is assumed that waterbodies will be flumed or coffer-dammed, requiring over-pumping. In such cases, fish rescue and relocation may be necessary, and works should avoid key spawning and migration periods. Any over-pumping operations must include appropriately screened pump inlets and outlets, in compliance with the Eels (England and Wales) Regulations 2009.	The Applicant notes this comment and confirms mitigation information for fish is provided in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.1, Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan** [**EN010163/APP/6.3.4**]**.**	N
114		Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS) have not been adequately addressed within the proposals. While it is stated that no works are planned within watercourses and therefore the spread of Canadian pondweed is unlikely, any new watercourse crossings are likely to require physical access to the water environment, increasing the risk of INNS spread. An INNS Management Plan should be developed to address all existing INNS species and assess the risk of new introductions. The inclusion of American mink is particularly important given the presence of water voles on site. Effective INNS	The Applicant notes this comment. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.1, Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan** [**EN010163/APP/6.3.4**] includes a section on the species measures to avoid accidental spread of INNS plant species. No measures to control American mink are proposed on the basis that such measures are unlikely to be effective unless taken on a landscape scale beyond the boundaries of the Site.	N

		management will also contribute to achieving Watercourse Metric units and broader ecological objectives.		
115		The proposals include the installation of new open-span bridges. These additional watercourse crossings represent further encroachment into the water environment and are likely to negatively affect the Watercourse Metric unit score. This impact should be fully considered, and the River Condition Assessment results, along with the Watercourse Metric report, should be provided to the Environment Agency for review.	All watercourse crossings and any extra encroachment are included within the relevant BNG assessment. The full BNG assessment, including River Condition Assessment results are provided at **ES Volume 2, Appendix 7.1, Designated Sites [EN010163/APP/6.3.7].**	N
116		The Watercourse Metric presents an opportunity to deliver meaningful enhancements to the water environment. Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) should be aligned with River Basin Management Plans, Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRSs), Water Framework Directive (WFD) objectives and associated mitigation measures, as well as relevant Catchment Plans. It is recommended that the approach also follows best practice guidance, such as the BSI Standards Publication BS 8683:2021 – Process for designing and implementing Biodiversity Net Gain – Specification.	The Applicant notes this comment. Consideration has been given to relevant guidance and plans with input from the project hydrologists as part of design work.	N
117		A Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) has not been submitted for review alongside the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR). In the absence of this information, it is not possible to fully assess the potential flood risk to and from the proposed development, and therefore no comments can be made on the conclusions presented in the PEIR. In line with previous comments provided at the Scoping stage, a comprehensive FRA and relevant supporting documentation should be prepared and submitted for review. This should address all potential flood risk impacts associated with the proposed development.	**ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.3, Flood Risk Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]** considering the flood risks to and from the development has been prepared and submitted to the EA for review.	N
118		It is not possible to determine whether the proposed 'high-level assessment of any displacement of floodwater' will be suitable, as insufficient detail has been provided. Without the use of appropriate analytical techniques, flood risk impacts	**ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.3, Flood Risk Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]** demonstrates that no built development is proposed within the 1 in 100 year plus	N

		to third parties may be inaccurately assessed or underestimated. The Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) should quantify any potential increase in flood risk to third parties, particularly where loss of floodplain storage is expected—such as at the Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) and substation locations. Where solar panel support structures are sited within areas of fluvial flood risk, their impact should also be assessed. This can typically be addressed through hydraulic modelling or volumetric assessment of floodplain storage loss up to the design flood level, with appropriate mitigation identified where required.	climate change design flood outline for the River Trent, therefore no floodplain compensation is required. Limited localised areas of fluvial flood risk are identified close to the channel of the Ordinary Watercourses crossing the Site. Due to the shallow depths anticipated (EA surface water mapping suggests a very low risk of flood depths reaching 200mm in most areas), the 5-9m easements provided either side of these watercourses and the nature of the development outside the easements (solar panel support stands only) any displacement of floodwater is considered negligible.	
119		Further modelling and investigation may be necessary for the ordinary watercourses that intersect the site. While the Environment Agency (EA) has confirmed that the Tidal Trent hydraulic modelling (Jacobs, 2023) represents the best available data and is appropriate for assessing flood risk from the River Trent, this applies solely to the Tidal Trent model. Flood modelling for areas outside of the Tidal Trent is based on strategic-scale hydraulic models, which may not be appropriate for site-specific assessments without further verification of their suitability. The EA considers the Tidal Trent modelling a suitable starting point for assessing flood risk from the River Trent in this area. However, additional modelling may be required for smaller ordinary watercourses, such as the Catchwater Drain adjacent to the proposed BESS and substation, where detailed hydraulic modelling is not available. It is also noted that several proposed solar panel areas are located in zones of potential fluvial flood risk associated with	**ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.3, Flood Risk Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]** includes a Mannings Assessment of the fluvial flood risk from the larger IDB watercourses crossing the Site (Catchwater Drain, Mother Drain and New Ings Drain). This demonstrates there is no expected overtopping of these watercourses during the design 1 in 100 year plus climate change event. The Environment Agency's Surface Water Flood Risk mapping has been used as a proxy for the fluvial risk from the smaller Ordinary Watercourses due to their small catchments, many of which were noted as dry during the site inspection.	N

		these smaller watercourses. While the Risk of Flooding from Surface Water (RoFSW) mapping may provide an initial indication, if it is being used to inform the fluvial flood risk or design flood level for solar infrastructure, supporting evidence must be included in the Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) to demonstrate its suitability—or dedicated hydraulic modelling should be undertaken.		
120		The Risk of Flooding from Surface Water (RoFSW) dataset was updated in January 2025, and the assessment of surface water flood risk may be inaccurate if based on outdated information. It is recommended that the updated RoFSW dataset be used to inform the Flood Risk Assessment. Further information is available via the GOV.UK webpage Updates to national flood and coastal erosion risk information, and the dataset can be accessed through the Defra Data Services Platform.	**ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.3, Flood Risk Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]** references the January 2025 surface water flood mapping (and the March 2025 Flood Map for Planning).	N
121		New watercourse crossings are proposed, but it is unclear whether these will be temporary—used only during construction and decommissioning—or permanent features of the development. Culverting of watercourses must be avoided. Where permanent crossings are required, open-span structures such as bridges should be used, with soffit levels set above the 1% Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP) design flood level, inclusive of the higher central climate change allowance. For temporary construction-phase crossings, the present-day 1% AEP flood level (without climate change uplift) may be used.	The proposed crossings would be over Ordinary Watercourses managed by the LLFA or IDB and these parties have been consulted regarding requirements. Crossings required solely for construction access will be removed following construction, with some crossings retained where required for future maintenance access. Crossings will be clear span bridges where possible, however for the smaller ditches bridges are not feasible and culverts are proposed. This approach has been agreed with the LLFA and IDB. All crossings will be designed to convey existing flows and will be subject to the appropriate LLFA / IDB consents.	N
122		The location of the Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) and substation, as shown in Figure 2.2 of the Operational Phase Parameter Plan, lies within both Flood Zone 2 and	The BESS and substation are located more than 2m above the design 100 year plus climate change flood level	N

		Flood Zone 3. This area is bounded by the Catchwater Drain and a number of smaller ordinary watercourses. Flood risk to and from this critical infrastructure may be inaccurately or insufficiently assessed, particularly given the current evidence gap regarding fluvial flood risk from the ordinary watercourses that cross and border the site. Reliance on strategic-scale flood modelling may not provide an adequate representation of site-specific flood risk, particularly in the absence of detailed hydraulic modelling for these smaller watercourses. The Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) should give careful and detailed consideration to the siting of sensitive infrastructure such as the BESS and substation. Given the current proposed location, it is recommended that detailed hydraulic modelling is undertaken for the Catchwater Drain and its tributaries to better understand fluvial flood risk at this location. This will ensure that potential impacts—both to the development and to surrounding areas—are appropriately characterised and that suitable mitigation can be incorporated into the design.	for the River Trent. As noted above, a Mannings Assessment has been undertaken for the Catchwater Drain which demonstrates the 100 year plus climate change flows remain in-channel. Based on the EA surface water flood risk mapping, the risk associated with other smaller Ordinary Watercourses is very limited in terms of both extent and depths. The flood risk to the BESS and substation areas is considered appropriately mitigated by nominal raising of equipment c.200mm above ground levels.	
123		In the absence of a submitted Flood Risk Assessment (FRA), it is not possible to clearly determine where flood mitigation measures will be required, nor to what extent the site is at risk during the design flood event. The Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) proposes mitigation measures for the site without presenting the underlying assessment necessary to demonstrate the scale and nature of flood risk to and from the development. Without a supporting FRA, it is not possible to assess whether the proposed mitigation measures set out in the PEIR are appropriate or sufficient to address the potential flood risks. The FRA and associated assessments should be prepared and	**ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.3, Flood Risk Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]** has been prepared and submitted to the EA for review.	N

		submitted for review. These should quantify flood risk impacts, identify areas requiring mitigation, and demonstrate that any mitigation is based on a robust understanding of site-specific flood risk. Please also refer to previous comments regarding the appropriate design flood levels for both permanent and temporary infrastructure.		
124		If cables that are to remain in situ are not adequately cut and sealed, they may pose a risk to controlled waters. Cables and their ducting can degrade over time, particularly if left unmonitored below ground. Some cable housings contain PFAS, which introduces a potential pollution risk to controlled waters. A thorough assessment must be carried out to evaluate the risks associated with residual underground cable infrastructure post-decommissioning, and to identify appropriate mitigation measures to prevent potential environmental impacts. Site-specific conditions should be considered, and provisions for the removal of all cables and infrastructure should be included in the Decommissioning and Environmental Management Plan (DEMP) and other decommissioning designs, in case this approach is preferred at the time. The DEMP should be reviewed and updated prior to the decommissioning phase. At the time of decommissioning, best practice may dictate the removal of all cables. Local factors, such as the chemical composition of soil or groundwater, may influence whether removal of all cables is the more environmentally appropriate solution.	Decommissioning arrangements will be determined via a Decommissioning Plan, an outline of which is submitted with this application at **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.2, Outline Decommissioning Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]**. Measures will be included to ensure cables are either treated and sealed if left in situ or removed as part of the decommissioning process.	N
125		Firewater runoff could pose a risk to both groundwater and surface water.	The risk to groundwater has been considered as part of the **ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.2, Surface Water**	N

		Failure to consider groundwater in drainage design may lead to unacceptable risks. For instance, diverting contaminated water away from surface watercourses could result in infiltration to groundwater. It is essential that risks to groundwater are fully considered in any water management plans. Groundwater should be considered in the Surface Water Drainage Strategy. In Appendix 2.2, it is noted that "shallow mudstone bedrock is unlikely to be suitable for soakaway drainage systems … within the BESS." The desk study recommendations include soil infiltration testing. Therefore, alternative Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) that do not rely on soakaway drainage should be considered.	**Drainage Strategy [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]**. Within the areas where contamination of runoff could occur, drainage features have been lined to prevent infiltration.	
126		The reference made to guidance and best practice to support assessments does not include some guidance which may be beneficial. Incorporating all applicable guidance can help ensure a comprehensive assessment of the site and associated risks. Omitting relevant guidance may result in some important factors being overlooked or not properly considered. We recommend reviewing the following documents: - EA Land Contamination Risk Management (LCRM): https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/land-contamination-risk-management-lcrm This guidance provides a robust framework for characterising land contamination. - The Environment Agency's Approach to Groundwater Protection: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/groundwater-protection-position-statements	Reference has been made to the additional guidance documents where applicable within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 8 - Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Flood Risk and Drainage [EN010163/APP/6.2.8].** No fluid filled cables are proposed.	N

		This outlines how the EA implements government policy for groundwater using a risk-based approach. - DoE Industry Profiles – Power Stations (excluding nuclear): https://claire.co.uk/useful-government-legislation-and-guidance-by-country/198-doe-industry-profiles Although withdrawn in 2014, this document may still provide useful context, particularly given the presence of a former coal-fired power station within the DCO boundary. Please consider whether updates to existing assessments are required based on these sources. Any revisions should be included within the Environmental Statement (ES) and supporting documents. Where changes are made, a summary of updates should be provided to assist with review. We note positively that LCRM is referenced in Appendix 2.2. In relation to the EA's groundwater protection guidance, we draw attention to Note C5: the EA will normally object to fluid-filled cables transporting pollutants—particularly hazardous substances—if located below the water table in secondary aquifers. Given the likelihood of shallow groundwater at the site, any proposal to use fluid-filled cables must be supported by an appropriate risk assessment.		
127		The Water Framework Directive (WFD) has not been adequately assessed. The report states that "no local groundwater bodies have a classification under the WFD," which is incorrect. There are two WFD-designated groundwater bodies underlying the site, and a third located less than 500 metres from the eastern boundary. All three currently hold "Good" status for both quantitative and chemical parameters. Failure to identify these WFD groundwater bodies compromises the integrity of the assessment and introduces	WFD status of groundwater bodies has now been correctly referenced within **ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.3, Water Framework Directive Assessment** [**EN010163/APP/6.3.8**] and **ES Volume 1, Chapter 8 - Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Flood Risk and Drainage [EN010163/APP/6.2.8].**	N

		a risk that potential impacts will not be appropriately evaluated. It also increases the likelihood that misinformation will be propagated, particularly if other stakeholders rely on this report. These groundwater bodies should be properly identified, screened, and assessed in the WFD report, as referenced in Sections 8.15, 8.7.4, 8.7.15, and other relevant parts of the PEIR. Further information on WFD groundwater bodies within the Humber Groundwater Management Catchment can be found on the Environment Agency's Catchment Data Explorer: https://environment.data.gov.uk/catchment-planning/ManagementCatchment/1006		
128		The significance of risk to groundwater has not been accurately reported. In Table 8.1, secondary aquifers are correctly defined as having "Medium" sensitivity. However, throughout Chapter 8, this classification is not applied consistently, with a "Low" sensitivity incorrectly assigned instead. The absence of nearby groundwater abstractions does not justify reducing the sensitivity of the aquifer. Aquifers are receptors in their own right and should be protected, particularly given the likelihood of shallow groundwater in the area. The significance of risk to groundwater has not been accurately assessed. Table 8.1 defines secondary aquifers as having "Medium" sensitivity. However, this sensitivity classification has not been consistently applied throughout Chapter 8. Instead, a "Low" sensitivity is incorrectly assigned to these receptors. Table 8.3 clearly defines that a "Medium" sensitivity receptor	Groundwater sensitivity has been reclassified as medium throughout **ES Volume 1, Chapter 8 - Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Flood Risk and Drainage [EN010163/APP/6.2.8].**	N

		subject to a “Low” magnitude of impact should be assigned a “Minor” significance of effect. However, the applicant has applied a “Negligible” significance, based on the incorrect assignment of “Low” sensitivity. This misclassification undermines the Environmental Impact Assessment process and has resulted in groundwater being screened out of further consideration. This could lead to insufficient mitigation being proposed to protect controlled waters, increasing the risk of unacceptable harm to the water environment. We recommend that the significance and residual effects are re-evaluated using the sensitivity, magnitude, and significance criteria already defined in Tables 8.1 to 8.3, which we consider appropriate. These must be applied correctly and consistently across the revised assessment.		
129		Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) is referenced within the context of hydrology; however, it should also be explicitly considered in relation to hydrogeology. The potential for drilling fluid breakout presents a risk to both soil and groundwater, which requires appropriate assessment and mitigation. It is recommended that these risks are fully considered and addressed within a dedicated drilling fluid breakout plan. This plan should be incorporated into the Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) to ensure robust protection of the water environment.	HDD risks to both surface water and groundwater are addressed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 8 - Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Flood Risk and Drainage [EN010163/APP/6.2.8]** and will be addressed within the final CEMP.	N
130		There is no discussion of anticipated groundwater flow within the superficial and bedrock aquifers, nor the potential hydraulic connectivity between groundwater and nearby surface water bodies. Section 8.7.23 relies heavily on historical borehole records to	The possibility of shallow groundwater is accepted, and the possibility of shallow flow and connectivity with watercourses are now discussed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 8 - Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Flood Risk and Drainage [EN010163/APP/6.2.8]**. The possible	N

		assess groundwater depth, but the review in Section 8.6.9 seems limited and may not cover all relevant records in the vicinity. Many borehole logs are over 40 years old, with variable quality, and should not be relied upon solely for current hydrogeological assessments. Appendix 2.2 (Executive Summary) mentions a high water table in the eastern part of the site, and Section 3.3 notes "numerous springs and wells" on historical maps in the west, but the hydrogeological implications of these observations have not been fully assessed. Given the current information, the hydrogeological setting of the site has not been sufficiently understood, potentially overlooking significant risks for both construction and operation. The presence of shallow groundwater across the site cannot be ruled out, which may affect activities such as excavation and foundation works. An independent, site-specific groundwater investigation and monitoring programme is recommended, with higher sampling density and better spatial and temporal resolution than historical records. If dewatering is required during construction, an abstraction permit or exemption from the Environment Agency may be needed. Early engagement with the Environment Agency's National Permitting Service is strongly advised, as these permits can take several months to obtain.	requirement for de-watering is acknowledged within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 8 - Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Flood Risk and Drainage [EN010163/APP/6.2.8]**. Clarification has been provided regarding the BGS borehole logs included in the **ES [EN010163/APP/6].** A targeted ground investigation is proposed to give further clarity on groundwater conditions.	
131		Sections 8.7.23 to 8.7.26 do not acknowledge the potential risk to groundwater from firewater or contaminated runoff, such as from the Battery Energy Storage System (BESS). The site, underlain by secondary aquifers with medium sensitivity, may contain shallow groundwater, which should be considered in the assessment.	Potential risks to groundwater from firewater and other contaminated runoff are now discussed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 8 - Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Flood Risk and Drainage [EN010163/APP/6.2.8]**. Table 8.6 has been updated to include decommissioning phase effects.	N

		Section 8.11.2, Table 8.6 does not address potential water quality impacts on groundwater during the operational phase, particularly from firewater and runoff. Failure to identify these risks may result in insufficient mitigation for sensitive receptors. The potential for firewater-related groundwater contamination must be considered, with appropriate mitigation measures put in place. This should be cross-referenced with Section 8.7.13, which discusses risks to surface water. We also recommend referencing the Battery Safety Management Plan in relation to hydrogeology. Additionally, Table 8.6 omits decommissioning effects, which are discussed elsewhere. Given the "minor adverse significance of effect" identified in Section 8.7.33, we suggest these effects be included in Table 8.6 for clarity.		
132		The CEMP, OEMP, and DEMP currently do not include procedures for managing unexpected contamination or new pollution events. Without such procedures, contamination may not be properly addressed, potentially posing risks to human health, the environment, and controlled waters. We recommend incorporating a clear procedure for managing suspected or unexpected contamination identified during construction, operation, and decommissioning. This should be secured by a Requirement. Additionally, a process for handling pollution events during these phases should be outlined. In the event of suspected contamination, the procedure should, as a minimum, require: Immediate cessation of works in the affected area, with an appropriately qualified specialist conducting further investigation.	The final Construction Environmental Management Plan and Decommissioning Plan will include measures to be taken in case of encountering historical contamination or in the event of a new pollution incident. They will also include measures for the appropriate storage and handling of fuels, oils and other materials. Management measures in the event unexpected land contamination is found are secured by Requirement in the DCO.	N

		The investigation results and any proposed remediation measures must be agreed upon with the local authority and Environment Agency (EA) before remediation begins. Remediation must be signed off by the local authority and EA prior to the recommencement of construction works. The CEMP, OEMP, and DEMP should also specify the storage and handling procedures for fuels, oils, and similar materials, including refuelling and management of spills and leaks. Industry-standard guidance should be referenced and followed.		
133		Heat is classified as a groundwater pollutant under the Environmental Permitting Regulations as amended in 2023. However, the potential for heat generation in surface and groundwater from underground cables, such as thermal transmission from the HV grid connection cables, is not addressed in the PEIR. Underground cables generate heat during power transmission, which dissipates into the surrounding ground. The extent of heat dissipation depends on factors like cable design, soil structure, voltage, and engineering. Where cables interact with groundwater, this could lead to local degradation of groundwater quality from a heat plume. This impact should be considered and assessed further once the ground conditions and thermal characteristics of the cables are better understood. Additional Context: Heat was introduced as a groundwater pollutant under the 2023 Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations. While there is ongoing research on ground source heating and cooling systems, no specific	The Applicant acknowledges heat can be a groundwater pollutant, and this could be caused by thermal transmission from high voltage (HV) underground cables. The Applicant confirms no sensitive abstractions or protected habitats have been identified that could be affected by this impact. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 8 - Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Flood Risk and Drainage [EN010163/APP/6.2.8]** assesses the impacts of heating of groundwater from HV cables. The assessment determines the residual effects as negligible and not significant.	N

		guidance exists for thermal effects from high-voltage cables. A report from the Environment Agency's Chief Scientist's Group on ground source systems defines a 'thermal plume' as a region with a 1°C or greater temperature change. Though not directly applicable, this benchmark may inform assessments of heat pollution from buried HV cables. Environmental factors like groundwater flow and thermal conductivity influence thermal plume development, with potential impacts from both direct temperature changes and indirect effects like altered water chemistry. A further desk-based assessment of the thermal implications for groundwater is needed.		
134		The construction waste identified in section 17.6.17 does not include surplus soil from earthworks. Although the volumes may be small, all waste must be managed in accordance with legal requirements. Contaminated soil will require additional control measures. Improper waste handling may constitute an offence. We recommend referencing the Definition of Waste: Code of Practice (DoW:CoP): https://claire.co.uk/projects-and-initiatives/dow-cop. Soil movement and storage, particularly for reuse, may require environmental permits. The applicant should ensure they are aware of permitting requirements for these activities and contact the Environment Agency's National Permitting Service at an early stage to incorporate these into the work plans.	**ES Volume 2, Appendix 15.2, Outline Soil Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.15]** accompanies the DCO application and sets out how soils (topsoil and subsoil) will be protected during the construction phase, and any damage to soil structure will be rectified as part of the construction phase. All soil to be reused onsite or disposed of offsite will be appropriately characterised by the construction contractor. Soil will be managed in line with Defra "Construction Code of Practice for the Sustainable Use of Soils on Construction Sites" (Defra, 2009).	N
135		Fire receptors should encompass land, surface water, and groundwater. Failure to identify these receptors may result in inadequate	The Major Accidents and Disasters section of **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14 – Miscellaneous Issues [EN010163/APP/6.2.17]** assesses the risk of fire to	N

		mitigation measures, potentially leading to harm. We recommend that risks to land, surface water, and groundwater from fire, including secondary and tertiary impacts such as firewater runoff and contamination, be explicitly considered. Additional Context: In sections 17.7.23 to 17.7.32, which discuss the design of the energy storage facility, there is no reference to specific guidance supporting the proposed measures. We suggest referencing the National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC) guidance for BESS: https://nfcc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/Grid-Scale-Battery-Energy-Storage-System-planning-Guidance-for-FRS.pdf, noting that this guidance is currently under review and may be subject to change.	relevant local residents, habitats and species, landscape features, surface water and groundwater. Embedded mitigation through the careful design of the Proposed Development and mitigation measures are secured in the unlikely event of an uncontrolled fire through the following documents - **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.1, Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan** [**EN010163/APP/6.3.4**], **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.2, Outline Decommissioning Plan** [**EN010163/APP/6.3.4**] and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.3, Outline Fire Risk Management Plan, [EN010163/APP/6.3.4].** **ES Volume 1, Chapter 8 - Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Flood Risk and Drainage [EN010163/APP/6.2.8]** further outlines the potential effects of firewater and contaminated runoff. The risk of fire as a major accident and disaster is determined as a not significant residual effect.	
136		The review of historical maps references access roads for the power station but does not include information about the power station's appearance. We would expect this detail to be provided. As the maps were not included in the report, we are unable to cross-reference the data. The site history in the Executive Summary states the power station was constructed in the 1960s, but this is not mentioned in the main body of the report. The Executive Summary should only include information that is also presented in the main report.	The Applicant notes the comment and a revision of **ES Volume 2, Appendix 2.2, Phase 1 Geoenvironmental Desk Study [EN010163/APP/6.3.2]** is provided with the DCO application, with historical map appendices included.	N

		Relevant information about the power station's history is readily available online, but its omission from the report may lead to inaccuracies or gaps in the site characterization and conceptual site model. Solution: We recommend reviewing the desk study to identify and correct any errors or omissions. The report should be reissued after this review, and all relevant appendices should be included.		
137		Not all pollution incidents have been included in the Desk Study. Section 3.3 states that no pollution incidents have been recorded within 500m of the site. However, we have multiple records of closed incidents in this area, including one within the DCO boundary. As the supporting data has not been provided, we are unable to cross-reference it with the data used. The impact of historical pollution incidents on the site has not been considered in its characterization or in the conceptual site model (CSM). Solution: We recommend reviewing the pollution incident data and updating the report as necessary. If no incidents are identified in the search, copies of the data should be provided to the Environment Agency (EA) for confirmation.	The Applicant notes the comment and a revision of **ES Volume 2, Appendix 2.2 - Phase 1 Geoenvironmental Desk Study [EN010163/APP/6.3.2]** is provided with the DCO application, with environmental data and historical maps appendices included. The data search still retains that no pollution incidents are recorded within 500m of the Site.	N
138		The water demand for the project is not fully clear. While dust suppression and wheel washing are mentioned, the water requirements for Bentonite Clay mixing and Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) during construction are not addressed.	Rainwater harvesting will be used where possible during the construction and operational phases of the development to minimise water demand. An enquiry has been made to Anglian Water to establish the availability of water to serve the development. Where additional	N

		All potential water needs should be considered to avoid underestimating demand. A comprehensive water resources strategy should be developed to address all water requirements and identify appropriate solutions. Additional Context: We are pleased to see that a more detailed water supply assessment will be included in the Environmental Statement (ES). Solutions such as water re-use and rainwater harvesting, as mentioned in this section, are encouraged. For larger volumes, temporary storage of abstracted water could help buffer supply during periods of dry weather, particularly if licensed abstraction is restricted. Any necessary abstraction licenses would be determined through the National Permitting Service, which is separate from the DCO planning process. However, considering water demands early in the planning stage allows for design and process adjustments, helping to avoid costly delays and potentially expediting the permitting process.	needs are identified, these could be met through abstraction of water from the River Trent or on-site Ordinary Watercourses (abstraction would not occur during times of low flows) or by bringing water onto site using a bowser. Any required abstraction licences would be obtained and adhered to.	
139		Under the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016, a permit or exemption is required for activities that occur: - On or within 8 metres of a main river (16 metres if tidal) - On or within 8 metres of a flood defence structure or culverted main river (16 metres if tidal) - On or within 16 metres of a sea defence - Involving quarrying or excavation within 16 metres of any main river, flood defence (including remote defences), or	A Flood Risk Activity Permit will be obtained for any works triggering this requirement.	N

		culvert - On the floodplain of a main river if the activity could affect flood flow or storage, and such impacts are not covered by planning permission For further guidance, please refer to Flood Risk Activities and Environmental Permits or contact our National Customer Contact Centre at 03708 506 506 (Monday to Friday, 8am to 6pm) or via email at enquiries@environmentagency.gov.uk.		
140		Water Resources - Abstraction and Impoundment The proposals may require Water Resource Licences for construction activities. Guidance on regulated activities and licence requirements is provided below. Water Resource (Impoundment and Abstraction) Licences are issued by the Environment Agency under the Water Resources Act 1991 and the Water Resources (Abstraction and Impounding) Regulations 2006. No other regulatory regime administered by the Environment Agency authorises the creation or modification of an impoundment or abstraction of water at volumes greater than 20m^3/day. It is important to fully understand the permissions required for your proposal and not assume that abstraction and impoundment consent is covered by other regulatory documents.	Any required Water Resource Licences will be obtained, and any conditions adhered to.	N
141		Abstraction Licence If dewatering is required, an abstraction licence may be needed unless exempt under The Water Abstraction and Impounding (Exemptions) Regulations 2017, Section 5: Small-scale dewatering for building or engineering works. If the exemption does not apply and a full abstraction licence is required, note that some aquifer units in this area may be closed to new consumptive abstractions. Further information is available on our website: Abstraction licensing strategies	Any required Abstraction Licences will be obtained, and any conditions adhered to.	

		(CAMS process) - GOV.UK and Apply for a water abstraction or impounding licence - GOV.UK. The typical licence processing time is 9-12 months, so consider whether a scheme-wide dewatering application would be beneficial. Early consultation with the National Permitting Service is advised. Temporary dewatering of rainwater in excavations may be exempt from an Environmental Permit for Water Discharge Activities. For more details, see Temporary Dewatering from Excavations. This exemption does not apply to groundwater discharge from dewatering activities. You may also need to consider the discharge of groundwater, particularly if contaminated. More information is available at Discharges to Surface Water and Groundwater - GOV.UK. If directional drilling is required, the use of drilling muds may require a groundwater activity permit, unless the 'de minimis' exemption applies. Early discussion about this is recommended. Consider the infrastructure needed to meet potential discharge permit requirements, especially if contaminated groundwater needs to be treated before discharge. Insufficient space within the Order Limits for this infrastructure can lead to non-compliance, unpermitted discharges, or costly treatment solutions.		
142		If you plan to impound a watercourse, you will likely need an impounding licence from the Environment Agency. An impoundment refers to any dam, weir, or structure that raises the water level of a water body above its natural level. 'On-line' impoundments affect rivers, streams, wetlands, and estuaries by holding back water, which in turn impacts downstream flows, sediment transport, and fish migration.	No works are proposed to Main Rivers. Any works to Ordinary Watercourses will be undertaken under the appropriate consents obtained from the LLFA and IDB.	

		Impoundments can also result from modifications to existing watercourses or changes to in-channel structures. For more information, visit Water Management - Apply for a Water Abstraction or Impoundment Licence.		
143		Effluent discharged from any premises carrying on a trade or industry and effluent generated by a commercial enterprise where the effluent is different to that which would arise from domestic activities in a normal home is described as trade effluent. If you are not able to discharge effluent, it will be classed as waste, and you must then comply with your duty of care responsibilities. If you wish to discharge effluent, after appropriately treating it, to groundwater or surface water a permit under the Environmental Permit Regulations will be required. Full characterisation of the effluent will be required, and modelling may be required at the planning stage to determine the impact of the effluent on the receiving watercourse. A trade effluent consent or a trade effluent agreement with your water and sewerage company must be obtained before you discharge trade effluent to a public foul sewer or a private sewer that connects to a public foul sewer. Further guidance is available at: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/pollution-prevention-for-businesses"	Generation of trade effluent is not anticipated.	N
144		A permit is not required if you are only discharging uncontaminated surface runoff. For dewatering discharges to surface water, this may be covered by a Regulatory Position Statement (RPS) for water discharge activities. If you meet all the conditions in the RPS, no permit is needed. The RPS conditions can be found here: Temporary Dewatering from Excavations to Surface Water. If any discharges do not fully comply with the RPS, a bespoke	The Applicant notes this comment and confirms the appropriate consents will be obtained where required and adhered to.	N

		discharge permit will be required. Guidance on applying for a bespoke water discharge permit is available here: Discharges to Surface Water and Groundwater - GOV.UK.		
145		If materials potentially classified as waste are to be used on-site, you must ensure they comply with the exclusion from the Waste Framework Directive (WFD) (Article 2(1)(c)) for "uncontaminated soil and other naturally occurring material excavated during construction." Meeting these criteria means the material will not be considered waste, and waste permitting requirements will not apply. If the criteria cannot be met, an appropriate waste permit or exemption from the Environment Agency (EA) will be required. The deposit of waste to land is either a disposal or recovery activity. The legal test for recovery is defined in Article 3(15) of the WFD as any operation where the principal result is waste serving a useful purpose, such as replacing other materials. Guidance on the recovery test is available here: Waste Recovery Plans and Deposit for Recovery Permits. Further information on the Waste Framework Directive can be found here: Environmental Permitting Guidance - WFD, and on waste use in exempt activities here: Waste Exemption Guides - GOV.UK. Non-waste activities (e.g., those following the CL:ARE Code of Practice) are not regulated by the EA, but you must determine if materials meet End of Waste or By-product criteria, as defined by the WFD. The 'Is it Waste' tool can help you make this assessment: Is it Waste Tool - GOV.UK. The Environmental Protection (Duty of Care) Regulations 1991 apply to any off-site movements of waste. These regulations require anyone dealing with waste to ensure it is	The Applicant notes the comment and confirms the Proposed Development is not a waste proposal. There are no waste facilities existing (or historical) within the Order Limits, and therefore there is no safeguarding issue as confirmed at Section 6.14 of the **Planning Statement [EN010163/APP/7.1]**. The Waste Section of **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14 – Miscellaneous Issues [EN010163/APP/6.2.17]** details how the Proposed Development is designed, constructed and to be operated under the 'Waste Hierarchy' guidance and abide by the principles of sustainable waste management. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.1, Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4], ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.2, Outline Decommissioning Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** is submitted with the DCO application.	N

		handled responsibly and only given to businesses authorised to take it. The Code of Practice can be found here: Waste Duty of Care Code of Practice 2016. If you need to register as a waste carrier, follow the instructions here: Register as a Waste Carrier - GOV.UK. To meet the applicant's objectives for the waste hierarchy and the duty of care, proper classification of waste is crucial. For example, wood and wood-based products may be classified as hazardous or non-hazardous depending on any preservative treatments they have received. Correct classification ensures compliance and allows for appropriate handling and treatment. Treated wood may require high-temperature incineration in a directive-compliant facility. More information on this is available here: How to Classify Different Types of Waste - GOV.UK.		
146		Contaminated soil that must be disposed of is considered waste, and its handling, transport, treatment, and disposal are governed by waste management legislation, including: Duty of Care Regulations 1991 Hazardous Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2005 Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2010 The Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2011	The Applicant notes the comment and confirms the Proposed Development is not a waste proposal. There are no waste facilities existing (or historical) within the **Order Limits [EN010163/APP/2.4]**, and therefore there is no safeguarding issue as confirmed at Section 6.14 of the **Planning Statement [EN010163/APP/7.1]**. The Waste Section of **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14 – Miscellaneous Issues [EN010163/APP/6.2.17]** details how the Proposed Development is designed, constructed	N

		Ensure that all contaminated materials are properly characterized, both chemically and physically, in accordance with British Standard BS EN 14899:2005 'Characterisation of Waste - Sampling of Waste Materials - Framework for the Preparation and Application of a Sampling Plan.' You should also clarify the permitting status of any proposed treatment or disposal activities. If uncertain, it is advisable to consult the Environment Agency early to prevent delays. If the total quantity of hazardous waste to be produced or removed from the site exceeds 500kg within a 12-month period, you will need to register as a hazardous waste producer. For more details, visit the Environment Agency's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/environment-agency. For local advice or guidance, please contact the East Midlands Area Waste Team.	and to be operated under the 'Waste Hierarchy' guidance and abide by the principles of sustainable waste management. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.1, Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4], ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.2, Outline Decommissioning Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** is submitted with the DCO application. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 15.2, Outline Soil Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.15]** accompanies the DCO application and sets out how soils (topsoil and subsoil) will be protected during the construction phase, and any damage to soil structure will be rectified as part of the construction phase. All soil to be reused onsite or disposed of offsite will be appropriately characterised by the construction contractor. Soil will be managed in line with Defra "Construction Code of Practice for the Sustainable Use of Soils on Construction Sites" (Defra, 2009).	
147	Hayton Parish Council	The complete encirclement of a rural village by the proposed development raises serious concerns regarding the appropriateness of the site. The use of high-quality agricultural land for this purpose is also considered unjustified, particularly given the availability of alternative locations for renewable energy generation, including previously developed land or offshore options.	The Applicant acknowledges the range of views on the siting of the Proposed Development. To reduce effects on visual amenity, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views. The **Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3]** explains the Proposed Development's design evolution	

			including site location. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3 - Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** provides more information regarding site selection. The location has been chosen for a number of reasons including connection agreement, proximity of grid connection, good access, screening provisions and offsets to sensitive receptors/ physical constraints can be achieved. Alternative sites have been considered but were discounted for numerous reasons such as proximity to heritage assets, ecological designations etc.	
148		It is noted with interest that this project appears to have received ministerial approval, and that the owner of the applicant company has made political donations in excess of £5 million. While this may be coincidental, such circumstances may give rise to perceptions of a conflict of interest and merit transparency to ensure public confidence in the planning process.	The Applicant is unsure what is meant by this statement. The application will undergo a detailed examination process by an independent Examining Authority, with the final decision to be made by the Secretary of State. For the avoidance of doubt, the application has not been approved.	N
149		As previously noted, the proposed development would completely surround the village. Based on existing experience with a solar farm in the Parish of Hayton, it is also recognised that such developments can generate noise, particularly from the battery storage areas, which may further impact local amenity.	The Applicant notes the comment. The **Design and Access Statement [EN010163163/APP/7.3]** sets out that the Proposed Development has been subject to a design evolution process. This includes information regarding the context of the Proposed Development's location, planning policy and stakeholder engagement. Fundamental principles of good design are set out within the Design and Access Statement together with information on how these have been embedded into the	N

			design of the Proposed Development. To reduce the impact to Sturton le Steeple and local residents' infrastructure has been removed from a 40-55m corridor on the eastern edge of the western parcel to reduce visual impact on the edge of Sturton le Steeple. Furthermore, the Proposed Development can be accommodated into the local landscape due to a maximum upper solar panel height of 3 metres and sighting larger elements including the substation and Battery Energy Storage System near West Burton Power Station. Mitigation measures against direct impacts by enhancing local landscape features through planting and landscape improvements as set out in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 7.14, Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.7]**. Measures include planting improvements and management; woodland and shelterbelt planting and management, scattered trees and native shrub plant.	
150		It is also noted that the land has not previously been grazed by sheep, which raises questions about the proposed land use.	Options for graziers will be explored locally to provide sheep for grazing. Where sheep are not available, grassland management at the Proposed Development can be undertaken by mowing.	N
151		There appears to be no reference to screening measures to mitigate the visual and noise impact on the village in the plans presented during consultation.	To reduce effects on visual amenity, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views.	N

			The Applicant acknowledges that some sound and vibration could be generated during the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Proposed Development via the use of certain construction plant, the operation of various ancillary electrical equipment and the additional traffic generated by the Proposed Development in isolative and cumulative terms. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11 – Noise and Vibration [EN010163/APP/6.2.11]** addresses all relevant potential sound and vibratory effects from the introduction of the Proposed Development, concluding that sound and vibration generated during the temporary construction, operation and decommissioning of the site is considered not significant in the context of normal planning requirements, provided that typical mitigation measures are implemented and that best practice is followed. Mitigation planting to help screen views of the Proposed Development was discussed in the PEIR and remains an element of the final proposals, as illustrated in **ES Volume 3, Figure 6.9, Landscape and Ecological Mitigation Strategy [EN010163/APP/6.4.6]**.	
152		The proposals for LEDS appears to be a way of securing support, and those who fall just outside of the cut-off area are likely to feel aggrieved.	It is important to note that community benefits, which include LEDS, are a voluntary contribution and are not a material planning consideration. To be material, a matter must relate to the “purposes of planning”. Therefore, any local and/or community	N

			benefit delivered by the Proposed Development will not influence the recommendation of the Planning Inspectorate or the decision of the Secretary of State regarding consent for the Proposed Development. The qualifying area for LEDS at the Proposed Development will be calculated by taking a straight line distance (the set distance) from the edge of the built project and identifying all the properties located within this set distance. The set distance varies from project to project - reflective of location and size. As part of the statutory consultation, the Applicant presented an indicative scenario on page 29 of the consultation brochure to show how LEDS at the Proposed Development could be delivered, if the full amount of available funding was allocated to the scheme. LEDS is not linked to any particular supplier or tariff which also ensures fairness in approach. Special arrangements will be made for any qualifying properties using electricity pre-payment meters to provide energy credit vouchers or top-ups (as applicable). The final LEDS discount per property, and extent of the eligible area for the Proposed Development will be subject to the installed capacity of the final constructed project, and whether the full amount of annual community benefit funding is put towards LEDS or only a proportion of it. Therefore, the final confirmed detail of	

			the scheme will become available if the Proposed Development is granted development consent.	
153		During our visit to the consultation events, the discussions became quite heated, and the representatives appeared to struggle to address the questions raised	The Applicant notes these comments. The team that represented the Proposed Development at the consultation events was made up of mostly the Applicant's team with supporting staff from the various subconsultant teams. While the primary focus of the consultation events was to provide detailed information about the Proposed Development, we acknowledge that there may have been instances where attendees felt the staff were not as helpful as expected. The Applicant remains committed to improving the consultation process and ensuring that future events include staff who are well-prepared to address all questions and concerns from the community. We value the feedback and will use it to enhance our engagement efforts moving forward.	N
154	CPRE	Consideration should also be given to other projects that may deliver wider community benefits. Direct engagement with community groups is recommended to gain a clearer understanding of their priorities and how investment could be most effectively targeted to meet local needs.	The Applicant believes that renewable energy projects should, where possible, provide direct, lasting benefits to local communities and there are a number of ways that this can be achieved. If consented, the Proposed Development would deliver a tailored community benefits package of £320,000 a year, equating to approximately £13 million over its 40-year lifetime. As part of the statutory consultation, the Applicant sought feedback on how people would best	

			like community benefits to be delivered by the Proposed Development once it's operational. This approach helps to tailor a package of benefits that is aligned with the local communities' priorities, and could for instance, provided funding for projects that sit outside the parameters of a traditional, application-based fund. Some examples of other benefits from other communities that the Applicant has worked with include: • business start-up initiatives • road safety initiatives • apprenticeships/educational schemes • improvements to village halls • improved broadband provision • improvements to local footpaths and/or signage While the majority of respondents to the statutory consultation have expressed interest in LEDS forming part of the community benefits package, the final LEDS discount per property, and extent of the eligible area, will be subject to the installed capacity of the final constructed project, and whether the full amount of annual community benefit funding is put towards LEDS or only a proportion of it. The Applicant remains open to suggestions from the	

			local community on how best to utilise the community benefit funding that will become available once the Proposed Development is operational, and will consult community representatives before finalising the tailored package of benefits if the Proposed Development is granted development consent.	
155		The proposed development would result in the village of Sturton le Steeple being entirely encircled by the project site, leading to a significant change in the surrounding landscape character and potentially affecting residents' visual experience of the countryside in this area.	The Applicant acknowledges that the Proposed Development lies in multiple directions from Sturton-le-Steeple. However, an offset from the village has been built into the design process in order to minimise potential visual effects. Much of the village lies over 500m from the built form within the Proposed Development.	
156		The proposal acknowledges that there will be notable localised impacts on landscape character and visual amenity. While the proposed mitigation strategy relies on the implementation of green infrastructure to integrate the solar farm into the surrounding environment, it is recognised that the scale and form of the 3.5-metre-high solar panels represent a distinctly man-made intervention. As such, even with effective mitigation, some degree of adverse impact on the landscape is likely to remain.	The Applicant acknowledges that some adverse effects on landscape character and visual amenity would arise from the Proposed Development. However, the effects would be localised and limited in nature, particularly noting the additional mitigation planting which is included.	
157		CPRE acknowledges the urgent need to expand the generation of renewable energy, including solar power. However, it does not support the development of a large-scale, 1,700-acre ground-mounted solar installation on land of which approximately 88% is classified as Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land, given the implications for long-term food production and land use.	The use of agricultural land will be inevitable to meet the need for renewable energy. The assessment considers the incremental differences between the use of BMV and non-BMV land, and the effects are not significant. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's food security. Indeed, the reverse is true: the solar	

			industry is working closely with Britain's farmers to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground underneath to recover, while providing income for the farming business. Solar farms also help regenerate soil quality and so are helping to ensure the continued availability of high-quality agricultural acreage for future generations.	
158		CPRE considers rooftop solar—on both residential and industrial buildings—to be a practical and sustainable renewable energy solution that supports the UK's net zero objectives without adversely affecting the countryside. Although it is recognised that rooftop solar may involve higher costs compared to ground-mounted alternatives, wider deployment could reduce the demand for extensive solar farm developments such as the current proposal, which are becoming increasingly prominent in planning applications across Nottinghamshire.	The Applicant notes the comment. There is greenfield land within the **Order Limits [EN010163/APP/2.4]**. However, renewable energy development on greenfield land is not prevented by National Policy Statements EN-1, EN-3 or EN-5. In addition, **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3: Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** and the **Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3]** set out that there is not sufficient roof space to accommodate the scale of solar development proposed.	
159		The proposed solar farm would represent a substantial and long-term change to the local landscape, with the scale of development likely to dominate the surrounding area for its proposed 40-year lifespan, resulting in significant visual impacts on the rural character of the countryside. Furthermore, while the proposal outlines potential economic benefits through job creation, these are primarily associated with the construction phase—coinciding with the period during which nearby villages are expected to experience the greatest levels of disruption from increased noise and traffic.	The Applicant notes these comments. To reduce effects on visual amenity, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views. The Applicant has considered economic benefits, and these are outlined in the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10 –**	

			Socio Economics [EN010163/APP/6.2.10] there are a range of benefits which can be expected during the construction phase, operational phase and decommissioning phase.	
160		The proposal outlines the benefits of the site's close proximity to the decommissioned West Burton Power Station. However, the scale of the development means that the surrounding villages of Sturton le Steeple, South Wheatley, North Leverton, and Littleborough would be effectively engulfed by the scheme, resulting in a significant impact on their rural character and setting.	The Applicant notes the comment. The **Design and Access Statement [EN010163163/APP/7.3]** sets out the Proposed Development has been subject to a design evolution process. This includes information regarding the context of the Proposed Development's location, planning policy and stakeholder engagement. Fundamental principles of good design are set out within the Design and Access Statement, which also sets out how these principles have informed the design of the Proposed Development. To reduce the impact to Sturton le Steeple and local residents' infrastructure has been removed from a 40-55m corridor on the eastern edge of the western parcel to reduce visual impact on the edge of Sturton le Steeple. Furthermore, the Proposed Development can be accommodated into the local landscape due to a maximum upper solar panel height of 3 metres and sighting larger elements including the substation and Battery Energy Storage System near West Burton Power Station. Mitigation measures against direct impacts by enhancing local landscape features through planting and landscape improvements as set out in **Volume 2, Appendix 7.14, Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.7]**.	

			Measures include planting improvements and management; woodland and shelterbelt planting and management, scattered trees and native shrub planting.	

Appendix H-2 Regard had to statutory consultation responses from s42d consultees

Appendix H-2: Regard had to comments from consultees under s42(1)(b) of PA 2008

Table H-2 below sets out responses to the statutory consultation from consultees under s42(1)(b) of PA 2008 and the regard had to them by the Applicant. It should be read in conjunction with Chapter 6 of the **Consultation Report [EN010163/APP/5.1]**.

Row ID	Consultee	Matter raised	Regard had under section 49 of the 2008 Act	Matter relevant to a design change? Y/N
1	Nottinghamshire County Council	Nottinghamshire County Council notes that it is a host authority as defined under Sections 42 and 43 of the Planning Act 2008 and holds a number of statutory responsibilities and technical competencies relevant to the consideration of Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects. These responsibilities include Minerals and Waste Planning, Highways and Public Rights of Way, Archaeology and Cultural Heritage, Flood Risk Management, and Public Health. This letter provides comments on the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) and the draft Development Consent Order (DCO) as they relate to the matters outlined above and other areas within the County Council's remit. On matters beyond its jurisdiction, the County Council defers to the relevant District Council.	The Applicant notes this comment and responds to the specific matters raised by the Council below.	N

		NCC considers the overall approach, assessment methodology, and scope of work relating to transport, traffic and access as set out in the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) to be appropriate at this stage of the DCO process. The Highway Authority is content with the proposed routing strategy for Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGVs) and construction workforce traffic, which predominantly utilises the Strategic Road Network (SRN) and Main Route Network (MRN), including the A1(M) Junction 34, A614, A631, and A620, with access via Station Road and Wheatley Road. While this route includes a section subject to environmental weight restrictions, its temporary use for construction purposes is considered acceptable on the understanding that such deliveries are exempt. NCC does recognise some minor issues that require clarification. It is acknowledged, however, that further detail may be provided through the iterative DCO process. In Chapter 13 of the PEIR, Paragraph 13.7.20 requires further clarity on how the two-way Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) figures for primary trips (traffic and workforce) have been derived and distributed. It is unclear whether these are based on high-level estimates	Further information regarding the trips has been provided in the **ES [EN010163/APP/6]** which includes assignment of traffic and updated traffic numbers based on a first principles assessment provided by the Applicant based on the construction programme. This has further been split for deliveries and workforce trips. Cumulative impacts and the zone of influence has been considered, and six sites have been included in the ES in terms of traffic and transport impact. The methodology for distribution of workforce trips has been discussed with NCC prior to submission and the agreed approach has been included in the ES. This methodology includes a combination of census data, the restricted routing, and reference to socio-economic and worker origins, as well as travel plan measures such as minibus use. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 – Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]** contains all reports and management plans requested. The Applicant has undertaken liaison throughout the preparation of DCO with key stakeholders at NCC and National Highways.	N

		and a breakdown of this figure between construction deliveries and workforce travel would be helpful. Furthermore, in paragraph 13.10.2, cumulative impacts should account for nearby consents and ongoing developments at West Burton Power Station. Local Planning Authority input will be needed to verify these consented schemes. The proposed construction period (2027–2029) may coincide with increased baseline traffic due to housing growth, and it is suggested that projected background growth is applied to baseline traffic flows to more accurately reflect peak construction conditions. In paragraph 2.11, vehicle trip distribution for workforce is based on Census MSOA BASS002, showing 44% from within Bassetlaw, 17% from Lindsey, 11% from Lincolnshire, 6% from Doncaster, and 21% from national regions. Clarification is sought as to whether this total should read 22%, and whether comparative data from other DCO projects can substantiate this approach. NCC supports the intention to prepare the following documents as part of the submission: • Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) • Transport Statement/Assessment and Road Safety Audit (RSA)		

		• Public Rights of Way Management Plan • Workforce Travel Plan (noting the need to assess feasibility in a predominantly rural area likely to depend on private vehicle use) • Construction Method Statement (including cable routing) • Abnormal Indivisible Load Management Plan • Decommissioning Traffic Management Plan NCC recommends that the CTMP should link closely with the PRoW Management Plan to ensure effective network management during construction.		
2		The County Council advises that the Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) should include robust measures for monitoring and site management during the construction phase. The following elements should be incorporated: Ongoing monitoring of compliance with approved arrangements, including the presence of marshals and clear site management responsibilities. Procedures to ensure all drivers operating vehicles under the applicant's control are fully briefed on and adhere to the approved routing and site access protocols.	Access strategy including routing, access points and trip numbers are set out in the **ES Volume 2, Appendix 6.3.13, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** and **Transport Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.13].** The Construction Traffic Management Plan includes a package of measures appropriate to mitigate the transport impact of the construction phase. RES provided access drawing work with reference to NCC Design Guide.	N

		A clear disciplinary procedure to address any non-compliance with traffic management measures. Daily recording of all deliveries to and from the site, maintaining a rolling log of vehicle movements. Temporary route signage must be installed in accordance with details agreed by the Highway Authority (HA), guiding drivers along approved routes and minimising use of undesignated roads. On-site provision for welfare facilities, hard-surfaced and drained parking areas, loading/unloading zones, turning spaces, and material storage. Parking areas should include Electric Vehicle charging points as standard (minimum 7kW, Mode 3 with Type 2 connector, 230v AC, 32A supply). Installation and maintenance of effective wheel-cleaning facilities throughout the construction period. Clearly defined haul routes through fields must be indicated within the CTMP. A contingency clause should be included allowing the Local Planning Authority and Highway Authority to request a review and revision of the routing strategy	The mitigation measures requested relating to transport are set out in the Construction Traffic Management Plan. These comments are noted by the Applicant and where relevant additional items can be made a requirement of the DCO.	

		should issues arise during implementation. Any changes must be agreed with the relevant authorities. Baseline highway condition/dilapidation surveys should be undertaken around all site access points, with follow-up inspections during and post-construction. General Arrangement drawings should be provided for each of the 12 proposed site access points/passing bays/road widening/emergency accesses. These should include annotated visibility splays, dimensions, vegetation clearance, swept path analysis, and justification for sightlines. Where access involves crossing ditches or watercourses, early consultation with the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) is recommended. All site accesses should be surfaced and drained for a minimum of 20 metres to accommodate 16.5m articulated vehicles. Emergency contact information and public notices should be displayed across the site to provide health and safety information, complaint procedures, and contact details. Continued communication with NCC Highway Services Partner VIA EM Ltd is required regarding programme		

		updates, Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders (TTROs), street works, partial or full road closures, and other highway-related activities. Restrictions should be applied to the timing of HGV and LGV movements, with the use of mini-buses encouraged to transport the workforce and reduce overall vehicle numbers. Management measures should be in place for the escort and safe movement of Abnormal Indivisible Loads (AILs). Cable routing proposals should aim to coordinate and, where feasible, share routes and points of connection to minimise highway disruption. The Highway Authority will require the applicant to undertake full cleaning of the public highway and any associated road gullies for 500 metres either side of primary access points at the end of construction and decommissioning periods. This requirement should be secured within the CTMP. A separate Decommissioning Traffic Management Plan should be provided and secured via an appropriate planning condition.		

3		The adopted Nottinghamshire Minerals Local Plan (March 2021), together with the Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Replacement Waste Local Plan Part 1: Waste Core Strategy (December 2013) and the saved, non-replaced policies of the 2002 Waste Local Plan, collectively form part of the statutory development plan for the proposal area. However, these documents are notably absent from Chapter 5 (Planning Policy) of Volume 1 of the PEIR. Table 5.1 currently references only the Bassetlaw Local Plan and the Sturton Ward Neighbourhood Plan. Given the relevance of policies within both the Minerals Local Plan and the Waste Core Strategy, these plans should be included in the assessment, and the promoter is advised to give due consideration to the relevant policy content, further details of which are provided later in this response. The County Council, alongside Nottingham City Council, is currently preparing a new Waste Local Plan to replace both the saved policies of the 2002 Waste Local Plan and	The Applicant confirms consideration has been undertaken of the adopted Nottinghamshire Minerals Local Plan (adopted March 2021) alongside the Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Replacement Waste Local Plan, Part 1: Waste Core Strategy (adopted December 2013) and the saved, non-replaced policies of the Waste Local Plan (adopted 2002). **ES Volume 1, Chapter 5 - Planning Policy [EN010163/APP/6.2.5]** has been accordingly updated. The Applicant confirms part of a small area in the east of the Site is underlain by sand and gravel and falls within the Mineral Safeguarding and Consultation Area (MSA/MCA) for sand and gravel. The **Planning Statement [EN010163/APP/7.1]** addresses Mineral Safeguarding confirming there is no sterilisation of minerals within the Order Limits as a result of the Proposed Development, and no impediment to mineral extraction would remain after the Proposed Development has been decommissioned.	N

		the adopted Waste Core Strategy. The emerging plan is now at an advanced stage of preparation, having completed examination hearing sessions in October 2024. Consultation on main modifications is ongoing, and as outlined in the January 2025 Local Development Scheme, adoption is expected by July 2025. As such, the emerging Waste Local Plan should be considered a material consideration in the assessment process. Regarding the Nottinghamshire Minerals Local Plan, the PEIR acknowledges in Paragraphs 3.2.36 and 3.2.44 (Chapter 3 – Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design, Volume 1) that the eastern part of the site is underlain by sand and gravel. The PEIR also references the adjacent Sturton Le Steeple Quarry to the southeast as a relevant site for cumulative impact assessment purposes. Despite this, the County Council notes that the PEIR does not identify that the eastern part of the site lies within a designated Mineral Safeguarding and Consultation Area (MSA/MCA) for sand and gravel. Nor is there any indication that the potential impacts on the safeguarded resource or the adjacent quarry have been, or will be, properly assessed. In accordance with Policy SP7 (Minerals Safeguarding,		

		Consultation Areas and Associated Infrastructure) of the Nottinghamshire Minerals Local Plan, any development proposed within a safeguarding area must demonstrate that it will not result in the unnecessary sterilisation of mineral resources or prejudice their future extraction. The Applicant should therefore prepare and submit a Mineral Resource Assessment to demonstrate compliance with Policy SP7, addressing potential sterilisation risks. One key issue is the safeguarding of the sand and gravel resource within the development boundary. While the proposed scheme is of a temporary nature, with decommissioning anticipated to begin no earlier than 2069, the long operational lifespan raises concerns regarding access to the mineral resource during this period. The Applicant has stated that the site will be fully decommissioned, and all infrastructure removed, with the land restored to its former condition following cessation of operations.		
4		The proposed development, including its biodiversity mitigation areas, is unlikely to permanently sterilise the mineral resource, provided that proper decommissioning processes are followed. However, there remains a potential risk of inadvertent sterilisation of the mineral	The cumulative impact assessment provided in the **ES [EN010163/APP/6]** of traffic generated within the zone of influence has been analysed and data provided for the local highway network including the Quarry access road. The Proposed Development's construction phase could	N

		resource due to the long development timescale and the proximity of the permitted Sturton Le Steeple quarry. The quarry is allocated within the Nottinghamshire Minerals Local Plan under Policy MP2c, which aims to ensure a steady and adequate supply of sand and gravel through the Plan period (up to 2036). The quarry is permitted to extract minerals until December 2035 under the current permission (1/22/00047/CDM), although there is the potential for an extension of the quarry's life depending on extraction rates, with further planning permission potentially being granted. Additionally, the life of the quarry could be extended if planning permission were granted to expand onto adjacent land where sand and gravel resources are present. Should the proposed solar farm be permitted and enter its operational phase by this time, it could restrict the operator's ability to extend the quarry area to the south, where the biodiversity mitigation area for the development is located. This biodiversity area could potentially prevent the quarry from accessing further mineral resources, and if the quarry were to close, along with the removal of all associated infrastructure before the solar farm's decommissioning, it is highly likely that the mineral resource in this area would remain unworked. This scenario could render future extraction	overlap with proposed construction programme and impact on the proposed construction traffic route and therefore the traffic associated with the scheme has been considered as part of the cumulative traffic impact assessment. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6 through to Chapter 17 [EN010163/APP/6.2.6 - 6.2.17]** for full details of the cumulative effects assessment. One of the Proposed Development's accesses (indicated as 'Access 5' in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 6.13.1 Transport Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.13.1]** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 6.3.13, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13.2]** and on drawings provided by RES) is an existing three arm priority junction located on Gainsborough Road which forms access to the Sturton le Steeple Quarry and was previously consented as part of an NCC planning application (planning app ref: 1/16/00354/CDM). The access to Primary Compound A is via Access 5 located off Gainsborough Road just south of the West Burton Power station site and utilises the existing quarry access road. This comprises one of the site's construction Haul Routes. It is located approximately 340 metres to the north of the Gainsborough Road / Station Road junction. Visibility splays of 2.4 x 215 metres can be achieved in both directions to the nearside kerb, commensurate with a design speed of 60mph in line with the NCC Design Guide visibility requirements. Given the existing and approved	

		unviable, thereby sterilising the resource. As outlined in Policy SP1 and paragraph 3.11 of the Minerals Local Plan, site extensions are preferred as they are considered more sustainable. Extending an existing site allows for the continued use of existing access routes and processing plants, reducing the environmental impacts typically associated with opening a new site. The promoter should consider these factors in a Minerals Resource Assessment, which should be conducted in consultation with the operator, Aggregates Industries, and the County Council. The potential impact on the permitted Sturton Le Steeple quarry should also be thoroughly assessed by the promoter. In line with Policy SP7, the promoter should ensure that the proposal will not needlessly sterilise the quarry or create operational difficulties that could hinder future extraction. It has been noted that the proposed site access corridor and cable infrastructure area, as shown on the Interactive Map, utilise the quarry access road, which was recently resurfaced by Aggregate Industries. While the PEIR does not provide further details about the use of this road, the County Council draws attention to Condition 13 of the existing quarry permission (1/22/00047/CDM), which states:	nature of the site access for HGV usage associated with the Steeple le Sturton Quarry, it is not proposed to make any changes to the existing arrangement of the Access, with SPA drawings (provided as an appendix to the TA) illustrating that this access will be suitable to accommodate the ingress and egress movements of 16.5m Articulated Vehicles, a Mobile Crane and a 120MVA Grid Transformer vehicle, subject to some mitigation works on the central island, which is further discussed within the Construction Traffic Management Plan. The Mobile Crane and Grid Transformer vehicle may require some minor overrunning of the central island and the Client is committed to ensuring this is returned to a good condition once construction is completed. The Scheme's contractor can liaise with the Quarry management to ensure that ongoing coordination of deliveries throughout the construction phase is undertaken, as required.	

		"The processing plant and quarry access road shall only be used for the processing and movement of sand and gravel arising from the extraction area identified within Drawing No. SLS 2/2 – Application Site and Context received by the MPA on the 15th November 2006. Vehicular access to and from the quarry access road shall not be obtained from any other route. Additionally, Conditions 12, 15, and 18 of the quarry permission set limits on HGV movements, the restoration of the haul road and junction, and the timing of vehicle access. The use of the quarry access road for the proposed solar farm could potentially conflict with these conditions and impact the ongoing quarry operation. The Sturton Le Steeple quarry plays an important role in ensuring a steady and adequate supply of sand and gravel in Nottinghamshire and contributes significantly to the local landbank, as outlined in the Council's Local Aggregate Assessment (December 2024). Therefore, the County Council requests that, prior to the submission of the DCO application, the promoter include the Nottinghamshire Minerals Local Plan in future Planning Policy statements and undertake a Minerals Resource Assessment. This assessment should address Policy SP7 and evaluate the potential effects of the proposal on the safeguarding of mineral resources and the permitted		

		Sturton Le Steeple quarry. The County Council is open to further engagement with the promoter and encourages continued collaboration with the operator of the Sturton Le Steeple quarry, Aggregate Industries.		
5		As previously noted, the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) does not appear to adequately address the adopted Waste Core Strategy, the saved policies of the Waste Local Plan, nor the emerging Waste Local Plan in Chapter 6 – Planning Policy of Volume 2. Although this is not a waste-related proposal, two policies from the Waste Core Strategy are relevant to this development: WCS2 and WCS10. Similarly, the new Waste Local Plan contains comparable policies, SP1 and SP8, respectively. NCC concludes that it is essential that the policies within the adopted Nottinghamshire Minerals Local Plan, Waste Local Plan, Waste Core Strategy, and emerging Waste Local Plan are fully considered. The PEIR currently lacks sufficient analysis of the potential impacts on safeguarded minerals at the Sturton Le Steeple quarry, which plays a key role in ensuring a steady and adequate supply of sand and gravel in Nottinghamshire. This issue must be addressed before the DCO application is submitted, and a Minerals Resource Assessment should	As noted, the Proposed Development is not a waste proposal. There are no waste facilities existing (or historical) within the Order Limits, and therefore there is no safeguarding issue. The **Planning Statement [EN010163/APP/7.1]** considers Waste at Section 6.14 and confirms there is no safeguarding issue. The Waste section of **ES Volume 1, Chapter 17 - Miscellaneous Issues [EN010163/APP/6.2.17]** details the Proposed Development is designed, constructed and to be operated under the 'Waste Hierarchy' guidance and abide by the principles of sustainable waste management. The **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.1, Outline Construction and Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.2, Outline Decommissioning Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** is submitted with the DCO application. The Applicant agrees that the Proposed Development is in line with Policies WCS2 and SP1 – this is addressed in the **Planning Statement, Appendix C, Local Planning Policy Accordance Table [EN010163/APP/6.3.4].**	N

		be undertaken. Additionally, the management of waste generated during the decommissioning phase needs further clarification, as the cumulative volume could have significant implications for waste management. Policies WCS10 and SP8 aim to safeguard operational and permitted waste management facilities. Since there are no waste facilities within the proposal area, the County Council does not view this as a safeguarding concern. However, this should be clearly outlined in the Supporting Planning Statement. In terms of WCS2 and SP1, both policies focus on designing, constructing, and operating developments to minimize waste creation while maximizing recycling and recovery efforts. These policies are aligned with the goal of managing waste as high up the waste hierarchy as possible, and they seek to avoid the disposal of materials. Chapter 17 – Miscellaneous Issues includes a section on waste, noting that a detailed Environmental Management Plan will be developed for the construction and decommissioning phases to manage waste on-site. The proposal also emphasizes waste minimization, the maximization of re-use, and recycling opportunities, in line with the waste hierarchy. As such, the application appears to align with Policies WCS2 and SP1, and the		

		promoter should address this alignment in the future Supporting Planning Statement.		
6		The Applicant acknowledges in paragraph 17.6.42 that the decommissioning phase could generate significant cumulative waste volumes, potentially placing pressure on local recycling and landfill capacities. While the recycling industry for solar panels is still developing, it is anticipated to be more advanced by the end of the proposed operational life. The promoter suggests that this issue will be managed through the Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) and decommissioning strategies, with consultation with waste management providers to ensure waste can be accommodated. The County Council appreciates the recognition of the cumulative impact of this and other projects in terms of decommissioning waste volumes. The disposal or recycling of large quantities of photovoltaic (PV) panels will be necessary. While recycling is preferred, it should be noted that the industry required for handling such volumes is not yet fully established. Other NSIP projects, such as Gate Burton, have considered the worst-case scenario of panel disposal. The County Council believes	Within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 17 - Miscellaneous Issues [EN010163/APP/6.2.17]**, cumulative effects are assessed for the Proposed Development. An **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.1, Outline Construction and Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.1, Outline Decommissioning Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** is submitted with the DCO application, with the detailed version secured by Requirement. The Applicant retains that the main elements of the Proposed Development are all capable of being recycled, with recycling routes generally available for the materials.	N

		this approach should continue, with further consideration given to whether additional disposal capacity is needed, based on current capacity forecasts outlined in the Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Waste Needs Assessment accompanying the emerging Waste Local Plan. This would help the Council assess future capacity needs in upcoming plans.		
7		The applicant has provided an initial assessment and outline approach to Cultural Heritage in Chapter 9 of the PEIR. Additionally, Chapters 6 (Landscape & Visual Impacts), 7 (Ecology & Biodiversity), and 8 (Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Flood Risk & Drainage) also address potential impacts on cultural heritage. The County Council maintains that the applicant must undertake thorough desk-based research, non-intrusive surveys, and intrusive field evaluations to properly assess the archaeological potential and the impacts of the proposed development. The findings should then be	The **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.1, Cultural Heritage Technical Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]** includes a desk-based archaeological assessment (DBA) as part of Section 5 – Heritage Baseline Assessment. Key sources are identified in Section 3 – Methodology. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.2, Magnitude Surveys Geophysical Survey Report [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]** has been undertaken across all accessible areas of the Site and a programme of targeted, pre-determination trial trenching is proposed (**ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.4, Outline Written Scheme of Investigation for Pre-Determination Trial Trenching [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**), with further post-determination	

		incorporated into a post-consent Archaeological Mitigation Strategy (AMS) to minimize impacts on archaeological remains and other cultural heritage sites. The proposed site traverses areas of known archaeological significance, dating from the Neolithic to the post-medieval period, as recorded on the Nottinghamshire Historic Environment Record (NHER). Notably, the late Iron Age and Roman settlement activity in north Nottinghamshire is well-documented through aerial surveys and recent archaeological fieldwork. The site is located along a major Roman road (Margary 28a) connecting London and York, which also served as an alternative route to the Humber ferry crossing, diverging from Ermine Street and crossing the River Trent at Littleborough (Segelocum). The County Council is confident that further archaeological sites will be uncovered through a comprehensive programme of evaluation and assessment. The potential impact on the archaeological resource is considered significant and adverse, with a likely total or partial loss of any archaeological remains encountered during development.	evaluative works and mitigation outlined in the **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.5, Outline Written Scheme of Investigation for Post- Consent Archaeological Works Outline Written Scheme of Investigation [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**.	

8		The Applicant's approach to cultural heritage has thus far focused on desk-based research and geophysical surveys. The County Council (NCC) expects the PEIR to include a completed desk-based assessment (DBA) and a finalized geophysical survey, along with a comprehensive evaluation trenching programme, either agreed upon or underway. Currently, the applicant has not completed the DBA, which should serve as the baseline research for the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). However, the geophysical survey has been largely completed, with a second phase nearing completion (Appendix 9.2). The applicant notes in Table 9.4 that a trenching plan is in development and will be presented once the geophysical survey is finalized. While progress is behind expectations, much of the data required for an effective DBA has been summarised in the PEIR and its appendices. NCC recommends consolidating this information into a standalone archaeological DBA document. NCC acknowledges and welcomes the extent of the geophysical survey undertaken, which will contribute to the pre-examination evaluation trenching programme. Evaluation trenching is crucial, as it not only informs but	This is not considered to be an appropriate response to the Site in terms of its archaeological potential, and the nature of the Proposed Development. As above, the areas considered to have the greatest potential for significant archaeology have been excluded from the Proposed Development, and a programme of pre-determination, focussed on the 'fixed', large-scale areas elements of development is proposed (**ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.4, Outline Written Scheme of Investigation for Pre-Determination Trial Trenching [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**). Further evaluative works and mitigation are outlined in the **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.5, Outline Written Scheme of Investigation for Post-Consent Archaeological Works[EN010163/APP/6.3.9].**	N

		also helps prospect for unknown sites that may not have been detected by non-intrusive surveys. It is vital that these results are thoroughly tested with intrusive (trenched) evaluation. NCC recommends that the full order limits undergo trial trench evaluation, with a minimum of 3% coverage where geophysics has been carried out, and 5% coverage where geophysics has not. Anything less would be insufficient to adequately inform the EIA assessment and the development of an informed Archaeological Mitigation Strategy (AMS).		
9		Section 9.2.8 – The Applicant references paragraph 2.10.112 of EN-3 but omits the important Footnote 94, which specifies that the results of pre-determination archaeological evaluation should inform the design of the scheme and any related archaeological planning conditions. Section 9.3.3 – It is recommended that data from the Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) also be consulted to enrich the archaeological assessment. Section 9.5 – Table 9.5: The removal of Segelocum Roman Town from the order limits, as well as the	Consideration of data from the PAS is included within **Section 5 of ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.1, Cultural Heritage Technical Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**. As noted above, the design of the Proposed Development has been informed by the evaluative works to date, and a programme of targeted trial trenching is proposed, focussing on the 'fixed' areas of large-scale development. The inherently flexible nature of the Proposed Development across the remainder of the Site is considered to allow for a range of mitigation options to follow on from further trial trenching, to be undertaken post-determination, as outlined in the **ES Volume 2,**	N

		exclusion of the associated yet undetermined area identified through geophysical survey, is welcomed. Section 9.6.17 – The County Council appreciates that the majority of the scheme area has undergone geophysical survey, which has positively contributed to a better understanding of the archaeology within the landscape. Section 9.6.18 – Limiting evaluation trenching to areas identified solely through desk-based research and non-intrusive methods introduces a risk of confirmation bias in the assessment. These methods have known limitations in detecting certain archaeological sites. Therefore, trenching must also be employed as a prospection technique for sites that may not be identified through geophysics, such as sensitive prehistoric features and human remains. To design an appropriate mitigation strategy, it is essential to have a comprehensive understanding of the archaeological resource and the potential impacts of the development. A sufficient number of trenches across the site are needed to inform both the design and mitigation strategies.	**Appendix 9.5, Outline Written Scheme of Investigation for Post-Consent Archaeological Works [EN010163/APP/6.3.9].**	

10		Section 9.7.5 – NCC does not accept that cable trenching can be classified as 'low impact' work. These activities are highly disruptive to archaeological remains, and a watching brief cannot be considered an appropriate mitigation measure until the archaeological potential is thoroughly assessed. NCC disagrees with the applicant's assessment of the significance and impact in this section. Sections 9.7.3 to 9.7.8 (Construction Phase) – This section is inadequately presented and should be revised to address the full range of construction impacts, including piling, groundworks for infrastructure, cable trenching, plant tracking, environmental works (e.g., swales, planting), and other proposed ground disturbances. The suggested mitigations are based on the assumption that no significant archaeological assets are located in areas of impact, which is an insufficient approach. Sections 9.7.9 to 9.7.20 (Operational Phase) – The proposed development will require mid-life refits, necessitating the removal and replacement of infrastructure, which will involve significant ground	Section 9.7.5 - The Applicant's position with regard to potential mitigation measures has been clarified, with reference to alternative forms of mitigation (if appropriate), as outlined in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.5, Outline Written Scheme of Investigation for Post-Consent Archaeological Works [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**. Section 9.7.3 to 9.7.8 has been clarified, with reference to the general below ground impacts across the Site. The approach to mitigation is also clarified, as above. Section 9.7.9 to 9.7.20 - There is no planned mid-life refit. Units will be maintained and repaired/replaced on an ad hoc basis. The situation with regard to archaeological evaluation and mitigation has also been clarified, and a programme of pre-determination, focussed on the 'fixed', large-scale elements of development is proposed (**ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.4, Outline Written Scheme of Investigation for Pre-Determination Trial Trenching [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**). Further evaluative works and	N

		disturbance. This is not acknowledged in the current assessment. Moreover, the potential impacts of mitigation measures can only be evaluated properly through detailed archaeological evaluation, which is not feasible during operation. The blanket 'not significant' conclusion regarding indirect impacts to designated assets is also concerning. NCC defers to comments from the Conservation Team and Historic England on this matter. Sections 9.7.20 to 9.7.24 (Decommissioning Phase) – Decommissioning will likely involve significant ground impacts, which are expected to surpass those of the construction phase. The applicant's reliance on pre-construction mitigation to address decommissioning impacts is inappropriate, as this assumes the mitigation measures will adequately cover potential risks. A comprehensive evaluation and understanding of decommissioning methodology, which has yet to be detailed, is essential. Section 9.8 (Mitigation) – The applicant proposes only two mitigation approaches: avoidance (preservation in situ) and 'no dig' solutions. While these may be appropriate in some instances, other methods, such as monitoring (watching brief), excavation, and strip map and record, should also be considered where the	mitigation are outlined in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.5 Outline Written Scheme of Investigation for Post-Consent Archaeological Works [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**. Sections 9.7.20 to 9.7.24 - The effects of decommissioning on archaeological remains are considered and are discussed at 9.7.19 of this Chapter. Where areas of archaeological interest are identified, then specific protocols with regard to decommissioning may be required, as outlined in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.3, Archaeological Mitigation Statement [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**, and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.5, Outline Written Scheme of Investigation for Post-Consent Archaeological Works [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**. Section 9.8 - As above, the situation regarding mitigation has been clarified in Section 9.8, and the reference to an ACoW is acknowledged and is included. Further details with regard to proposed mitigation are provided in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.3, Archaeological Mitigation Statement [EN010163/APP/6.3.9**], and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.5, Outline Written Scheme of Investigation for Post-Consent Archaeological Works [EN010163/APP/6.3.9**]. Section 9.8.3 - Noted and clarified in Section 9.8.4.	

		archaeological sensitivity of the site warrants it. The implementation of mitigation measures is likely to be complex, particularly when combined with construction schedules, so the appointment of an Archaeological Clerk of Works (ACoW) is recommended. No mitigation measures should be ruled out at this stage, and all potential techniques should be included in the PEIR, pending further evaluation data. Section 9.8.3 (Preservation in situ) – Areas designated for preservation in situ will require ongoing monitoring throughout the operational life of the solar farm to ensure compliance and enforce necessary actions if required. Section 9.11; Table 9.6 – This section requires updating to include all potential archaeological mitigation techniques, except in areas that have been excluded from development.	Section 9.11; Table 9.6 - Noted and clarified in Section 9.11 and Table 9.5 (formerly Table 9.6) of **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9: Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9]**.	

11		The PEIR has not yet included archaeology as a specific requirement. While it may be too early to define precise wording before completing the full assessment, a recently approved approach for a similar project could serve as a useful basis for further consideration: The authorised development cannot commence until: (a) A scheme for additional trial trenching has been submitted and approved by each relevant planning authority, in consultation with Historic England. (b) The additional trial trenching is completed in line with the approved scheme. (c) The archaeological mitigation strategy is updated to reflect the results of the additional trenching, and the updated strategy is submitted to and approved by the relevant planning authorities, in consultation with Historic England. The authorised development must proceed in accordance with the updated archaeological mitigation strategy, with all archaeological works being carried out by a suitably qualified and competent individual or body, previously notified to the relevant planning authorities.	See above comments, the DBA has been incorporated into **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.1, Cultural Heritage Technical Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**. The Applicant's approach to trial trench evaluation has also been outlined above, with a programme of targeted, pre-determination trial trenching proposed (**ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.4, Outline Written Scheme of Investigation for Pre-Determination Trial Trenching [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**), with further post-determination evaluative works and/or mitigation outlined in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.5, Outline Written Scheme of Investigation for Post-Consent Archaeological Works [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**. More details with regard to mitigation and impacts are included in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 (EN010163/APP/6.2.9]**. The Archaeology requirement within the DCO is considered proportionate and appropriate given the design of the Proposed Development and the mitigation proposed.	N

		NCC concludes that the PEIR presents an initial and limited assessment of the archaeological potential. A full desk-based assessment (DBA) should be completed as an independent document and summarised within the EIA chapter. While the ongoing work is welcomed, the proposed limitation on evaluation trenching is a concern. The DCO application must include the results of a full trial trench evaluation to inform the post-consent Archaeological Mitigation Strategy (AMS). Trenching results at the assessment stage are crucial for managing risks and informing programme scheduling, budget management, and preventing unnecessary destruction of heritage assets. Inadequate evaluation could result in programme delays, deliverability issues, and cost increases that could otherwise be avoided. The current assessment sections (9.7 and 9.8) of the PEIR do not meet expectations. These sections need to provide more specific details regarding the impacts of various construction activities, including piling, infrastructure, cable trenching, swales, and environmental offsets. Acknowledging that multiple mitigation techniques will likely be needed is essential for designing an effective mitigation strategy. Understanding the impacts at all stages of the development life cycle is key to ensuring that mitigation		

		is both appropriate and fit for purpose. The provision of sufficient baseline information to assess the impact on both known and potential heritage assets is a requirement under the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (Regulation 5 (2d)), National Policy Statements EN1 (Section 5.8), EN3, and the National Planning Policy Framework. The EIA must identify, describe, and assess, in an appropriate manner, both direct and indirect significant impacts of the proposed development, as per the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017.		
12		The Applicant has outlined a comprehensive strategy for managing flood risk on the site, taking into account relevant policies, which we have reviewed. However, it is important to note that part of the site lies within an Internal Drainage Board (IDB) area. The applicant should ensure consultation with the relevant IDB. Furthermore, the applicant must obtain Land Drainage Consent for any alterations to watercourses, culverts, or similar features within the site boundary.	Consultation has been undertaken with Trent Valley Internal Drainage Board regarding the proposed drainage strategy. Land Drainage consent will be sought prior to any culverting or other works affecting the Ordinary Watercourses crossing the Site.	N

13		NCC will provide detailed comments at the next stage of the Environmental Statement, once all survey data has been submitted and a comprehensive assessment of all ecological receptors has been completed.	The Applicant notes this comments and that no further action is required at this time.	N
14		The County Council acknowledges that this proposal will connect to the National Grid at West Burton power station and encompass the Sturton le Steeple village. NCC recognizes the concerns raised by Sturton le Steeple Parish Council and local residents regarding the cumulative impacts of this Solar Farm proposal, in combination with other developments, including sand and gravel extraction to the east of the village, the decommissioning of the West Burton coal-fired power station, the proposed STEP Nuclear Fusion Project, and the emerging National Grid power line project, which will further introduce a major power line through the Trent Valley. The Environmental Statement should assess the potential impacts of the Steeples Solar project on the grid connection capacity at West Burton to ensure there is no conflict with the STEP project and its associated research and development activities. Additional consultation with EDF and UKAEA should take place before the scheme is submitted to PINS to address any	The Applicant notes the intention for a nuclear fusion development (STEP) at the former West Burton Power A Station site. The proposed STEP development will not be located within the Order Limits of the Proposed Development. As the STEP development does not have a design as yet, this project cannot be assessed in the cumulative assessment within the ES [EN010163/APP/6]. However, that scheme will be required to assess its cumulative impacts with the Proposed Development in its own ES. The cumulative impacts of the Proposed Development alongside other developments in close proximity to the Site have been fully assessed across all technical chapters scoped into the ES. Refer to **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6 – Chapter 17 [EN010163/APP/6.2.6 - 6.2.17]** for full details of the cumulative effects assessment. As part of the Proposed Development a community benefits package is proposed for local residents. This includes a Local Electricity Discount (LEDS) scheme where local residents within a defined area would benefit from a yearly discount (around £350) on their energy bills Indexed Linked for the operational lifetime of the solar farm.	N

		objections. Furthermore, the Environmental Statement should evaluate the cumulative impacts of the Steeples Solar Farm and other current developments on the Sturton le Steeple community. The County Council expects a comprehensive assessment of the combined effects and the development of appropriate mitigation measures, including a suitable community benefit package to offset the negative impact on the character and setting of Sturton le Steeple village.		
15		Public Health notes that the potential health impacts, both negative and positive, arising from the construction of the Proposed Development are being considered as part of the PEIR. The Nottinghamshire Net-Zero framework and associated policies have been referenced, with the project's contribution to achieving Net-Zero goals outlined. While the project acknowledges certain impacts on human health in various sections, these	The Applicant in collaboration with the Pegasus Group Economics team has produced a health impact assessment for the Proposed Development. The assessment outlines the impact on human health that the Proposed Development is likely to have.	N

		impacts are not explicitly detailed. NCC requests that a Health Impact Assessment (HIA) be conducted for this project, referencing the Notts Spatial Planning Health Framework. This assessment would help identify any potential impacts on human health and ensure the applicant understands the significance of HIA and its 12 key indicators.		
16		VIA has commissioned Amey to provide comments on the potential Landscape and Visual Impacts (LVI) of the proposed development. After reviewing the submitted planning documents, it is evident that significant effort has been made to compile a comprehensive set of materials assessing the proposed development. However, several areas require further clarification and verification: Methodology for ZTV Creation: Our review has raised	It is considered that the ZTV plan is an appropriate basis to illustrate the potential visibility of the Proposed Development. The plans have been taken to site and 'ground-truthed' in the field and rather than underestimating any potential visibility, the plans are an overestimation of the extent of likely visibility. This is because although built form and larger blocks of woodland are included in the SZTV model, hedgerows are not, and these serve to notably limit potential visibility even when allowing for their cycle of cutting across the year. Notwithstanding this, an additional 'bare earth' layer has	N

		questions regarding the methodology used to create the Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV). It would be beneficial to provide detailed information on the approach and assumptions made to ensure transparency and accuracy. Adherence to GLVIA3 Guidance Notes: It is essential to confirm whether the most recent Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (GLVIA3) and clarification notes have been used to inform the assessment. Following these guidelines is critical to maintaining consistency and reliability in the evaluation process. Photographic Record Pages: Inconsistencies have been noted within the photographic record pages. A thorough revision is recommended to ensure uniformity and accuracy across all visual materials. Integration with Other Disciplines: The documents would benefit from demonstrating how landscape considerations integrate with other relevant disciplines, such as cultural heritage and ecology. An interdisciplinary approach will enhance the comprehensiveness and robustness of the assessment. Addressing these points will greatly improve the quality	also been provided in the ZTV plans which accompany the ES. The most recent GLVIA3 Guidance and clarification notes have been utilised to inform the assessment. An updated version of the Photographic Record which addresses any minor inconsistencies is set out at **ES Volume 2, Appendix 6.1, Viewpoint Photographs [EN010163/APP/6.3.6]**. The LVIA has been cognisant of the findings of **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 - Cultural Heritage Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.2.9]** and other relevant **ES Chapters, including the ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 – Ecology and Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.2.7]** and **ES Volume 1, Chapter 8 – Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Flood Risk and Drainage [EN010163/APP/6.2.8]**. In particular, the landscape and ecological mitigation set out on Figure 6.8 has been prepared collaboratively by the authors of the respective Chapters and also includes additional flood risk mitigation.	

		of the planning documents and ensure they meet the required standards for a thorough and informed review.		
17	West Lindsey District Council	West Lindsey District Council acknowledged being included in the Steeples Renewables Project consultation. Although the site lies just outside its boundary, the Council has reviewed the proposal and offers comments relevant to its district.	The Applicant notes the comments and responds separately to the individual points raised below.	N
18		West Lindsey District Council stated that it currently hosts three consented NSIP solar projects—Gate Burton, Cottam, and West Burton—with a fourth (Tillbridge) under examination, and a fifth (One Earth) recently submitted. These large-scale solar developments, several of which connect to the Cottam or West Burton substations in Bassetlaw, raise cumulative impact concerns. The Council highlights that together, these projects may drastically transform the character of Central Lincolnshire's traditional rural landscape, and the cumulative landscape character impacts must be considered as a kinetic and sequential basis, with an appreciation of the scale of change across districts.	The Applicant can confirm that the NSIP solar projects listed (Gate Burton Energy Park, Cottam Solar project, West Burton Solar Project, Tillbridge Solar Project and One Earth Solar Project) are all considered cumulatively with the Proposed Development within the ES technical chapters, and the cumulative effects of these projects combined are considered with the Proposed Development. Refer to **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6 through to Chapter 17 [EN010163/APP/6.2.6 - 6.2.17]** for the cumulative effects assessment.	N

19		West Lindsey District Council expressed concern over the cumulative loss of productive agricultural land due to multiple solar projects, noting that the proposed site includes a high proportion of high-quality (ALC Grade 1, 2, and 3a) farmland and would be occupied for 40 years. The Council requests land protection measures throughout the project's lifecycle and to be consulted at all future stages.	The Applicant notes the comment. There is BMV land within the **Order Limits [EN010163/APP/2.4]**. However, renewable energy development on BMV land is not prevented by National Policy Statements EN-1, EN-3 or EN-5. The Proposed Development can still be used for grazing and can support continued food production. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's food security. Indeed, the solar industry is working closely with Britain's farmers to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground underneath to recover, while providing income for the farming business. Solar farms also help regenerate soil quality and so are helping to ensure the continued availability of high-quality agricultural acreage for future generations. The impact on agricultural land use as a result of the Proposed Development is fully assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 15 - Land Use and Agriculture [EN010163/APP/6.2.15]**.	N

20	Bolsover District Council	Thank you for consulting the District Council on the proposed submission of an application to the Secretary of State under section 37 of the Planning Act 2008, for a development consent order for the above project. Having regard to the location of the site (Land at Sturton le Steeple), it is not considered that the development will have any impacts that will affect Bolsover District to the extent that it would wish to comment on the proposed scheme.	The Applicant notes this comment and that no further action is required.	N
21	Lincolnshire County Council	LCC notes that the indicative routing plan (as evidenced within figure 13.1) does not propose to use Lincolnshire's road network.	The Applicant notes this comment and confirms that LCC network is not on the restricted construction route.	N
22		LCC welcomes the inclusion of cumulative effects contained within the Chapter 13 of the ES: Transport & Access and note that the construction phase would likely see the greatest traffic impact. Paragraph 13.10.2 which states the most pertinent cumulative sites for assessment is noted. LCC also highlight that the other NSIP proposals in the locality should be considered as far as published information is available to ensure possible overlapping	The Applicant notes the comment. Within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 - Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]**, a cumulative effects assessment is undertaken with relative other developments scoped in. This includes assessing the highway links associated with the construction access. No significant cumulative effect is identified. It should also be noted given the nature of the Proposed Development, its traffic impact will be the greatest during the temporary construction/ decommissioning phase, and during the operational phase	N

		construction periods are avoided where possible and mitigated appropriately should this occur.	(40 years) traffic will be negligible due to no permanent operational staff onsite.	
23		LCC welcomes the inclusion of waste considerations within Chapter 17: Miscellaneous Issues of the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) and supports the applicant's commitment to implementing the waste hierarchy throughout the project. LCC acknowledges that, due to the proposed operational lifespan of the development, the final destinations of waste materials cannot be confirmed at this stage. Notwithstanding this, LCC is encouraged by the intention to prioritise reuse and recycling wherever practicable. However, LCC notes that current opportunities for recycling solar photovoltaic (PV) panels are limited. In light of this, it is recommended that the Environmental Statement also considers a reasonable worst-case scenario for end-of-life waste management, should anticipated recycling technologies or facilities not become available within the project's timeline.	Within the Waste section of **ES Volume 1, Chapter 17: Miscellaneous Issues [EN010163/APP/6.2.17]**, details are provided that the Proposed Development is designed to be constructed and operated under the 'Waste Hierarchy' guidance and abide by the principles of sustainable waste management. An **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.1, Outline Construction and Environmental Management [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** and the **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.2 Outline Decommissioning Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** is submitted with the DCO application and will be updated to a final version in consultation with waste management providers to ensure waste could be accommodated in the discharge of Requirements. The Applicant retains that the main elements of the Proposed Development are all capable of being recycled, with recycling routes generally available for the materials.	N

24		LCC welcomes the inclusion of NSIP proposals within Lincolnshire within your cumulative impact assessment including Cottam; Gate Burton; Tillbridge; One Earth and West Burton.	The Applicant notes the comment.	N

Appendix H-3 Regard had to statutory consultation responses from s47 consultees

Appendix H-3: Regard had to comments from consultees under s47 of PA 2008

Table H-3 below sets out responses to the statutory consultation from consultees under s47 of PA 2008 and the regard had to them by the Applicant. It should be read in conjunction with Chapter 6 of the **Consultation Report [EN010163/APP/5.1].**

Row ID	Consultee	Matter raised	Regard had under section 49 of the 2008 Act	Matter relevant to a design change? Y/N
Water and flood risk				
1	s47	Concern regarding drainage issues as a result of the Proposed Development	**ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.2, Surface Water Drainage Strategy [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]** has been prepared showing how runoff from the Proposed Development will be managed. Runoff will be stored on-site within attenuation features and discharged to the on-site watercourses at no greater than greenfield rates. The Drainage Strategy has been developed in consultation with the Lead Local Flood Authority and Trent Valley Internal Drainage Board. No significant effects will arise as a result of drainage impacts.	N

2	s47	Statement that local roads flood regularly/Concern that flooding is already a major problem	The Applicant acknowledges the existing flood risk to local roads, particularly within Sturton le Steeple, and has provided additional measures within the Scheme, beyond those required to mitigate scheme impacts, to help reduce this flood risk. These measures comprise two large detention basins solely for the interception of overland flow and reduction of flood risk within Sturton le Steeple. Water would be stored within these features and released slowly following the peak of a rainfall event. Overall, the proposals will provide a reduction in flood risk within the local area.	N
3	s47	General concern regarding flooding	**ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.3, Flood Risk Assessment, [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]** has been prepared to support the application, assessing the risk to the development from all forms of flooding and identifying any potential impacts of flooding resulting from the Proposed Development. Appropriate mitigation measures have been identified, where required, to ensure there is no increased risk of flooding off-site as a result of the Proposed Development. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.2, Surface Water Drainage Strategy [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]** has been prepared and demonstrates how runoff from the Proposed Development will be managed to ensure there is no increase in runoff leaving the Site.	N

4	s47	Statement that commitment to flood mitigation should be seen as a positive	The proposed mitigation measures demonstrate a positive reduction in flood risk for the local community via the two large detention basins proposed upgradient of Sturton le Steeple village. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 8 - Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Flood Risk and Drainage [EN010163/APP/6.2.8]** acknowledges this as an effect of minor beneficial significance.	N
5	s47	General support for the Proposed Development if flood risk is not increased	**ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.3, Flood Risk Assessment, [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]** considers flood risk from all sources and demonstrates that there will be no increase in flood risk as a result of the Proposed Development. The Applicant has proposed two large detention basins upstream of Sturton le Steeple village with the aim of reducing the known flood risk to the village from overland flow over the fields to the west of the village.	N
6	s47	Statement that maintenance of existing drainage and defences must continue	The layout of the Proposed Development allows for appropriate easements either side of the Ordinary Watercourses within the Site. This will provide access for future maintenance of these assets. Proposals have been developed in consultation with the Lead Local Flood Authority and the River Trent Internal Drainage Board, who are responsible for the maintenance of these assets. No works are proposed within close proximity to the River Trent or its flood defences, the area closest to the River Trent is proposed for biodiversity mitigation only.	N

7	s47	Statement that there is limited risk of flooding	The Applicant welcomes this comment and has undertaken a risk of flooding from all sources within **ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.3, Flood Risk Assessment, [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]**. Any identified risks to the Proposed Development, or arising as a result of the Proposed Development, have been mitigated.	N
8	s47	General support of flood mitigation proposals	The Applicant welcomes this comment. The Applicant has given full consideration to requirements for flood mitigation and has voluntarily provided additional measures to reduce the flood risk to Sturton le Steeple village.	N
9	s47	Statement that the Proposed Development will increase the risk of flooding/Statement that the Proposed Development will increase risk of localised flooding	**ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.3, Flood Risk Assessment, [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]** has been prepared to support the application, assessing the risk to the development from all forms of flooding and identifying any potential impacts of flooding resulting from the Proposed Development. Appropriate mitigation measures have been identified, where required, to ensure there is no increased risk of flooding off-site as a result of the Proposed Development. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.2, Surface Water Drainage Strategy [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]** been prepared and demonstrates how runoff from the Proposed Development will be managed to ensure there is no increase in runoff leaving the Site.	N

10	s47	Statement that reduction of natural infiltration and evaporation will increase flood risk	**ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.2, Surface Water Drainage Strategy [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]** demonstrates how runoff from the Proposed Development will be managed with runoff stored within features on-site and released at a greenfield rate so as not to increase runoff being discharged from the Site. The solar panels are not considered to reduce the permeability of the underlying ground. The area beneath the solar panels will be planted with mixed grasses, runoff would freely drain to the ground in the large gaps beneath the panels, such that there will be no increased flood risk.	N
11	s47	Statement that flooding will take care of itself	The meaning of the comment that flooding will take care of itself is not fully understood. However, the Applicant notes that **ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.3, Flood Risk Assessment, [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]** has been prepared to support the application, assessing the risk to the development from all forms of flooding and identifying any potential impacts of flooding resulting from the Proposed Development. Appropriate mitigation measures have been identified, where required, to ensure there is no increased risk of flooding off-site as a result of the Proposed Development. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.2, Surface Water Drainage Strategy [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]** been prepared and demonstrates how runoff from the Proposed Development will be managed to ensure there is no increase in runoff leaving the Site.	N

12	s47	Concern regarding the viability of flood mitigation	All proposed flood mitigation has been discussed and agreed throughout the design process with the Lead Local Flood Authority, the Internal Drainage Board and the Environment Agency. The design and maintenance of the mitigation measures will be secured via DCO requirement.	N
13	s47	Statement that flood mitigation measures do not allow for existing problems	Flood mitigation measures have been informed by a detailed **ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.3, Flood Risk Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.8],** which takes into account flood risk from all sources. The existing flooding problems are acknowledged, and additional mitigation measures have been proposed, beyond those required to mitigate scheme impacts, to help reduce existing flooding problems within the local area. These additional measures comprise two large detention basins proposed upgradient of Sturton le Steeple village which aim to intercept overland flow and retain water until after the peak of the rainfall event when it will be released slowly to the local ditch network.	N
14	s47	Statement that more detail on flood mitigation is needed to address local concerns	Flood mitigation measures are fully detailed in the submitted **ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.3, Flood Risk Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]**. These measures have been informed by a detailed assessment of flood risk from all sources and have been designed in consultation with the Environment Agency, the Lead Local Flood Authority and Trent Valley Internal Drainage Board. Measures include the implementation of storage basins for runoff generated by the Proposed Development and	N

			additional basins for the retention of runoff from off-site to help alleviate the flood risk in Sturton le Steeple.	
15	s47	Statement that roads are damaged due to flooding	**ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.3, Flood Risk Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]** considers flood risk from all sources and demonstrates that there will be no increase in flood risk as a result of the Proposed Development. There will therefore be no worsening of any flood damage to roads as a result of the Proposed Development. The Applicant has proposed two large detention basins upstream of Sturton le Steeple village with the aim of reducing the known flood risk to the village from overland flow over the fields to the west of the village. This should therefore help reduce any occurrences of damage to roads due to flood risk.	N
16	s47	Statement that flooding should be a significant consideration	The Applicant has given priority to flood risk concerns from the earliest stages of the Project. A full assessment of flood risk has been undertaken, as detailed in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.3, Flood Risk Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]**. Mitigation measures have been proposed not only to mitigate against any possible impacts of the Proposed Development, but also as an additional measure to help reduce the existing flood risk to Sturton le Steeple village.	N

17	s47	Statement that the water storage areas will not cope with the rate and flow required for the Proposed Development	The attenuation basins have been designed in accordance with current industry standards to cope with a 1 in 100 year plus climate change rainfall event. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.2, Surface Water Drainage Strategy [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]**, and all supporting modelling and calculations, will be reviewed by the Lead Local Flood Authority and the Trent Valley Internal Drainage Board prior to consenting the proposals.	N
18	s47	Statement that Sturton is positioned at the lowest point and already needs mitigation	The Applicant acknowledges the existing flood risk to Sturton le Steeple village. As well as proposing mitigation measures to ensure there is no increased flood risk as a result of the Proposed Development, the Applicant has committed to providing two large detention basins to the west of Sturton le Steeple, as an additional voluntary measure, to help reduce the existing flood risk to the village. These basins are designed to intercept the runoff from the fields above the village, and hold it until the peak of the storm has passed when water will be released to the local ditch network at a controlled rate.	N
19	s47	Concern regarding present lack of drainage	**ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.2, Surface Water Drainage Strategy [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]** has been prepared showing how runoff from the Proposed Development will be managed. Runoff will be stored on-site within attenuation features and discharged to the on-site watercourses at no greater than greenfield rates. The Drainage Strategy has been developed in consultation	N

			with the Lead Local Flood Authority and Trent Valley Internal Drainage Board.	
20	s47	Concern that channels will be created where water runs off panels	The area beneath the panels will be planted with mixed grasses, this will help protect the soils from the effects of erosion and creation of channels	N
21	s47	Statement that drainage needs improving on North Street	North Street unfortunately falls outside the application boundary and the Applicant's control. However, measures have been included within the Proposed Development which aim to slow the runoff from the fields upgradient of Sturton le Steeple to help reduce the known flood risk to the village.	N
22	s47	Statement that much of the Proposed Development is on land that floods	**ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.3, Flood Risk Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]** has been prepared to support the application, assessing the risk to the Proposed Development from all forms of flooding and identifying any potential impacts of flooding resulting from the Proposed Development. Appropriate mitigation measures have been identified, where required, to ensure there is no increased risk of flooding off-site as a result of the Proposed Development. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.2, Surface Water Drainage Strategy [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]**	N

			has been prepared and demonstrates how runoff from the Proposed Development will be managed to ensure there is no increase in runoff leaving the Site.	
23	s47	Statement that clay in the ground increases flood risk	The underlying geology has been taken into account in both **ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.3, Flood Risk Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.2, Surface Water Drainage Strategy [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]**. Measures have been proposed to control the runoff (both from on-site and off-site) that is expected to occur overland as a result of the limited permeability of the underlying soils.	N
24	s47	Statement that current water ways cannot cope as it is	**ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.2, Surface Water Drainage Strategy [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]** has been prepared showing how runoff from the Proposed Development will be managed. Runoff will be stored on-site within attenuation features and discharged to the on-site watercourses at no greater than greenfield rates. The Drainage Strategy has been developed in consultation with the Lead Local Flood Authority and Trent Valley Internal Drainage Board.	N

25	s47	Statement that the whole village suffers with surface water	The Applicant acknowledges the existing flood risk to Sturton le Steeple, and has provided additional measures within the Scheme, beyond those required to mitigate scheme impacts, to help reduce this flood risk. These measures comprise two large detention basins solely for the interception of overland flow and reduction of flood risk within Sturton le Steeple. Water would be stored within these features and released slowly following the peak of a rainfall event.	N
26	s47	Statement that local housebuilding has caused increased flooding and drainage issues	**ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.3, Flood Risk Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]** has been prepared to support the application, assessing the risk to the development from all forms of flooding and identifying any potential impacts of flooding resulting from the Proposed Development. Appropriate mitigation measures have been identified, where required, to ensure there is no increased risk of flooding off-site as a result of the Proposed Development.	N
27	s47	Concern regarding historical flooding of the Trent	The Applicant acknowledges that flooding has historically occurred associated with the River Trent. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.3, Flood Risk Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]** demonstrates that the Development has been designed to be safe during the 1 in 100 year plus climate change flood event. All equipment will be located outside the 1 in 100 year plus climate change defended flood extent, which the Environment Agency considers is the 'design' flood event.	N

28	s47	Concern regarding increased flood risk at Springs Lane/Church Street	The Applicant acknowledges the existing flood risk to local roads, particularly within Sturton le Steeple, and has provided additional measures within the Scheme, beyond those required to mitigate scheme impacts, to help reduce this flood risk. These measures comprise two large detention basins solely for the interception of overland flow and reduction of flood risk within Sturton le Steeple. Water would be stored within these features and released slowly following the peak of a rainfall event.	N
29	s47	Statement that the field in North Leverton floods at present	The Applicant acknowledges the existing flood risk within the local area. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.3, Flood Risk Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]** considers flood risk from all sources and demonstrates that there will be no increase in flood risk as a result of the Proposed Development. Appropriate mitigation has been proposed to ensure the Proposed Development will remain safe and operational over its lifetime.	N
30 3	s47	Statement that significant flooding also happens on the east side of Sturton	The Applicant acknowledges the existing flood risk to Sturton le Steeple, and has provided additional measures within the Scheme, beyond those required to mitigate scheme impacts, to help reduce this flood risk. These measures comprise two large detention basins solely for the interception of overland flow and reduction of flood risk within Sturton le Steeple. Water would be stored within these features and released slowly following the peak of a rainfall event.	N

31 4	s47	Concern regarding increased flood risk due to loss of field boundaries	**ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.2, Surface Water Drainage Strategy [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]** demonstrates how runoff from the Proposed Development will be managed with runoff stored within features on-site and released at a greenfield rate so as not to increase runoff being discharged from the Site. Linear drainage features are being incorporated at the lower edge of the fields to intercept runoff.	N
32	s47	Concern regarding increased flood risk due to loss of trees/hedges	**ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.2, Surface Water Drainage Strategy [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]** demonstrates how runoff from the Proposed Development will be managed with runoff stored within features on-site and released at a greenfield rate so as not to increase runoff being discharged from the Site. The area beneath the panels will be planted with mixed grassland to promote plant uptake of runoff. The Applicant has incorporated additional detention basins, beyond those required to manage runoff from the Proposed Development, as an additional measure to help reduce the known flood risk to Sturton le Steeple.	N
33	s47	Concern regarding the impact of flooding on panels	**ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.3, Flood Risk Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]** considers flood risk from all sources and demonstrates that the Proposed Development will remain safe and operational over its lifetime. The solar panels will be located above the expected flood level from all sources of flooding.	N

34	s47	Concern regarding the impact of flooding on BESS	**ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.3, Flood Risk Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]** considers the flood risk from all sources. The BESS is located over 2m above the 1 in 100 year plus climate change flood level of the River Trent and sensitive equipment will be raised above the ground level to protect against any localised flooding associated with the nearby ditches or surface water runoff.	N
35	s47	Statement that surface water runoff is currently reduce by regular ploughing	The Applicant does not concur with the comment that runoff is reduced by regular ploughing. However, **ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.2, Surface Water Drainage Strategy [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]** demonstrates how runoff from the Proposed Development will be managed with runoff stored within features on-site and released at a greenfield rate so as not to increase runoff being discharged from the Site. The solar panels are not considered to reduce the permeability of the underlying ground. The area beneath the solar panels will be planted with mixed grasses, runoff would freely drain to the ground in the large gaps beneath the panels.	N
36	s47	Concern regarding the impact of increased flood risk on properties	**ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.3, Flood Risk Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]** considers flood risk from all sources and demonstrates that there will be no increase in flood risk as a result of the Proposed Development. The Applicant has proposed two large detention basins upstream of Sturton le Steeple village with the aim of reducing the known flood risk to the village from overland flow over the fields to the west of the village.	N

37	s47	Concern regarding the loss of essential water run off relief	**ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.2, Surface Water Drainage Strategy [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]** demonstrates how runoff from the Proposed Development will be managed with runoff stored within features on-site and released at a greenfield rate so as not to increase runoff being discharged from the Site. The solar panels are not considered to reduce the permeability of the underlying ground. The area beneath the solar panels will be planted with mixed grasses, runoff would freely drain to the ground in the large gaps beneath the panels.	N
38	s47	Statement that the loss of farming will increase flood risk	The Applicant does not concur with the statement that the loss of farming will increase flood risk. Arable fields are left bare for periods of time whereas the Proposed Development will result in the land being planted with mixed grasses which will encourage interception, absorption and plant uptake or runoff year-round. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.2, Surface Water Drainage Strategy [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]** demonstrates how runoff from the Proposed Development will be managed with runoff stored within features on-site and released at a greenfield rate so as not to increase runoff being discharged from the Site. The solar panels are not considered to reduce the permeability of the underlying ground, runoff would freely drain to the ground in the large gaps beneath the panels.	N

39	s47	Statement that their property borders a beck (Manor Grove)	**ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.3, Flood Risk Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]** considers flood risk from all sources and demonstrates that there will be no increase in flood risk as a result of the Proposed Development. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.2, Surface Water Drainage Strategy [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]** demonstrates how runoff from the Development will be stored on-site and released at a controlled greenfield rate to the local ditches, ensuring no increase in runoff reaching local watercourses including the unnamed Ordinary Watercourse to the north of Manor Grove.	N
40	s47	Statement that Cross Street floods regularly	The Applicant acknowledges the existing flood risk within Sturton le Steeple village. In addition to the mitigation measures ensuring no off-site increase in flood risk from the Proposed Development, the Applicant is proposing two large detention basins upgradient of Sturton le Steeple village which aim to reduce the existing flood risk within the village. The basins have been designed to intercept overland flow from the fields to the west of the village and hold water back before being released slowly following the peak of a rainfall event.	N
41	s47	Statement that North Street floods regularly	The Applicant acknowledges the existing flood risk within Sturton le Steeple village. In addition to the mitigation measures ensuring no off-site increase in flood risk from the Proposed Development, the Applicant is proposing two large detention basins upgradient of Sturton le Steeple village which aim to reduce the existing flood risk	N

			within the village. The basins have been designed to intercept overland flow from the fields to the west of the village and hold water back before being released slowly following the peak of a rainfall event.	
42	s47	Concern that dykes and ditches cannot cope already	The Applicant notes this comment and confirms **ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.2, Surface Water Drainage Strategy [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]** has been prepared showing how runoff from the Proposed Development will be managed. Runoff will be stored on-site within attenuation features and discharged to the on-site watercourses at no greater than a greenfield rate. The Drainage Strategy has been developed in consultation with the Lead Local Flood Authority and the Trent Valley Internal Drainage Board.	N
43	s47	Concern that flood basins will be insufficient in Sturton	The attenuation basins that are designed to manage runoff from the impermeable areas of the Proposed Development have been designed to cater for the 1 in 100 year plus climate event in accordance with current guidance. The Drainage Strategy and all supporting modelling and calculations will be reviewed by the Lead Local Flood Authority and the Internal Drainage Board prior to approval. The detention basins that have been proposed to provide a reduction in flood risk to Sturton le Steeple have also been designed to accommodate the 1 in 100 year plus climate event (it is noted that only runoff passing over land in the Applicant's control can be	N

			managed so a complete prevention of any future flooding in Sturton le Steeple is not possible).	
44	s47	Statement that the area is flood plain	The Applicant acknowledges the Site's location partially within Flood Zone 2 and 3. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.3, Flood Risk Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]** has been prepared to assess the risk of flooding from all sources. Appropriate mitigation has been provided to ensure the Development will be safe over its lifetime without increasing flood risk off-site. It is noted that the extent of Flood Zone 3 as shown on the EA Flood Map does not take into account the effect of the defences along the River Trent. In a defended scenario, only the proposed biodiversity mitigation area falls within Flood Zone 3 associated with the River Trent.	N
45	s47	Concern regarding increased water run off due to impermeable surfaces	**ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.2, Surface Water Drainage Strategy [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]** demonstrates how runoff from the Proposed Development will be managed with runoff stored within features on-site and released at a greenfield rate so as not to increase runoff being discharged from the Site. The solar panels are not considered to reduce the permeability of the underlying ground. The area beneath the solar panels will be planted with mixed grasses, runoff would freely drain to the ground in the large gaps beneath the panels.	N

Health				
46	s47	Statement that the Proposed Development will impact quality of life	The Applicant has considered those factors associated with impact on quality of life within a number of the six overarching determinants of health through the WHIASU approach, including 'Lifestyles', 'Social and community influences on health', 'Living / environmental conditions affecting health' and 'Access and quality of services'. See Tables 7.1 and 7.2 in Section 7 of the **Health Impact Assessment (HIA) [EN010163/APP/7.2]** for further information regarding the potential impacts on the quality of life of relevant Target Groups. Relevant information from wider application documentation is used to inform the assessment and referenced as necessary in Section 7 of the HIA. In construction, considerations include potential change to livelihoods, maintenance of PRoW, sense of pride, risk of accidents, and environmental changes. The most severe impact is identified as moderate adverse associated with children, older people, pregnancy and maternal group and existing residents and users. However, best practice construction activities will be implemented and secured by a series of appropriate management plans. During the operational phase, it is acknowledged that the change in land use, landscape, visual and recreational amenity impacts could have an indirect effect on the mental health of some receptors. Nevertheless, the mitigation proposed will reduce the physical impacts as far as possible over time and, as such,	N

			should contribute to alleviating any indirect mental health impacts. A number of management plans are proposed to minimise any potential for negative impacts.	
47	S47	Concern regarding health risks associated with living near solar panels	The Applicant has considered those factors associated with living in proximity to solar panels once the Proposed Development is completed within each of the six overarching determinants of health through the WHIASU approach. See Table 7.2 in Section 7 of the **Health Impact Assessment (HIA) [EN010163/APP/7.2]** for further information regarding the potential impacts on relevant Target Groups during the operational phase. Relevant information from wider application documentation is used to inform the assessment and referenced as necessary in Section 7 of the HIA. Overall, physical health risks associated with living near solar panels is negligible impact, albeit the potential for an indirect effect on the mental health of some receptors as a result in change in land use, landscape, visual and recreational amenity impacts. A number of management plans are proposed to minimise any potential for negative impacts.	N

48	S47	Concern regarding health risks associated with living near BESS	The Applicant has considered those factors associated with living in proximity to BESS once the Proposed Development is completed within each of the six overarching determinants of health through the WHIASU approach. See Table 7.2 in Section 7 of the **Health Impact Assessment (HIA) [EN010163/APP/7.2]** for further information regarding the potential impacts on relevant Target Groups during the operational phase. Relevant information from wider application documentation is used to inform the assessment and referenced as necessary in Section 7 of the HIA. Overall, physical health risks associated with living near solar panels is negligible impact, albeit the potential for an indirect effect on the mental health of some receptors as a result in change in land use, landscape, visual and recreational amenity impacts. A number of management plans are proposed to minimise any potential for negative impacts.	N
49	S47	Concern regarding health impacts associated with electric	The Applicant has considered those factors associated with electric sources on site, including risk of fire, within each relevant determinant of health through the WHIASU approach, namely 'Social and community influences on health', and 'Living / environmental conditions affecting health'. See Tables 7.1 and 7.2 in Section 7 of the **Health Impact Assessment (HIA) [EN010163/APP/7.2]** for further information regarding the potential impacts on relevant Target Groups. Relevant information from wider application documentation is used to inform the	N

			assessment and referenced as necessary in Section 7 of the HIA. There are not expected to be any negative health impacts associated with electricity generation (including potential for fire, risks associated with flooding) of the Proposed Development.	
50	S47	Concern regarding health risks associated with lorries	The Applicant has considered those factors associated with HGVs accessing the Site during the construction and decommissioning phases within each relevant determinant of health through the WHIASU approach, namely 'Social and community influences on health', 'Living / environmental conditions affecting health' and 'Macro-economic, environmental and sustainability factors'. See Table 7.1 in Section 7 of the **Health Impact Assessment (HIA) [EN010163/APP/7.2]** for further information regarding the potential impacts on relevant Target Groups. Relevant information from wider application documentation is used to inform the assessment and referenced as necessary in Section 7 of the HIA. There are health risks which may arise due to HGVs affecting air quality during the construction and decommissioning phases, however, **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14 – Air Quality [EN010163/APP/6.2.14]** outlines that the peak traffic flows will be present on the road network for a short period of time and any effect will be transient, as such the air quality effect is considered insignificant. This means that the health risks associated with lorries will be minimal.	N

51	S47	Concern regarding impacts on mental health	The Applicant has considered impacts on mental health, both direct and indirect, as a result of the Proposed Development within each of the six determinants of health through the WHIASU approach. See Table 7.1 and Table 7.2 in Section 7 of the **Health Impact Assessment (HIA) [EN010163/APP/7.2]** for further information regarding the potential impacts on relevant Target Groups. Relevant information from wider application documentation is used to inform the assessment and referenced as necessary in Section 7 of the HIA. In construction, considerations include potential change to livelihoods, maintenance of PRoW, sense of pride, risk of accidents, and environmental changes. The most severe impact is identified as moderate adverse associated with children, older people, pregnancy and maternal group and existing residents and users. However, best practice construction activities will be implemented and secured by a series of appropriate management plans. Once operational, it is acknowledged that the change in land use, landscape, visual and recreational amenity impacts could have an indirect effect on the mental health of some receptors. Nevertheless, the mitigation proposed will reduce the physical environmental impacts as far as possible over time and, as such, should contribute to alleviating any indirect mental health impacts. A number of management plans are proposed to minimise any potential for negative impacts.	N

52	S47	Concern regarding residents' wellbeing	The Applicant has considered those factors associated with impact wellbeing within a number of the six overarching determinants of health through the WHIASU approach, including 'Lifestyles', 'Social and community influences on health', 'Living / environmental conditions affecting health' and 'Access and quality of services'. See Tables 7.1 and 7.2 in Section 7 of the **Health Impact Assessment (HIA) [EN010163/APP/7.2]** for further information regarding the potential impacts on the quality of life of relevant Target Groups. Relevant information from wider application documentation is used to inform the assessment and referenced as necessary in Section 7 of the HIA. In construction, considerations include potential change to livelihoods, maintenance of PRoW, sense of pride, risk of accidents, and environmental changes. The most severe impact is identified as moderate adverse associated with children, older people, pregnancy and maternal group and existing residents and users. However, best practice construction activities will be implemented and secured by a series of appropriate management plans. During the operational phase, it is acknowledged that the change in land use, landscape, visual and recreational amenity impacts could have an indirect effect on the mental health of some receptors. Nevertheless, the mitigation proposed will reduce the physical impacts as far as possible over time and, as such, should contribute to alleviating any indirect mental health	N

			impacts. A number of management plans are proposed to minimise any potential for negative impacts.	
53	S47	Concern regarding the impact of the Proposed Development on mental health	The Applicant has considered impacts on mental health, both direct and indirect, as a result of the Proposed Development within each of the six determinants of health through the WHIASU approach. See Table 7.1 and Table 7.2 in Section 7 of the **Health Impact Assessment (HIA) [EN010163/APP/7.2]** for further information regarding the potential impacts on relevant Target Groups. Relevant information from wider application documentation is used to inform the assessment and referenced as necessary in Section 7 of the HIA. In construction, considerations include potential change to livelihoods, maintenance of PRoW, sense of pride, risk of accidents, and environmental changes. The most severe impact is identified as moderate adverse associated with children, older people, pregnancy and maternal group and existing residents and users. However, best practice construction activities will be implemented and secured by a series of appropriate management plans. Once operational, it is acknowledged that the change in land use, landscape, visual and recreational amenity impacts could have an indirect effect on the mental health of some receptors. Nevertheless, the mitigation proposed will reduce the	N

			physical environmental impacts as far as possible over time and, as such, should contribute to alleviating any indirect mental health impacts. A number of management plans are proposed to minimise any potential for negative impacts.	
54	S47	General concern regarding personal safety	The Applicant has considered those factors associated with residents' safety as a result of each of the development phases of the Proposed Development within a number of the six overarching determinants of health through the WHIASU approach, including 'Lifestyles', 'Social and community influences on health', and 'Living / environmental conditions affecting health'. See Tables 7.1 and 7.2 in **Health Impact Assessment (HIA) [EN010163/APP/7.2]** for further information regarding the potential impacts on safety of relevant Target Groups. Relevant information from wider application documentation is used to inform the assessment and referenced as necessary in Section 7 of this HIA. Potential impacts on personal safety linked to risk of fire, flooding, traffic changes and changes to water quality have been considered. Management plans will be in place to ensure risk to personal safety is minimised. Overall impact on personal safety is neutral.	N

55	S47	General concern regarding impacts on physical health	The Applicant has considered those impacts on physical health as a result of each of the development phases of the Proposed Development within a number of the six overarching determinants of health through the WHIASU approach, including 'Lifestyles', 'Social and community influences on health', 'Living / environmental conditions affecting health' and 'Access and quality of services'. See Tables 7.1 and 7.2 in **Health Impact Assessment (HIA) [EN010163/APP/7.2]** for further information regarding the potential impacts on physical health of relevant Target Groups. Relevant information from wider application documentation is used to inform the assessment and referenced as necessary in Section 7 of this HIA. There will be two new permissive paths implemented to connect existing Public Right of Ways (PRoWs). The permissive paths will operate during the life of the Proposed Development. In addition, there is an appropriate offset from the Trent Valley Way embedded into the design. This will ensure that the physical activity of local residents is supported, providing accessible routes for walking, running, and cycling. By preserving these pathways, the development supports the community's physical health, wellbeing, and mental health benefits associated with outdoor exercise and recreation. Therefore, there are no negative impacts on physical health as a result of the Proposed Development.	N

56	S47	Concern regarding risk of fire	The Applicant has considered the potential risk of fire within each relevant determinant of health through the WHIASU approach, namely 'Social and community influences on health', and 'Living / environmental conditions affecting health'. See Tables 7.1 and 7.2 in Section 7 of the **Health Impact Assessment (HIA) [EN010163/APP/7.2]** for further information regarding the potential impacts on relevant Target Groups. Relevant information from wider application documentation is used to inform the assessment and referenced as necessary in Section 7 of this HIA. Additionally, fire risk associated with the BESS is assessed within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14 – Miscellaneous Issues [EN010163/APP/6.2.17]** within the Major Accidents and Disasters section. No significant effects relating to fire risk are identified with mitigation in place for any phase of the development. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.3, Outline Fire Risk Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** has been produced for the Proposed Development and will be updated and maintained as a 'live document' throughout the operational phase of the Proposed Development, to reduce the risk of fire and propagation within the BESS Compound. Following this, the Outline Fire Risk Management Plan (secured via DCO requirement) will be implemented on the Site prior to the operational phase, once detailed design.	N

57	S47	Concern regarding increased safety risk to school children due to increased traffic	The Applicant has considered those factors associated with increased traffic during the construction and decommissioning phases within each relevant determinant of health through the WHIASU approach, namely 'Social and community influences on health', 'Living / environmental conditions affecting health' and 'Access and quality of services'. See Table 7.1 in **Health Impact Assessment (HIA) [EN010163/APP/7.2]** for further information regarding the potential impacts on relevant Target Groups. Relevant information from wider application documentation is used to inform the assessment and referenced as necessary in Section 7 of this HIA. Collision records suggest no risk, however, the change in traffic movements is acknowledged and there remains potential for adverse effects on children. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** will be secured to manage this risk.	N
58	S47	Concern regarding water contamination due to toxic chemicals in panels/Concern regarding toxic chemicals in the solar panels	The Applicant has considered the potential for water contamination due to toxicity on Site within each relevant determinant of health through the WHIASU approach, namely 'Social and community influences on health', 'Living / environmental conditions affecting health' and 'Macro-economic, environmental and sustainability factors'. See Tables 7.1 and 7.2 in Section 7 of the **Health Impact Assessment (HIA) [EN010163/APP/7.2]** for further information regarding the potential impacts on	N

			relevant Target Groups. Relevant information from wider application documentation is used to inform the assessment and referenced as necessary in Section 7 of the HIA. Additionally, **ES Volume 2, Appendix 2.2, Phase 1 Geoenvironmental Desk Study Report [EN010163/APP/6.3.2]** is submitted with the application with the Site deemed as being of low overall risk of significant contamination, and it is not considered necessary to undertake a ground investigation prior to granting of the DCO application. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 8 - Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Flood Risk and Drainage [EN010163/APP/6.2.8]** further outlines the potential effects of firewater and contaminated runoff, however toxic chemicals (if any) from solar PV panels is not expected to cause significant effects.	
59	S47	Concern regarding the safety of residents during construction	The Applicant has considered those factors associated with residents' safety as a result of the construction phase of the Proposed Development within a number of the six overarching determinants of health through the WHIASU approach, including 'Lifestyles', 'Social and community influences on health', and 'Living / environmental conditions affecting health'. See Table 7.1 in Section 7 of the **Health Impact Assessment (HIA) [EN010163/APP/7.2]** for further information regarding the potential impacts on safety of relevant Target Groups. Relevant information from wider application	N

			documentation is used to inform the assessment and referenced as necessary in Section 7 of the HIA. Potential impacts on safety linked to risk of fire, flooding, traffic changes and changes to water quality have been considered. Management plans will be in place to ensure risk to safety is minimised. Overall impact on safety is neutral.	
60	S47	Concern regarding safety risks due to increased traffic	The Applicant has considered those factors associated with increased traffic during the construction and decommissioning phases within each relevant determinants of health through the WHIASU approach, namely 'Social and community influences on health', 'Living / environmental conditions affecting health' and 'Access and quality of services'. See Table 7.1 in Section 7 of the **Health Impact Assessment (HIA) [EN010163/APP/7.2]** for further information regarding the potential impacts on relevant Target Groups. Relevant information from wider application documentation is used to inform the assessment and referenced as necessary in Section 7 of the HIA. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 – Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]** indicates that accidents and safety in relation to transport has been assessed as negligible based on the low number of existing accidents recorded. Nevertheless, **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** will be secured to manage any potential further risk.	N

61	S47	Concern regarding safety risks due to access through main village thoroughfares	The Applicant has considered those factors associated with potential safety risks related to impacts on access and traffic during each development phase within each relevant determinant of health through the WHIASU approach, namely 'Social and community influences on health', 'Living / environmental conditions affecting health' and 'Access and quality of services'. See Table 7.1 and Table 7.2 in Section 7 of the **Health Impact Assessment (HIA) [EN010163/APP/7.2]** for further information regarding the potential impacts on relevant Target Groups. Relevant information from wider application documentation is used to inform the assessment and referenced as necessary in Section 7 of the HIA. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 – Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]** indicates that accidents and safety in relation to transport has been assessed as negligible based on the low number of existing accidents recorded. Nevertheless, **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** will be secure to manage any potential further risk.	N
62	S47	Concern regarding safety risks associated with flooding and electrical components of the Proposed Development	The Applicant has considered those factors associated with electric sources on site, including flooding and risk of fire, within each relevant determinant of health through the WHIASU approach, namely 'Social and community influences on health', and 'Living / environmental conditions affecting health'. See Tables 7.1 and 7.2 in	N

			Section 7 of the **Health Impact Assessment (HIA) [EN010163/APP/7.2]** for further information regarding the potential impacts on relevant Target Groups. Relevant information from wider application documentation is used to inform the assessment and referenced as necessary in Section 7 of the HIA. Additionally, **ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.3, Flood Risk Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]** has been prepared to support the application, assessing the risk to the development from all forms of flooding and identifying any potential impacts of flooding resulting from the Proposed Development. Appropriate mitigation measures have been identified, where required, to ensure there is no increased risk of flooding off-site as a result of the Proposed Development. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.2, Surface Water Drainage Strategy [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]** has been prepared and demonstrates how runoff from the Proposed Development will be managed to ensure there is no increase in runoff leaving the Site. Overall, the Proposed Development will be safe from a flooding perspective and will not result in any increase in flood risk either on or off the Site, taking account of the embedded mitigation as per the conclusions of the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 8 - Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Flood Risk and Drainage [EN010163/APP/6.2.8].**	

63	S47	Concern regarding safety risk to public transport users due to increased traffic	The Applicant has considered those factors associated with potential safety risks related to impacts on access and traffic during each development phase within each relevant determinant of health through the WHIASU approach, namely 'Social and community influences on health', 'Living / environmental conditions affecting health' and 'Access and quality of services'. See Table 7.1 and Table 7.2 in Section 7 of the **Health Impact Assessment (HIA) [EN010163/APP/7.2]** for further information regarding the potential impacts on relevant Target Groups. Relevant information from wider application documentation is used to inform the assessment and referenced as necessary in Section 7 of the HIA. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 – Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]** indicates that accidents and safety in relation to transport has been assessed as negligible based on the low number of existing accidents recorded. This implies that there will be no increased risk to the safety of public transport uses (e.g. bus passengers, bus stop users etc). Nevertheless, **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** will be secured to manage any potential further risk.	N

64	S47	Concern regarding safety risk to pedestrians due to increased traffic	The Applicant has considered those factors associated with potential safety risks related to impacts on access and traffic during each development phase within each relevant determinant of health through the WHIASU approach, namely 'Social and community influences on health', 'Living / environmental conditions affecting health' and 'Access and quality of services'. See Table 7.1 and Table 7.2 in Section 7 of the **Health Impact Assessment (HIA) [EN010163/APP/7.2]** for further information regarding the potential impacts on relevant Target Groups. Relevant information from wider application documentation is used to inform the assessment and referenced as necessary in Section 7 of the HIA. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 – Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]** indicates that accidents and safety in relation to transport has been assessed as negligible based on the low number of existing accidents recorded. This implies there will be no increased risk to the safety of pedestrians (e.g. people using footpaths and crossing roads). Nevertheless, **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** will be secure to manage any potential further risk.	N

65	S47	Concern regarding safety risk to other drivers due to increased traffic	The Applicant has considered those factors associated with potential safety risks related to impacts on access and traffic during each development phase within each relevant determinant of health through the WHIASU approach, namely 'Social and community influences on health', 'Living / environmental conditions affecting health' and 'Access and quality of services'. See Table 7.1 and Table 7.2 in Section 7 of the **Health Impact Assessment (HIA) [EN010163/APP/7.2]** for further information regarding the potential impacts on relevant Target Groups. Relevant information from wider application documentation is used to inform the assessment and referenced as necessary in Section 7 of the HIA. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 – Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]** indicates that accidents and safety in relation to transport has been assessed as negligible based on the low number of existing accidents recorded. This implies there will be no increased risk to the safety of other drivers (e.g. people using personal vehicles). Nevertheless, **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** will be secure to manage any potential further risk.	N

66	S47	Statement that people walk the lanes for health benefits	Existing PRoW within the Order Limits will be maintained throughout all phases of the development. This will ensure that the physical activity of local residents remains unaffected, providing accessible routes for walking, running, and cycling. By preserving these pathways, the development supports the community's physical health, wellbeing, and mental health benefits associated with outdoor exercise and recreation. Therefore, there are no negative impacts on the ability to use PRoW as a result of the Proposed Development.	N
67	S47	Concern regarding risk of accidents on Gainsborough Road	The Applicant has considered those factors associated with potential safety risks related to impacts on access and traffic during each development phase within each relevant determinant of health through the WHIASU approach, namely 'Social and community influences on health', 'Living / environmental conditions affecting health' and 'Access and quality of services'. See Table 7.1 and Table 7.2 in Section 7 of the **Health Impact Assessment (HIA) [EN010163/APP/7.2]** for further information regarding the potential impacts on relevant Target Groups. Relevant information from wider application documentation is used to inform the assessment and referenced as necessary in Section 7 of the HIA. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 – Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]** indicates that accidents and safety in relation to transport has been assessed as negligible based on the low number of existing accidents	N

			recorded, including no fatal accidents in 5 years. This implies there will be no increased risk of accidents on Gainsborough Road as a result of the Proposed Development. Nevertheless, **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** will be secured to manage any potential further risk.	
68	S47	Concern regarding safety risks associated with glint and glare	The Applicant has considered the potential impacts on safety associated with glint and glare is considered within each relevant determinant of health through the WHIASU approach, namely 'Social and community influences on health', and 'Living / environmental conditions affecting health'. See Tables 7.1 and 7.2 in Section 7 of the **Health Impact Assessment (HIA) [EN010163/APP/7.2]** for further information regarding the potential impacts on relevant Target Groups. Relevant information from wider application documentation is used to inform the assessment and referenced as necessary in Section 7 of the HIA. Additionally, **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16 - Glint and Glare [EN010163/APP/6.2.16]** assesses the glint and glare effects on identified receptors. The overall conclusion of the Chapter is that the Proposed Development is considered to have no significant glint and glare impacts upon road safety, residential amenity, railway infrastructure and operations, aviation activity, public rights of way, bridleways and waterways.	N

69	S47	Concern regarding health risks related to processed food	The Applicant has considered the potential impacts relating to processed food within each relevant determinant of health through the WHIASU approach, namely 'Social and community influences on health', and 'Living / environmental conditions affecting health'. See Tables 7.1 and 7.2 in Section 7 of the **Health Impact Assessment (HIA) [EN010163/APP/7.2]** for further information regarding the potential impacts on relevant Target Groups. Relevant information from wider application documentation is used to inform the assessment and referenced as necessary in Section 7 of the HIA. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 15 - Land Use and Agriculture [EN010163/APP/6.2.15]** indicates that the Proposed Development will result in the temporary disturbance of approximately 12.1 ha of BMV agricultural land. Over the duration of the Proposed Development (as a 'worst-case' assessment scenario), these areas are considered to be taken out of productive food use and are therefore "lost" for a temporary duration to the installation of fixed equipment for the modelled 40-year operational lifespan of the Proposed Development. However, this land will not be lost, in that it is all capable of restoration to a comparable grade at the decommissioning phase. As such, the impact is considered to be moderate adverse which is not significant. The potential for direct effect on availability of non-processed food production is not assessed within the scope of the EIA. It is assumed sourcing of food, processed or non-processed will be from a variety of sources.	N

Landscape and visual				
70	S47	Statement that the Proposed Development will have a negative impact on the landscape/Statement that landscape is important to local people	The Applicant acknowledges that some adverse effects on landscape character would arise from the Proposed Development, including some significant effects. However, the effects would be localised and limited in nature, particularly noting the additional mitigation planting which is included.	N
71	S47	Statement that the village of Leverton will be surrounded	The Proposed Development does not surround the village of North Leverton. Instead, it would be located to the north of the village and offset in such a manner as to minimise potential visual effects. The majority of the village lies over 500m from the built development within the Proposed Development, with no properties in the village within 250m of the built development.	N
72	S47	Statement that the village of Sturton will be surrounded	The Applicant acknowledges that the Proposed Development lies in multiple directions from Sturton-le-Steeple. However, an offset from the village has been built into the design process in order to minimise potential visual effects. Much of the village lies over 500m from the built form within the Proposed Development.	N

73	S47	Concern regarding visual impact of the panels	The Applicant acknowledges that some visual effects would arise as a result of the Proposed Development, including some significant effects. However, these would be localised and further reduced following implementation of the mitigation planting included with the Proposed Development.	N
74	S47	Concern regarding visual impact of the fencing	The Applicant acknowledges that some visual effects would arise as a result of the fencing included with the Proposed Development. However, these would be localised and further reduced following implementation of the mitigation planting included with the Proposed Development. In many views the fences would not be visible due to screening by existing or proposed planting.	N
75	S47	Concern regarding visual impact/Statement that the Proposed Development would be an eyesore/Concern regarding the visual impact for nearby residents	The Applicant acknowledges that some adverse effects on landscape character and visual amenity would arise from the Proposed Development, including some significant effects. However, the effects would be localised and limited in nature, particularly noting the additional mitigation planting which is included.	N
76	S47	Concern regarding visual impact along Retford Road	The Applicant acknowledges that the Proposed Development may be visible in some views from Retford Road. However, any potential visual impacts from the route would be limited by existing roadside vegetation and the offset between the road and the Proposed Development.	N

77	S47	General support that the site to the east is less visually obtrusive	The Applicant acknowledges the comment that the eastern part of the Site is less visually obstructive than the western part. However, the Applicant considers that all of the Proposed Development has been well-designed, such as to minimise potential visual effects.	N
78	S47	Statement that the Proposed Development will not look like the pictures	The Applicant acknowledges that photographs of other solar farms and their planting which have been included with the consultation material may not be identical to the Proposed Development. The purpose of these images was however to provide an illustration of what solar development looks like in general, rather than purporting to be what the Proposed Development itself would look like. Visualisations of the Proposed Development are included at **ES Volume 2, Appendix 6.2, Photomontages [EN010163/APP/6.3.6]**	N
79	S47	Statement that increased buffer zones would be preferable	The Applicant considers that the Proposed Development includes appropriate offsets from properties, footpaths and roads, such as to limit the potential for visual effects.	N
80	S47	Statement that fencing will decrease the amenity value of footpaths	The Applicant acknowledges that some visual effects would arise as a result of the fencing included with the Proposed Development. However, these would be localised and further reduced following implementation of the mitigation planting included with the Proposed	N

			Development. In many views the fences would not be visible due to screening by existing or proposed planting.	
81	S47	Concern regarding the height of panels	The Applicant acknowledges that some visual effects would arise as a result of the solar panels included within the Proposed Development. As part of the final proposal, the maximum height of the panels has been reduced from 3.6m to 3m to mitigate impacts. This change, together with the implementation of mitigation planting and existing screening will largely screen the panels from view by Year 15 of the Operational Phase, resulting in a non-significant visual effect during operation from most visual receptors.	N
82	S47	General concern regarding light pollution	There is no permanent visible lighting associated with the Proposed Development.	N
83	S47	Statement that a smaller solar farm would be acceptable	The Applicant acknowledges the comment that a smaller solar farm would be acceptable. However, the Applicant considers that all of the Proposed Development has been well-designed, such as to minimise potential landscape and visual effects.	N

84	S47	Concern regarding the financial impact of residents choosing to travel different route due to the visual impact	The Applicant notes this comment but considers the visual effects on the local road network would be limited in nature as demonstrated in **ES Volume1, Chapter 6 - Landscape and Visual Impact and Residential Amenity [EN010163/APP/6.2.6].**	N
85	S47	Statement that the Proposed Development is too big/Statement that the Proposed Development is too large to justify the benefits	The Applicant considers that notwithstanding its scale, the Proposed Development has been well designed such that it would give rise to relatively limited and localised landscape and visual effects, with such effects further reduced following implementation of the proposed mitigation planting. The **Planning Statement [EN010163/APP/7.1]** considers the planning balance.	N
86	S47	Suggestion to reduce the size of the Proposed Development	The Applicant considers that notwithstanding its scale, the Proposed Development has been well designed such that it would give rise to relatively limited and localised landscape and visual effects, with such effects further reduced following implementation of the proposed mitigation planting. Any reduction in the size of the Proposed Development also reduces the energy generation benefits.	Y
87	S47	Concern regarding visual impact of CCTV	Any CCTV cameras would be designed to be visually discrete and would not contribute any notable visual effects, especially following implementation of the proposed mitigation planting, as illustrated on **ES Volume**	N

			3, Figure 6.9, Landscape and Ecological Mitigation Strategy [EN010163/APP/6.4.6].	
88	S47	Concern that the Proposed Development would dominate the visuals of the countryside	The Applicant considers that notwithstanding its scale, the Proposed Development has been well designed such that it would give rise to relatively limited and localised landscape and visual effects, with such effects further reduced following implementation of the proposed mitigation planting. It would therefore not be a dominant feature in views.	N
89	S47	Statement that the Proposed Development will be visible from everywhere in the village	The Applicant acknowledges that the Proposed Development lies in multiple directions from Sturton-le-Steeple. However, an offset from the village has been built into the design process in order to minimise potential visual effects. Much of the village lies over 500m from the built form within the Proposed Development. The Proposed Development would not therefore be visible from everywhere in the village and indeed for many properties there would be no views of the Proposed Development.	N

90	S47	Concern regarding visual impact of weeds growing	Appropriate management of the landscape at the Site, including the proposed mitigation planting, would be carried out over the lifetime of the Proposed Development in line with the principles set out in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 7.14, Outline Landscape and Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.7]**	N
91	S47	Statement that two sites closest to villages will have visual impact	The Applicant acknowledges that some visual effects would arise from the Proposed Development. However, any potential impacts to nearby villages have been reduced by the offsets between the built form and the villages, with effects further reduced by the proposed mitigation planting. No Significant effects would arise.	N
92	S47	Suggestion to create a green area between footpaths and solar panels to restrict view	An offset between the footpaths and the panels has been provided as part of the Proposed Development, which in combination with existing and proposed planting, would serve to limit the potential for effects.	N
93	S47	Statement that hedgerow/trees as screening is a positive	The Applicant acknowledges the feedback that the provision of hedgerows and trees as part of the proposed mitigation planting is a positive thing.	N

94	S47	Statement that screening measures will take years to reach the necessary height	The Applicant acknowledges that proposed mitigation planting will take time to mature and this has been factored into the assessment work undertaken, with assessments provided at both Year 1 and Year 15 of the operational phase.	N
95	S47	Statement that landscape and visual impact is irrelevant/ Statement that landscape is not relevant	The Applicant acknowledges the comment that landscape and visual effects are not relevant but notes that consideration of landscape and visual issues is an important part of the Development Consent Order process and was confirmed to be necessary through the EIA Scoping process.	N
96	S47	Statement that the assessment underestimates the landscape and visual impact	The assessment of landscape and visual effects has been undertaken in line with best practice by experienced Landscape Architects. The assessment undertaken at the PEIR stage was based on parameters which have now been refined as part of the development of the Proposed Development. The assessment of landscape and visual effects with the submission has now been based on the final proposals. It is considered that the effects would be relatively limited and localised in nature.	N
97	S47	Statement that assurance is wanted regarding RVAA is carried out in accordance with the PEIR	**ES Volume 2, Appendix 6.4, Residential Visual Amenity Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.6]** has been undertaken and included as part of the **Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment** within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6- Landscape and Visual Impact and Residential Amenity EN010163/APP/6.2.6**	N

			No Significant visual effects on residential properties have been identified.	
98	S47	Statement that viewpoints of the village from outside should be considered	The LVIA has considered a range of viewpoints, including many outside of the nearby settlements on the road and footpath network.	N
99	S47	Statement that viewpoints such as eastwards along Freemans Lane should be considered	LVIA Viewpoint 4 is from Freeman's Lane and considers the views looking in all directions, including eastwards.	N
100	S47	Concern that screening measures will block views	The Applicant acknowledges that mitigation planting may also serve to restrict some longer distance views, however, it is considered that views of hedgerows and other vegetation planting are a pleasant and familiar element of moving in and around the landscape.	N
101	S47	Statement that seeing the wider village and Trent valley landscape even with panels with be better than blocking all views out.	The Applicant acknowledges that mitigation planting may also serve to restrict some longer distance views across the Trent Valley landscape, however, it is considered that views of hedgerows and other vegetation planting are a	N

			pleasant and familiar element of moving in and around the Trent Valley landscape.	
102	S47	Concern regarding the loss of visual change of seasons	The Applicant acknowledges that mitigation planting may also serve to restrict some longer distance views, however, it is considered that views of hedgerows and other vegetation planting are a pleasant and familiar element of moving in and around the landscape and these features do also change with the seasons such that the ability to perceive the change in seasons will remain.	N
103	S47	Concern that there is no reference to screening to mitigate visual impact	Mitigation planting to help screen views of the Proposed Development was discussed in the PEIR and remains an element of the final proposals, as illustrated in **ES Volume 3, Figure 6.9, Landscape and Ecological Mitigation Strategy [EN010163/APP/6.4.6].**	N
104	S47	Statement that they have not received any information on landscape and visual	Landscape and Visual Effects were considered as part of the PEIR, discussed in Chapter 6.	N

105	S47	Statement that no detail has been provided on how security measures will be visually mitigated	Details of the landscape mitigation are set out in the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6- Landscape and Visual Impact and Residential Amenity [EN010163/APP/6.2.6]** as illustrated in **ES Volume 3, Figure 6.9, Landscape and Ecological Mitigation Strategy [EN010163/APP/6.4.6].**	N
106	S47	Concern that both sides of the Trent present a landscape of solar panels	The Applicant acknowledges that there are other consented and proposed solar developments in the wider landscape, including on the opposite side of the River Trent. A cumulative impact assessment, which considers these other schemes has been included as part of the submission material. Please refer to **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6 through to Chapter 17 [EN010163/APP/6.2.6 - 6.2.17]** for full details of the cumulative effects assessment.	N
107	S47	Concern regarding visual impact for visitors	The Applicant acknowledges that some adverse effects on landscape character and visual amenity would arise from the Proposed Development and would also be relevant to any visitors to the local area. However, the effects would be localised and limited in nature, particularly noting the additional mitigation planting which is included.	N

108	S47	Statement that the power stations have been impacting views for years already	The Applicant acknowledges that the existing power stations have been part of the local landscape for a number of years. Indeed, it is the grid connection at the nearby power station which has been a major part of the selection of the Site. Unlike the power stations the majority of the Proposed Development is no greater than 3m tall and less visible in the majority of views.	N
109	S47	Statement that this project is just part of natural evolution of landscape	The Applicant acknowledges the comment that the Proposed Development is part of the natural evolution of the landscape and agrees that well-designed solar development, such as this project, are a component of the modern landscape, as a means of generating electricity.	N
110	S47	Statement that no natural hedgerow is 3m high	The Applicant acknowledges the comment that no natural hedgerow is 3m high but disagrees. Hedgerows will naturally grow to that height, and it is only management practices which restrict growth to lower heights.	N
111	S47	Suggestion to include more trees/hedging in mitigation	The actual number of trees and hedgerows proposed was not set out at the PEIR stage, but the mitigation proposals have continued to evolve, and the final proposals are now set out as part of the LVIA, as illustrated in **ES Volume 3, Figure 6.9, Landscape and Ecological Mitigation Strategy [EN010163/APP/6.4.6].**	N

112	S47	Support for visual mitigation measures	The Applicant acknowledges the support for the visual mitigation.	N
113	S47	Suggestion that mitigation should be permanent improvements	The mitigation will be in place for the lifetime of the development. Thereafter it will be for the landowner to determine the extent to which any planting would be retained.	N
114	S47	Statement that there is insufficient detail regarding landscape and visual impact	The information provided within the PEIR was preliminary, and the final assessment set out in the **ES [EN010163/APP/6]** is based on the submitted details of the Proposed Development.	N
115	S47	Statement that the area will be ruined for recreation due to the size and scale of the Proposed Development	The Applicant acknowledges there would be some visual effects on the local footpath network, but all routes would remain open during the life of the development and would be supplemented by new permissive routes. Offsets have been provided to help minimise impacts to users of the footpath network, alongside mitigation planting to complement the existing vegetation at the Site. No significant impacts on recreational users are expected as a result of the Proposed Development.	N

116	S47	Concern regarding loss of rural/countryside views	The Applicant acknowledges that some adverse effects on landscape character would arise from the Proposed Development. However, the effects would be localised and limited in nature, particularly noting the additional mitigation planting which is included.	N
117	S47	Statement that visual mitigation will not be sufficient	The Applicant acknowledges that some adverse effects on landscape character would arise from the Proposed Development. However, the effects would be localised and limited in nature, particularly noting the additional mitigation, which is considered to be an appropriate response to the nature of the effects that would arise.	N
118	S47	Statement that flooding mitigation will have a detrimental landscape and visual impact	The flood risk and drainage mitigation has been sensitively designed and would have very little visual impact.	N
119	S47	Concern regarding how the impact on the landscape will affect the enjoyment of PRoWs	The Applicant acknowledges there would be some visual effects on the local PROW network, both within the Site and in the wider landscape, but all routes would remain open during the life of the development and would be supplemented by new permissive paths. Offsets have been provided to help minimise impacts to users of the footpath network, alongside mitigation planting to complement the existing vegetation at the Site.	N

120	S47	Statement that consideration should be given to not artificially narrowing “vantage corridors" that PRoWs provide	The Applicant acknowledges there would be some visual effects on the local PRoW network, but all routes would remain open during the life of the development and would be supplemented by new permissive paths. Offsets have been provided to help minimise impacts to users of the footpath network and to maintain the routes within broader corridors, alongside mitigation planting to complement the existing vegetation at the Site. This would serve to maintain elements of the "vantage corridors" which are referred to.	N
121	S47	Statement that the village is visually quaint	The Proposed Development has been set back from the surrounding villages to minimise the potential for visual effects. Many parts of the nearby villages would have no views of the Proposed Development.	N
122	S47	Statement that PRoWs are pointless if landscape blighted	The Applicant acknowledges there would be some visual effects on the local PRoW network, but all routes would remain open during the life of the development and would be supplemented by new permissive routes. Offsets have been provided to help minimise impacts to users of the footpath network and to maintain the routes within broader corridors, alongside mitigation planting to complement the existing vegetation at the Site. It is not considered the landscape would be "blighted" such that the PROW's would not be enjoyable to use.	N

123	S47	Statement that uninterrupted views will be lost forever	The visible elements of the Proposed Development are reversible at the end of its operational life, such that visual effects would only be temporary for the life of the Proposed Development	N
Construction				
124	S47	Statement that construction traffic will lead to increased pollution	The Proposed Development will be accessed using the adopted highway, and the routes that construction vehicles will be advised to use are shown in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 – Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]** and described in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** The advised routes avoid roads with weight limit restrictions and avoid roads through residential areas, where possible.	N
125	S47	Statement that construction workers using the village shop will increase parking and traffic problems in North Leverton	The Proposed Development will be accessed using the adopted highway, and the routes that construction vehicles will be advised to use are shown on **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 – Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]. ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** sets out the approach to construction traffic routing, parking and access timings.	N

126	S47	Statement that roads must be kept clean during construction	The Proposed Development will be accessed using the adopted highway, and the routes that construction vehicles will be advised to use are shown on **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 – Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]. ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** sets out the approach to construction traffic routing, parking and access timings.	N
127	S47	Statement that the roads are not suitable for construction traffic	The Proposed Development will be accessed using the adopted highway, and the routes that construction vehicles will be advised to use are shown in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 – Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]** and described in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13].** The advised routes avoid roads with weight limit restrictions and avoid roads through residential areas, where possible.	N
128	S47	Statement that construction traffic will lead to increased air pollution	The potential for increased pollution arising from construction traffic is considered in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 – Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]** which includes the **Transport Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** and **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** as supporting documents.	N

129	S47	Statement that construction traffic will lead to increased noise pollution	The Applicant acknowledges that some sound and vibration could be generated during the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Proposed Development via the use of certain construction plant, the operation of various ancillary electrical equipment and the additional traffic generated by the Proposed Development in isolative and cumulative terms. The potential for increased noise arising from construction traffic is considered in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 – Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]** which includes the **Transport Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** and **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** as supporting documents. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11- Noise and Vibration [EN010163/APP/6.2.10]** addresses all relevant potential sound and vibratory effects from the introduction of the Proposed Development, concluding that sound and vibration generated during the temporary construction, operation and decommissioning of the site is considered not significant in the context of normal planning requirements, provided that typical mitigation measures are implemented and that best practice is followed.	N

130	S47	Statement that construction traffic will lead to increased light pollution	The potential for increased light pollution arising from construction traffic is considered in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 – Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]** which includes the **Transport Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** and **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** as supporting documents.	N
131	S47	Concern regarding CO2 emissions in construction	The Proposed Development has the potential to affect the global climate through the addition or avoidance of greenhouse gas emissions. Greenhouse gas emissions could occur directly from construction, operation and decommissioning activities (e.g. fuel consumption), but emissions occurring outside of the draft Order Limits must also be considered, such as those resulting from the extraction, manufacture and transportation of materials to the Site during construction. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.1, Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** documents measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the construction phase. Such measures could include decreasing fuel use by maximising energy efficiency, promoting sustainable fuels and recycled materials, and using locally sourced materials as much as is practicable.	N

132	S47	Statement that prolonged construction period will limit villagers' movements	The Proposed Development will be accessed using the adopted highway, and the routes that construction vehicles will be advised to use are shown on in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 – Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]** and described in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13].** The advised routes avoid roads with weight limit restrictions and avoid roads through residential areas, where possible.	
133	S47	Concern regarding scale of construction	The Applicant is aware that there are several consented and proposed solar schemes in Nottinghamshire and Lincolnshire and in proximity to the Proposed Development. However, with a target to triple the UK's solar capacity by 2030,there is a need to consider the feasibility of solar delivery on land in all areas of the country, even if there are already some consented and operational solar schemes in the area. Any new developments will need to go through the relevant planning regime. If an Environmental Impact Assessment is required for other future development, they will have to consider cumulative impacts of that project, with others in the area.	N
134	S47	Concern regarding extra traffic during construction	The Proposed Development will be accessed using the adopted highway, and the routes that construction vehicles will be advised to use are shown on in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 – Transport and Access**	N

			[EN010163/APP/6.2.13] and described in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]**. The advised routes avoid roads with weight limit restrictions and avoid roads through residential areas, where possible.	
135	S47	Concern regarding disruption associated with the construction phase	An independent environmental specialist will be appointed during the construction phase to advise on how to protect valued biodiversity features and comply with environmental legislation. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.1, Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** includes best practice measures to avoid or minimise potential impacts to the wider environment and the public.	N
136	S47	Suggestion that the Proposed Development will only offer jobs during the construction phase	The Applicant has considered how long-term benefits can be generated. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 10.1, The Outline Supply Chain, Employment and Skills Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.10]** highlights a wide range of benefits which could generate long term improvements for members of the workforce, such as upskilling.	N
137	S47	Statement that footpath closures will be inevitable during construction/Concern regarding footpath closures during construction	**ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.1, Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** has been developed as part of the DCO application to outline how construction activities will be managed throughout the construction process. The Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan sets out strategies and measures for managing	N

			construction activities, including stakeholder engagement, site management, environmental considerations, community impact, health and safety, and monitoring and compliance. This includes measures to mitigate the impact of dust from construction works on nearby sensitive human and ecological receptors.	
138	S47	Objection to the construction of the secondary access off Area E	The Applicant notes these comments. The Proposed Development will be accessed using the adopted highway, and the routes that construction vehicles will be advised to use are shown in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 – Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]** and described in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]**. The advised routes avoid roads with weight limit restrictions and avoid roads through residential areas, where possible.	N
139	S47	Concern regarding impact of construction traffic	The Proposed Development will be accessed using the adopted highway, and the routes that construction vehicles will be advised to use are shown in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 – Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]** and described in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]**. The advised routes avoid roads with weight limit restrictions and avoid roads through residential areas, where possible.	N

140	S47	Concern regarding heavy vehicles on local roads	The Proposed Development will be accessed using the adopted highway, and the routes that construction vehicles will be advised to use are shown in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 – Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]** and described in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]**. The advised routes avoid roads with weight limit restrictions and avoid roads through residential areas, where possible.	N
141	S47	Concern regarding cumulative impact during construction	**ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.1, Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** has been developed as part of the DCO application to outline how construction activities will be managed throughout the construction process. The Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan sets out strategies and measures for managing construction activities, including stakeholder engagement, site management, environmental considerations, community impact, health and safety, and monitoring and compliance. This includes measures to mitigate the impact of dust from construction works on nearby sensitive human and ecological receptors.	N

142	S47	Concern that peak construction period will coincide with Sturton Quarry reaching maximum output	**ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.1, Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** has been developed as part of the DCO application to outline how construction activities will be managed throughout the construction process. The Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan sets out strategies and measures for managing construction activities, including stakeholder engagement, site management, environmental considerations, community impact, health and safety, and monitoring and compliance. This includes measures to mitigate the impact of dust from construction works on nearby sensitive human and ecological receptors.	N
143	S47	Concern regarding impact of HGVs/industrial vehicles on local roads	The Proposed Development will be accessed using the adopted highway, and the routes that construction vehicles will be advised to use are shown in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 – Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]** and described in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]**. The advised routes avoid roads with weight limit restrictions and avoid roads through residential areas, where possible.	

144	S47	Statement that the village already has issues with speeding contractor vehicles	The Proposed Development will be accessed using the adopted highway, and the routes that construction vehicles will be advised to use are shown in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 – Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]** and described in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]**. The advised routes avoid roads with weight limit restrictions and avoid roads through residential areas, where possible.	N
145	S47	Concern regarding increased air pollution during construction	The potential for increased pollution arising from constriction traffic is considered in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 – Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]** which includes the **Transport Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** and **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** as supporting documents.	N
146	S47	Concern regarding noise during construction	The potential for increased pollution arising from construction traffic is considered in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 – Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]** which includes the **Transport Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** and **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** as supporting documents.	N

147	S47	Concern regarding dust/dirt during construction	The potential for increased pollution arising from construction traffic is considered in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 – Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]** which includes the **Transport Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** and **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** as supporting documents.	N
148	S47	Statement that strict adherence to construction routes must be enforced	The Proposed Development will be accessed using the adopted highway, and the routes that construction vehicles will be advised to use are shown in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 – Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]** and described in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]**. The advised routes avoid roads with weight limit restrictions and avoid roads through residential areas, where possible.	N
149	S47	Concern regarding the impact of construction on roads	The Proposed Development will be accessed using the adopted highway, and the routes that construction vehicles will be advised to use are shown in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 – Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]** and described in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]**. The advised routes avoid roads with weight limit restrictions and avoid roads through residential areas, where possible.	N

150	S47	Concern regarding impact of embodied carbon production in construction	The carbon payback period of the Proposed Development has been calculated, which enables the number of years' worth of Greenhouse Gas (GHG) savings from the Proposed Development to be calculated. This is included in the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12 - Climate Change [EN010163/APP/6.2.12].**	N
151	S47	Concern regarding the impact of construction on nearby properties	An independent environmental specialist will be appointed during the construction phase to advise on how to protect valued biodiversity features and comply with environmental legislation. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** includes best practice measures to avoid or minimise potential impacts to the wider environment and the public.	N
152	S47	Statement that footpath closures during construction should be for as short a time as possible	**ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.1, Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** has been developed as part of the DCO application to outline how construction activities will be managed throughout the construction process. The Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan sets out strategies and measures for managing construction activities, including stakeholder engagement, site management, environmental considerations, community impact, health and safety, and monitoring and compliance. This includes measures to mitigate the impact of dust from construction works on nearby sensitive human and ecological receptors.	N

153	S47	Statement that little detail has been provided on phased construction	Details of construction and operational traffic flows are outlined in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 – Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]** which includes the **Transport Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** and **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13].**	N
154	S47	Statement that no detail has been provided of potential construction impacts and mitigation	An independent environmental specialist will be appointed during the construction phase to advise on how to protect valued biodiversity features and comply with environmental legislation**. ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.1, Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** includes best practice measures to avoid or minimise potential impacts to the wider environment and the public.	N
155	S47	Concern that proposed mitigation for the construction phase will make no difference	An independent environmental specialist will be appointed during the construction phase to advise on how to protect valued biodiversity features and comply with environmental legislation. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.1, Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** includes best practice measures to avoid or minimise potential impacts to the wider environment and the public.	N

156	S47	Statement that there should be close control of packaging during construction	**ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.1, Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** has been developed as part of the DCO application to outline how construction activities will be managed throughout the construction process. The Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan sets out strategies and measures for managing construction activities, including stakeholder engagement, site management, environmental considerations, community impact, health and safety, and monitoring and compliance. This includes measures to mitigate the impact of dust from construction works on nearby sensitive human and ecological receptors.	N
157	S47	Concern their property will be surrounded during construction ([redacted]	An independent environmental specialist will be appointed during the construction phase to advise on how to protect valued biodiversity features and comply with environmental legislation. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.1, Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** includes best practice measures to avoid or minimise potential impacts to the wider environment and the public.	N
158	S47	General concern regarding the impact of construction on the area	An independent environmental specialist will be appointed during the construction phase to advise on how to protect valued biodiversity features and comply with environmental legislation. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.1, Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** includes best practice measures to	N

			avoid or minimise potential impacts to the wider environment and the public.	
159	S47	Concern regarding the construction phase on wildlife	Safety for local communities, construction workers and local wildlife is a key priority for the Applicant during the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Proposed Development.	N
160	S47	Statement that lack of detail on the impacts of construction mitigation is unacceptable	An independent environmental specialist will be appointed during the construction phase to advise on how to protect valued biodiversity features and comply with environmental legislation. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.1, Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** includes best practice measures to avoid or minimise potential impacts to the wider environment and the public.	N
161	S47	Concern that the area cannot cope with construction of STEP	The Applicant notes there is an intention for a nuclear fusion development (STEP) at the former West Burton A Power Station site. The proposed STEP development will not be located within the Order Limits of the Proposed Development. As the STEP development does not have a design as yet, this project cannot be assessed in the cumulative effects assessment within the **ES [EN010163/APP/6]**. The Proposed Development does not include any link to the proposed nuclear fusion development (STEP) at the former West Burton A Power Station site.	N

162	S47	Concern regarding impact of HGVs on local roads	The Proposed Development will be accessed using the adopted highway, and the routes that construction vehicles will be advised to use are shown in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 – Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]** and described in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]**. The advised routes avoid roads with weight limit restrictions and avoid roads through residential areas, where possible.	N
163	S47	Statement that construction traffic will lead to weakened foundations of nearby houses	The Proposed Development will be accessed using the adopted highway, and the routes that construction vehicles will be advised to use are shown in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 – Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]** and described in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]**. The advised routes avoid roads with weight limit restrictions and avoid roads through residential areas, where possible.	N
164	S47	Concern regarding the impact of construction on residents	Safety for local communities, construction workers and local wildlife is a key priority for the Applicant during the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Proposed Development.	N
165	S47	Concern regarding lack of road infrastructure to support construction	The Proposed Development will be accessed using the adopted highway, and the routes that construction vehicles will be advised to use are shown in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 – Transport and Access**	N

			[EN010163/APP/6.2.13] and described in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]**. The advised routes avoid roads with weight limit restrictions and avoid roads through residential areas, where possible.	
166	S47	Concern that the cumulative impacts of construction have not been considered	The Applicant notes the comment. Within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 – Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]**, a cumulative effects assessment is undertaken with relative other developments scoped in. This includes assessing the highway links associated with the construction access. No significant cumulative effects are identified. It should also be noted given the nature of the Proposed Development, its traffic impact will be the greatest during the temporary construction/ decommissioning phase, and during the operational phase (40 years) traffic will be negligible due to no permanent operational staff onsite.	N
167	S47	Statement that current construction access acceptable	The Proposed Development will be accessed using the adopted highway, and the routes that construction vehicles will be advised to use are shown in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 – Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]** and described in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]**. The advised routes avoid roads with weight limit restrictions and avoid roads through residential areas, where possible.	N

168	S47	Concern regarding the scale of construction	An independent environmental specialist will be appointed during the construction phase to advise on how to protect valued biodiversity features and comply with environmental legislation. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.1, Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** includes best practice measures to avoid or minimise potential impacts to the wider environment and the public.	
169	S47	Statement that the PEIR does not adequately assess construction impact	**ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.1, Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** has been developed as part of the DCO application to outline how construction activities will be managed throughout the construction process. The Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan sets out strategies and measures for managing construction activities, including stakeholder engagement, site management, environmental considerations, community impact, health and safety, and monitoring and compliance. This includes measures to mitigate the impact of dust from construction works on nearby sensitive human and ecological receptors.	N
Operation				

170	S47	Statement that Proposed Development will only operate in the day	The Applicant notes the comment. The proposed development includes PV solar panels and a Battery Energy Storage System. Both would be able to operate 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Solar panels generate electricity when light levels reach a sufficient level and are usually most efficiently during the middle of the day. Excess energy generated by the solar farm can be stored in the Battery Energy Storage System and released to the National Electricity Grid when there is demand or the solar farm is not generating electricity such as during the night. An additional benefit is the Battery Energy Storage System helps to balance the grid by importing electricity if there is too much power on the National Electricity Grid.	N
171	S47	Statement that overcast skies will restrict energy generation	The Applicant notes the comment. Solar panels can still generate electricity when skies are overcast. It depends on light levels. The Battery Energy Storage System can store excess electricity generated by the solar farm and export to the grid if there is demand and the electricity generated by the solar reduces. The Battery Energy Storage System can also help manage the National Electricity Grid by importing excess electricity and releasing back to the National Electricity Grid if there is demand for electricity.	N

172	S47	Concern regarding the lack of sunshine for optimum output	The Applicant notes the comment. Solar panels consist of a number (typically 60 or 72) of photovoltaic cells which are connected in series on the underside of a sheet of glass and held in place by an aluminium frame. Each photovoltaic cell is a sandwich made up of two slices of a semi-conducting material. The most common semi-conducting material used in PV solar panels is silicon. Each layer has different electronic properties that energise when hit by photons from direct or indirect sunlight (e.g., light passing through clouds), creating an electric field. Solar irradiance refers to the amount of energy from the sun that reaches the surface of the earth and is measured by the amount of sunlight received per square metre per second (Wh/m2). The amount of solar irradiance impacts on the potential yield of solar farm, affecting the amount of sunlight falling on the PV modules to be converted to energy. The irradiance and subsequent yield of an area is influenced by factors such as its location, climate/weather patterns, altitude and topography. Whilst there are clearly significant differences in such factors globally, there are also national variations leading to some areas of the UK being more suited to solar energy than others. In comparison to some other areas of the UK, the east of England has a combination of high levels of irradiation and large flat open areas of land. Therefore, the Applicant was looking for a site in the east of England for a large-scale solar farm.	N

			The UK benefits from significant solar energy resources making solar panel installation feasible. The Battery Energy Storage System can store excess electricity generated by the solar farm and export to grid if there is demand and the electricity generated by the solar farm reduces. The Battery Energy Storage System can also help manage the National Electricity Grid by importing excess electricity and releasing back to the National Grid if there is demand for electricity.	
173	S47	Statement that energy will be wasted in the summer	The Applicant notes the comment. The Battery Energy Storage System can store excess electricity generated by the solar farm and export to the grid if there is demand and the electricity generated by the solar farm reduces. The Battery Energy Storage System can also help manage the National Electricity Grid by importing excess electricity and releasing back to the National Grid if there is demand for electricity.	N
174	S47	Concern the Proposed Development would not be able to operate in winter when energy is most needed	The Applicant notes the comment. Solar panels can still generate electricity in the winter months. It depends on light levels. The Battery Energy Storage System can store excess electricity generated by the solar farm and export to the grid if there is demand and the electricity generated by the solar reduces. The Battery Energy Storage System can also help manage the National Electricity Grid by importing excess electricity and releasing back to the National Electricity Grid if there is demand for electricity.	N

175	S47	Statement that solar only works well in peak summer/daylight	The Applicant notes the comment. Solar panels can generate electricity all year round, with electricity produced from direct or indirect sunlight (e.g., light passing through clouds). Lower rates of solar irradiance yield are expected during dawn and dusk when the sun is not as high in the sky as during the middle of the day and in spring, autumn and winter months. However, energy generation can still be achieved throughout the year. The Battery Energy Storage System can store excess electricity generated by the solar farm and export to grid if there is demand and the electricity generated by the solar reduces. The Battery Energy Storage System can also help manage the National Electricity Grid by importing excess electricity and releasing back to the National Electricity Grid if there is demand for electricity. By co-locating electricity generation and storage, it improved the efficiently of land use.	N
176	S47	Concern regarding CO2 emissions in operation	The Applicant notes the comment. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12 - Climate Change [EN010163/APP/6.2.12]** has considered CO2 emissions during all phases of development. During operation it is estimated that the Proposed Development would result in avoided GHG emissions of 1,660,000 tCO2e, and the operational phase of the Proposed Development on GHG emissions is considered to have a beneficial (significant) effect. Furthermore, **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.4, Outline Operational Management Plan**	N

			[EN010163/APP/6.3.4] will ensure CO2 emissions are reduced as much as feasible.	
Decommissioning				
177	S47	Statement that solar farms have a short life span	The Applicant notes the comment and that the Proposed Development will be operational for a maximum of 40 years, as controlled by a DCO requirement. The Applicant will seek to use the most efficient panels to ensure maximised efficiency during the operational lifetime of the scheme.	N
178	S47	Statement that the land will never return to its original state	The Proposed Development would be limited by a Requirement to a temporary 40-year period (plus construction and decommissioning) and a further Requirement at the end of its operational life to be removed from the Site, land restored and returned to the landowner. Further details are available in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.2, Outline Decommissioning Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4].**	N

179	S47	Concern regarding how long it will take for the land to be usable	The Applicant notes the comment. Should the DCO benefit from consent the Applicant has set out in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.1, Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** the Scheme would be developed over a 24-month period (the shortest current possible time for renewable energy generators). During Construction and Operation, soils on site will be managed through a Soil Management Plan with initial details set out in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 15.2, Outline Soil Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.15]** submitted in support of this DCO application. Once the Site is operational (after the 24-month construction phase), the Proposed Development can continue to contribute to local agriculture. Over 95% of the solar panel areas can be made available for sheep grazing, retaining an agricultural use and allowing topsoil to recover, by increasing soil organic matter and improving the soil structure. The leases the Applicant has agreed on the solar land grant the landowners the right to graze sheep over the life of the Proposed Development. The site will then be restored within initial details provided in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.2, Outline Decommissioning Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]**.	N

180	S47	Concern that the panels will not be recyclable	The Applicant notes the comment. Solar PV panels contain up to 95% recyclable material and at the decommissioning stage (and potentially during operation through maintenance of the solar panels) they will be recycled. At this stage it's not possible to confirm how waste will be managed and handled in 40 years time. Nevertheless, Waste is covered in the **Planning Statement [EN010163/APP/7.1],** **ES Volume 1, Chapter 17 – Miscellaneous Issues [EN010163/APP/6.2.17], ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.1, Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.2, Outline Decommissioning Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]**.	N
181	S47	Statement that it will be impossible to completely biodegrade the Proposed Development	The Applicant notes the comment. The Proposed Development will be decommissioned at the end of its approved operational phase, over the course of up to 12 months. All above ground plant, machinery and equipment will be removed together with all perimeters fencing and concrete hard standing. This includes but is not limited to all solar infrastructure (solar PV modules, mounting frames and supporting equipment), cabling less than 0.9m below ground, Onsite Substation Compound components, BESS Compound components would be removed from the Site. Cabling buried more than 0.9m below ground is proposed to be left in situ. It is the intention that after the 40 years of operation, the whole	N

			Site will be available to revert to its current use and be used by the landowner for agricultural operations of their choice and determined by the global markets at that time. At this stage it's not possible to confirm how waste will be managed and handled in 40 years time, however the majority of infrastructure components decommissioned will be recycled. Nevertheless, Waste is covered in the **Planning Statement [EN010163/APP/7.1], ES Volume 1, Chapter 17 – Miscellaneous Issues [EN010163/APP/6.2.17], ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.1, Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.2, Outline Decommissioning Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]**.	
182	S47	Concern regarding the 40-year lease of the site	The Applicant notes the comment. Planning decision should focus on public interests of the land rather than private interests such as Lease of the land. The operational phase of the Proposed Development is secured by the DCO.	N
183	S47	General concern regarding long term impact	The Applicant notes the comment. The Proposed Development is a temporary development with an operational life of 40 years. It is the intention that after the 40 years of operation, the whole Site will be available to revert to its current use and be used by the landowner for agricultural operations of their choice and determined by the global markets at that time. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 18**	N

			– Summary [EN010163/APP/6.2.17] identifies that at the decommissioning phase only significant effects relating to landscape and visual and residential amenity receptors, ecological receptors and socio-economic receptors are identified and are only applicable to temporary decommissioning phase. The Applicant is committed to complying with the terms of the **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.1, Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]**, **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.4, Outline Operational Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.2, Outline Decommissioning Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** detailing how the site will be constructed, operated and decommissioned to safeguard its long term use.	
184	S47	Query regarding the plan for returning the land to agriculture	The Applicant notes the comment and notes that following the decommissioning of the Proposed Development the land will be returned to the landowner.	N
185	S47	Query regarding the recycling process of the panels	The Applicant notes the comment. Solar PV panels contain up to 95% recyclable material and at the decommissioning stage (and potentially during operation through maintenance of the solar panels) they will be recycled. At this stage it's not possible to confirm how waste will be managed and handled in 40 years time.	N

			Nevertheless, Waste is covered in the **Planning Statement [EN010163/APP/7.1]**, **ES Volume 1, Chapter 17 – Miscellaneous Issues [EN010163/APP/6.2.17]**, **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.1, Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.2, Outline Decommissioning Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]**.	
186	S47	Concern regarding the land being used for further industrial use after 40 years	The Applicant notes the comment. Concerns about possible future use of the land within the order limits for anything other than what is proposed is not a material planning consideration. Nevertheless, should any future industrial developments come forward they would require consent through the Town and Country Planning Act that the Local Planning Authority determine or a DCO determined by the Secretary of State.	N
Glint and Glare				
187		Concern regarding glint and glare	The Applicant welcomes concerns regarding the impacts of glint and glare on road safety, residential amenity, railway infrastructure and operations, and aviation activity. However, no significant glint and glare impacts are predicted to arise from the Proposed Development.	N

188		Concern regarding the impact of glint and glare on nearby residents	The Applicant acknowledges concerns regarding glint and glare impacts upon residents. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16 - Glint and Glare [EN010163/APP/6.2.16]** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 16.1, Solar Photovoltaic Glint and Glare Study [EN010163/APP/6.3.16]** has considered impacts upon the residential amenity of dwellings within 1km of the Proposed Development. The assessment has considered the baseline conditions of the surrounding environment and **ES Volume 3, Figure 6.9, Landscape and Ecological Mitigation Strategy [EN010163/APP/6.4.6]** to determine the impact and has concluded that no significant impacts are predicted on nearby residents.	N
189		Concern regarding the impact of glint and glare on motorists	The Applicant acknowledges concerns regarding glint and glare impacts upon road safety. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16 - Glint and Glare [EN010163/APP/6.2.16]** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 16.1, Solar Photovoltaic Glint and Glare Study [EN010163/APP/6.3.16]** has considered that for the major A156 road, impacts are not considered possible due to the existing baseline conditions. For local roads within 1km of the Proposed Development, no significant impacts are predicted.	N

190		Concern regarding the impact of glint and glare on pilots	The Applicant acknowledges concerns regarding glint and glare impacts upon aviation activity. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16 - Glint and Glare [EN010163/APP/6.2.16]** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 16.1, Solar Photovoltaic Glint and Glare Study [EN010163/APP/6.3.16]** has considered impacts upon 12 aerodromes, including CAA licensed, military, general aviation unlicensed aerodromes and the possible future use of the Doncaster Sheffield Airport. The assessment concludes that impacts could be operationally accommodatable for two unlicensed aerodromes, with no significant impacts predicted upon the remaining identified aerodromes.	N
191	S47	Statement that the impacts of glint and glare have not been addressed	A glint and glare assessment has been carried out considering Pager Power's Glint and Glare Guidance and previous consultation with safeguarding bodies (such as National Highways and Network Rail). This methodology has been used for over 1,500 glint and glare assessments including Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects. The glint and glare assessment can be found at **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16 - Glint and Glare [EN010163/APP/6.2.16]** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 16.1, Solar Photovoltaic Glint and Glare Study [EN010163/APP/6.3.16]**	
BESS				

192	S47	Statement that solar is unreliable even with BESS	Battery storage is an integral component of renewable energy technologies, storing excess energy during periods of peak generation or low demand and releasing it during peak demand or in case of power outages. This safe and proven technology would support the Proposed Development to generate a consistent and reliable renewably generated power supply, even when the sun is not shining.	N
193	S47	Statement that solar energy cannot be stored indefinitely	Battery storage is an integral component of renewable energy technologies, storing excess energy during periods of peak generation or low demand and releasing it during peak demand or in case of power outages. This safe and proven technology would support the Proposed Development to generate a consistent and reliable renewably generated power supply, even when the sun is not shining. The technology underpinning battery storage is well established and extensively used in various facets of our daily lives. The battery units proposed for the Proposed Development have long lives, charging and discharging thousands of times.	N

194	S47	Concern regarding explosion risk associated with BESS/Concern regarding fire risk associated with BESS/Concern regarding safety issues associated with BESS	Battery storage is an integral component of renewable energy technologies, storing excess energy during periods of peak generation or low demand and releasing it during peak demand or in case of power outages. This safe and proven technology would support the Proposed Development to generate a consistent and reliable renewably generated power supply, even when the sun is not shining Battery storage as part of the Proposed Development has been located within the land areas to minimise impacts on any relevant designations and local communities, while remaining accessible for maintenance. The technology underpinning battery storage is well established and extensively used in various facets of our daily lives. The battery units proposed for the Proposed Development have long lives, charging and discharging thousands of times. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.3, Outline Fire Risk Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** has been developed, which outline the Applicant's strategies, protocols, and commitments, ensuring that battery storage at the Proposed Development adheres to the highest standards and contributes seamlessly to the overall success of the solar farm project.	N

195	S47	Statement that BESS is not environmentally friendly	The carbon payback period of the Proposed Development has been calculated, which enables the number of years' worth of Greenhouse Gas (GHG) savings from the Proposed Development to be calculated. This is included in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12 - Climate Change [EN010163/APP/6.2.12].**	N
196	S47	Suggestion that BESS should not be located near houses	To reduce effects on visual amenity, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views.	N
197	S47	Concern regarding noise associated with cooling fans on BESS	The Applicant acknowledges that some sound and vibration could be generated during the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Proposed Development via the use of certain construction plant, the operation of various ancillary electrical equipment and the additional traffic generated by the Proposed Development in isolative and cumulative terms. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11- Noise and Vibration [EN010163/APP/6.2.10]** addresses all relevant potential sound and vibratory effects from the introduction of the Proposed Development, concluding that sound and vibration generated during the temporary construction, operation and decommissioning of the site is considered not significant in the context of normal planning	N

			requirements, provided that typical mitigation measures are implemented and that best practice is followed.	
198	S47	General support of BESS/Statement that BESS is a necessity	The Applicant welcomes that statement and agrees that the integration of BESS is essential to make the Proposed Development as efficient as possible.	N
199	S47	Concern regarding water contamination due to toxic chemicals in BESS	**ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.3, Outline Fire Risk Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** sets out the approach to be taken to manage the safety of the BESS, in accordance with regulatory requirements, guidance, and good industry practice. This will include drainage and water segregation information.	N
Ecology and wildlife				
200	S47	Statement that the area currently supports biodiversity/ Statement that the Proposed Development represents a 90% loss of the existing environment/Statement that the Proposed Development represents a net loss for nature/Statement that the site supports biodiversity in its current state/Statement that the current ecosystem supports wildlife perfectly/Concern	The Applicant acknowledges that the Site supports biodiversity and a range of flora and fauna. Detailed surveys and studies have been completed by independent ecological consultants to establish the pre-development ecological baseline, and these have informed the design process, the scope of which was agreed with consultees. The Proposed Development retains, protects and	N

		regarding impact on local environment/Concern regarding loss of fields/woods.	enhances the majority of the habitats with increased biodiversity value such as hedgerows, arable field margins, woodlands, trees, watercourses, and ponds. Significant areas of new habitats are proposed including wetlands, woodland, hedgerows and meadow grassland. An assessment of the biodiversity value, as assessed via the Statutory Biodiversity Metric Tool, has been undertaken to evaluate the habitats on Site **ES Volume 2, Appendix 7.12, Biodiversity Net Gain [EN010163/APP/6.3.7]** this has identified that there would be a biodiversity gain of more than +50% to habitats. An Ecological Impact Assessment has also been undertaken to evaluate the ecologically important features on the Site and how they may be affected by the Proposed Development (**ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 - Ecology & Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.2.7] and Appendices associated with Chapter 7 – Ecology & Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.3.7].**) With mitigation in place, no significant adverse effects on designated nature conservation sites or important habitats are likely. Most species-impacts are scoped out, or are likely to be neutral, not significant, or slightly	

			beneficial in the long-term. Effects on skylark are assessed as adverse (locally significant).	
201	S47	Concern regarding the degradation of soil quality	The conversion of intensive arable land to long-term grassland will result in multiple benefits for the soils in terms of soil organic carbon, structure, organic matter content, worm activity and other benefits. The use of the grassland for the grazing of sheep will add organic matter. Soil quality will improve.	N
202	S47	Statement that the potential impacts of changes in the microclimate have not been addressed	Where appropriate, the Environmental Statement has considered this change to the environment in relation to species/habitats that may be affected by microclimatic changes - such as the consideration of shading to habitats proposed under and between the solar arrays. Adaptions to the proposed habitat creation have been made to precautionarily allow for variance in microclimates under and between arrays. The Ecological Impact Assessment provides conclusions on how the presence of the solar arrays and associated landscaping will affect habitats and species overall and concludes that most species-impacts are likely to be neutral, not significant, or slightly beneficial in the long-term (**ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 - Ecology & Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.2.7]**).	N

203	S47	Concern regarding the viability of environmental mitigation measures	The design of the Proposed Development and environmental mitigation has evolved throughout the environmental assessment process in response to consultation and engagement feedback, where appropriate. The proposed mitigation measures are typical ecological measures that are based on best-practice guidance and have been implemented successfully on other schemes. Independent environmental specialists will continue to be appointed during the construction phase to advise on how to comply with environmental legislation and mitigation commitments. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.1, Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** documents best practice measures to avoid or minimise potential impacts to the environment and allows for monitoring and audit by the relevant specialists to ensure measures are effective. Regarding the habitat features to be retained and created, a framework for creation and monitoring is provided in the **ES Volume 2, Appendix 7.14, Outline Landscape and Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.7].** The plan allows for monitoring of the features, by an independent ecologist, against stringent targets to ensure they meet their intended function and specifies that corrective action will be taken if the mitigation features do not meet their targets. This	N

			will allow for independent auditing of the mitigation measures by specialists.	
204	S47	Statement that solar farms can influence local microclimates	The Applicant acknowledges that there is ongoing research into the scale of the effects solar arrays have on microclimates. Where appropriate, the Environmental Statement has considered this change to the environment in relation to species/habitats that may be affected by microclimatic changes - such as the consideration of shading to habitats proposed under and between the solar arrays. Adaptions to the proposed habitat creation have been made to precautionarily allow for variance in microclimates under and between arrays. The Ecological Impact Assessment provides conclusions on how the presence of the solar arrays and associated landscaping will affect habitats and species overall and concludes that most species-impacts are likely to be neutral, not significant, or slightly beneficial in the long-term (**ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 - Ecology & Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.2.7]**).	N

205	S47	Statement that the proposed environmental and biodiversity mitigation is insufficient	An Ecological Impact Assessment has been undertaken to evaluate the ecologically important features on the Site and how the potential effects to these will be mitigated (**ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 - Ecology & Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.2.7]**). Residual effects to all ecological features apart from breeding skylark will be neutral, not significant, or beneficial. Adverse effects to skylark may occur at a local level. The design of the Proposed Development and environmental mitigation has evolved throughout the environmental assessment process in response to consultation and engagement feedback, where appropriate. Key consultees have been engaged throughout the design of mitigation areas to deliver positive outcomes overall for biodiversity and other environmental considerations (refer to **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 - Ecology & Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.2.7]** and **Appendices associated with Chapter 7 – Ecology & Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.3.7]**)	N
206	S47	Statement that mitigation areas are out of reach for residents	The Proposed Development is providing areas of publicly accessible green space closer to Sturton-Le-Steeple, Fenton and North Leverton which will be integrated with public footpaths for ease of access for local residents. The Biodiversity Mitigation Areas will have Public Rights of	N

			Way and permissive paths to allow access for local residents to pass through these areas in the same manner that they are currently used.	
207	S47	Statement that environmental mitigation replaces what is there with something not wanted	The Applicant has established the package of ecological mitigation through extensive consultation with statutory and non-statutory consultees, and public consultation events; the feedback received has been very positive. The dedicated biodiversity mitigation areas, and areas of green space integrated in the Proposed Development, will be managed for the lifespan of the project and delivery positive outcomes for biodiversity.	N
208	S47	Statement that the ecosystems relevant to this area are already in place	The Applicant acknowledges that farmland landscape, which is typical of the region, is present at the Site, which will change to accommodate the Proposed Development. From an ecological perspective, the arable fields are of limited biodiversity value. Features and habitats that support greater biodiversity, such the hedgerows, ditches, trees, ponds, woodland, and field margins, will be largely retained and managed for wildlife. There will be retained areas of arable cropland which will be managed to provide greater benefit to the biodiversity of the farmland ecosystem, such as through increasing flower diversity in field margins, and providing uncultivated plots in summer that provide opportunities for ground nesting birds.	N

209	S47	Statement the Proposed Development would not include any environmental mitigation	The proposed development will include environmental mitigation, as identified in the **ES [EN010163/APP/6]** and supporting documents, for example ecological mitigation is provided in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 - Ecology & Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.2.7].**	N
210	S47	Concern that grazing during operations will damage the land	Much of the grassland on Site will be managed by sheep grazing, retaining an agricultural use. The stocking density of sheep grazing any one plot will be controlled to prevent overgrazing or poaching of the land. The grasslands will be subject to monitoring, so that corrective actions can be taken (such as reducing stocking densities or switching management to a mowing regime) if the grasslands show signs of damage. More details of the proposed grassland management and monitoring is included in the **ES Volume 2, Appendix 7.14, Outline Landscape and Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.7].**	N
211	S47	Statement that sheep farming is minor in the region	Options for graziers will be explored locally to provide sheep for grazing. Where sheep are not available, grassland management at the Proposed Development can be undertaken by mowing.	N

212	S47	Concern regarding impact on skylarks	It is acknowledged in the **ES [EN010163/APP/6]** that installation of solar arrays on arable fields can cause displacement of breeding skylark and effects on breeding skylark within the Site are assessed as adverse (locally significant). Efforts have been made to mitigate the significance of this adverse effect as far as possible by providing dedicated areas of farmland within the Site that are to be retained and enhanced to increase the nesting densities of skylarks through inclusion of skylark-plots and increase the success of chick survival by providing improvised foraging in the form of beetle banks, and larger arable field margins. Further areas of suitable skylark nesting habitat will be available in the larger areas of grassland in the Proposed Development where solar areas will not be installed. Detail is presented in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 7.13, Skylark Mitigation Strategy [EN010163/APP/6.3.7]**	N
213	S47	Concern regarding loss of hedgerows	Significant effort was made during the design process to ensure hedgerow loss was minimised, for example by using existing gaps and gateways in hedgerows for access through the Proposed Development. Therefore, the majority of the hedgerows at the Proposed Development will be retained and protected. The Applicant acknowledges that minor loss of hedgerow will occur to create safe access routes into fields totalling approximately 1 km of the total 19.74 km (approximately 1.5%) at the Site. Over 20 km of new hedgerows will be	N

			planted, and existing hedgerows will be enhanced by planting up gaps and improving management for biodiversity.	
214	S47	Statement that breaking an existing ecosystem to build a different one is not 'reasonable mitigation'	The Applicant acknowledges that farmland landscape, which is typical of the region, is present at the Site, which will change to accommodate the Proposed Development. From an ecological perspective, the arable fields are of limited biodiversity value. Features and habitats that support greater biodiversity, such the hedgerows, ditches, trees, ponds, woodland, and field margins, will be largely retained and managed for wildlife. There will be retained areas of arable cropland which will be managed to provide greater benefit to the biodiversity of the farmland ecosystem, such as through, increasing flower diversity in field margins, and providing uncultivated plots in summer that provide opportunities for ground nesting birds. The design of the Proposed Development and environmental mitigation has evolved throughout the environmental assessment process in response to consultation and engagement feedback, where appropriate. Key consultees have been engaged throughout the design of the skylark mitigation to deliver the best feasible outcomes overall for biodiversity and other environmental considerations (refer to **ES Volume**	N

			1, Chapter 7 - Ecology & Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.2.7] and **Appendices associated with Chapter 7 – Ecology & Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.3.7]**)	
215	S47	Statement that mitigation areas are an 'insult'	An Ecological Impact Assessment has been undertaken to evaluate the ecologically important features on the Site and how the potential effects to these will be mitigated (**ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 - Ecology & Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.2.7]**). Residual effects to all ecological features apart from breeding skylark will neutral, not significant, or beneficial. Adverse effects to skylark may occur at a local level. The design of the Proposed Development and environmental mitigation has evolved throughout the environmental assessment process in response to consultation and engagement feedback, where appropriate. Key consultees have been engaged throughout the design of mitigation areas to deliver positive outcomes overall for biodiversity and other environmental considerations (refer to **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 - Ecology & Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.2.7]** and **Appendices associated with Chapter 7 – Ecology & Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.3.7]**).	N

216	S47	Concern that decarbonisation will lead to plant loss	Decarbonisation is not considered to be a potential risk to plants or habitats at the Site. Measures to monitor the retained and created habitats are provided in the **ES Volume 2, Appendix 7.14, Outline Landscape and Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.7]**. The plan allows for monitoring of the features, by an independent ecologist, against stringent targets to ensure they meet their intended function and specifies that corrective action will be taken if the mitigation features do not meet their targets. This will allow for independent auditing of the mitigation measures by specialists.	N
217	S47	Statement that wildlife will have to disperse due to fencing	To reduce the potential impacts of habitat fragmentation to mammals due to the installation of security fencing, small gaps in the fencing will be created to allow continued movement throughout the Proposed Development. Gaps of approximately 35 cm x 35 cm at ground level would allow for continued use by species such as badger, brown hare and hedgehog. Access gaps will be strategically sited where existing mammal paths are present, and periodically elsewhere. Larger mammals such as deer would not be able to access beyond security fencing into solar array areas, however they would be able to travel across the landscape along green infrastructure corridors along hedgerows, watercourses and into retained areas of woodland. The proposed Biodiversity Mitigation Areas would not be	N

			security fenced and therefore accessible to deer and other mammals.	
218	S47	Concern regarding the impact of construction on wildlife	Independent environmental specialists will continue to be appointed during the construction phase to advise on how to minimise impacts to wildlife. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.1, Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** presents the good practice measures to be provided and allow for monitoring and audit by the relevant specialists to ensure measures are effective.	N
219	S47	Concern regarding impact on ecology/Concern regarding the loss of species/Concern regarding impact on badgers/Concern regarding impact on foxes/Concern regarding impact on hares/Concern regarding impact on owls/Concern regarding impact on robins/Concern regarding impact on pigeons/Concern regarding impact on deer/Concern regarding impact on insects/Concern regarding impact on bees/Concern regarding impact on butterflies/Concern regarding implementation interfering with mating season/Concern regarding impact on wildlife/Concern regarding impact on biodiversity/Concern regarding loss of habitat/Concern regarding loss of bird	The Applicant acknowledges that the Site supports biodiversity and a range of species and flora and fauna. Detailed surveys and studies have been completed by independent ecological consultants to establish the pre-development ecological baseline and these have informed the design process, the scope of which was agreed with consultees. The Proposed Development retains, protects and enhances the majority of the habitats with increased biodiversity value such as hedgerows, arable field margins, woodlands, trees, watercourses, and ponds. Significant areas of new habitats are proposed including wetlands, woodland, hedgerows and meadow grassland.	N

		habitat/Concern regarding the impact on birds/Concern regarding impact on wildflowers	An assessment of the biodiversity value, as assessed via the Statutory Biodiversity Metric Tool, has been undertaken to evaluate the habitats on Site, (**ES Volume 2, Appendix 7.12, Biodiversity Net Gain [EN010163/APP/6.3.7]**) this has identified that there would be a biodiversity gain of over +50% to habitats. An Ecological Impact Assessment has also been undertaken to evaluate the ecologically important features on the Site and how they may be affected by the Proposed Development (**ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 - Ecology & Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.2.7]** and **Appendices associated with Chapter 7 – Ecology & Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.3.7]**) With mitigation in place, no significant adverse effects on designated nature conservation sites or important habitats are likely. Most species-impacts are scoped out, or are likely to be neutral, not significant, or slightly beneficial in the long-term. Effects on skylark are assessed as adverse (locally significant).	
220	S47	Concern regarding loss of green space	All existing Public Rights of Way will be retained. The Proposed Development is providing areas of publicly accessible green space closer to Sturton-Le-Steeple, Fenton and North Leverton which will be integrated with public footpaths for ease of access for local residents.	N

			The Biodiversity Mitigation Areas will have Public Rights of Way and permissive paths to allow access for local residents to pass through these areas in the same manner that they are currently used.	
221	S47	Concern regarding the loss of ecosystems	The Applicant acknowledges that farmland ecosystems, which are typical of the region, exist on Site. Features and habitats that are more likely to support greater biodiversity, such the hedgerows, ditches, trees, ponds, woodland, and field margins, will be largely retained and managed for wildlife. The management of some cropland will be altered to provide greater benefit to the biodiversity of the farmland ecosystem, such as through reduced use of pesticides and fertilisers, increasing flower diversity in field margins, and providing uncultivated plots in summer that provide a safe place for ground nesting birds.	N
222	S47	Concern regarding the impact of fencing on the environment	To reduce the potential impacts of habitat fragmentation to mammals due to the installation of security fencing, small gaps in the fencing will be created to allow continued movement throughout the Proposed Development. Gaps of approximately 35 cm x 35 cm at ground level would allow for continued use by species such as badger, brown hare and hedgehog. Access gaps will be strategically sited where existing mammal paths are present, and periodically elsewhere.	N

			Larger mammals such as deer would not be able to access beyond security fencing into solar array areas, however they would be able to travel across the landscape along green infrastructure corridors along hedgerows, watercourses and into retained areas of woodland. The proposed Biodiversity Mitigation Areas would not be security fenced and therefore accessible to deer and other mammals.	
223	S47	Concern that screening hedges will damage existing trees	Screening hedgerows will not damage trees. The existing trees are primarily found as part of existing hedgerows. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 6.5, Arboricultural Impact Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.6]** has been undertaken, which includes methods to be put in place to avoid undue damage to trees. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 7.14, Outline Landscape and Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.7]** has also been prepared, which outlines the various methods of planting/enhancing hedgerows.	N
224	S47	Statement that introduction of hedgerows will support wildlife	The Applicant acknowledges and agrees with the statement that the new hedgerows will support wildlife. The Proposed Development includes the creation of more than 20 km of species-rich hedgerows.	N

225	S47	Concern that a loss of plants will result in increased CO2 in the atmosphere	The arrays will be installed above ground, allowing grassland to be sown underneath which will replace arable crops. The grassland will be sown in place of arable crops in most cases, which will mean that the land spends less time as bare soil (such as when fields are ploughed or left as stubble after harvest). Whilst the growing of crops will sequester carbon in the short term for the duration of a growing cycle, this carbon would be subsequently released in a relatively short cycle during the agricultural practices of management, harvesting and consumption. The resulting net GHG emissions of the baseline conditions are therefore dependent on soil and vegetation types present, and fuel use for the operation of agricultural vehicles and machinery. Further assessment of the carbon sequestration of the agricultural crops is provided in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12 - Climate Change [EN010163/APP/6.2.12].**	N
226	S47	Concern regarding risk to wildlife crossing the road due to lorry movements	The scope of the ecological impact assessment was agreed with the Planning Inspectorate as part of their Scoping Opinion (refer to **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 - Ecology & Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.2.7]**). This scoping process identifies the risks that may result in significant impacts and is agreed with the Planning Inspectorate (and statutory consultees). The scoping process did not identify the risk of road mortality as requiring further consideration, and it was scoped out as a risk that may result in a significant impact. Further	N

			information on changes to, and mitigation of impacts of, lorry movements is provided in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 – Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13].**	
227	S47	Suggestion that promises to increase biodiversity unlikely to be honoured	The benefits of the Proposed Development are outlined in the DCO application. The proposed mitigation and monitoring measures will be secured via various management plans, which will be agreed with the local planning authority prior to construction of the Proposed Development commencing and will be substantially in accordance with the outline versions submitted with the DCO Application. If consented these are legally binding commitments the Applicant has made and must be delivered on. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 7.14, Outline Landscape and Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.7]** demonstrates how monitoring of the features, by an independent ecologist, against stringent targets will be undertaken to ensure they meet their intended function, and specifies that corrective action will be taken if the mitigation features do not meet their targets. This will allow for independent auditing of the biodiversity features by specialists.	N

Communities				
228	S47	General concern regarding impacts on villages/Concern that the proposals will change the nature of the local area/General concern regarding the impact of the Proposed Development on the local area/General concern regarding impacts on villages	As part of the DCO process the Applicant has carried out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to assess the likely significant effects (both positive and negative) the Proposed Development could have on the environment and local communities. The **ES [EN010163/APP/6]** provides details on a wide range of topics such as landscape and visual, biodiversity, cultural heritage, flood risk, traffic, noise and other considerations. As a result no significant impacts are predicted upon the local communities. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6 - Landscape and Visual Impact and Residential Amenity [EN010163/APP/6.2.6]** considers the landscape character of the site and its relationship with nearby communities to identify the potential effects on the local landscape and visual amenity. The maximum height of the solar panels is 3 metres, which is the equivalent of a well-maintained hedgerow. By distributing Steeple Renewables Project across several separate land areas, rather than one large site, we can more effectively minimise the landscape and visual impact of the Proposed Development.	N

229	S47	Concern regarding impact on communities	As part of the DCO process the Applicant has carried out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to assess the likely significant effects (both positive and negative) the Proposed Development could have on the environment and local communities. The ES Volume provides details on a wide range of topics such as landscape and visual, biodiversity, cultural heritage, flood risk, traffic, noise and other considerations	N
230	S47	Concern regarding impact on access to amenities	All Public Rights of Way would be kept open during construction as far as is practicable and safe. Where it would not be practicable and safe, there may be a requirement for some Public Rights of Way to be temporarily diverted or closed for a duration of approximately three months. The **draft DCO [EN010168/APP/3.1]** sets out a schedule of public rights of way within the Proposed Development and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** outlines the measures to manage any requirements to temporarily close or divert Public Rights of Way within the Proposed Development during construction. There will be no impacts to access during operation, furthermore there will be two additional permissive paths added to the network for the lifetime of the Proposed Development.	N

231	S47	Concern regarding saleability of houses/Concern regarding house appeal	The Applicant acknowledges the concerns raised in relation to changes in property values as a result of the Proposed Development. It is not considered that the Proposed Development would impact property value. Furthermore, property values aren't planning consideration.	N
232	S47	Statement that properties on the east side of North Wheatley will lose 10% value	The Applicant acknowledges the concerns raised in relation to changes in property values as a result of the Proposed Development. It is not considered that the Proposed Development would impact property value, and in any event the impact on house prices is not a material planning consideration in the determination of this application.	N
233	S47	Concern regarding impact on house prices/Statement that property values will decrease	The Applicant acknowledges the concerns raised in relation to changes in property values as a result of the Proposed Development. It is not considered that the Proposed Development would impact property value, and in any event the impact on house prices is not a material planning consideration in the determination of this application.	N
234	S47	Concern regarding loss of community spirit	The Applicant acknowledges the concern raised regarding community spirt. It is not considered that the Proposed Development will have any impact on the spirit of the community, furthermore the Community Benefits Fund could be used to enhance a range of issue for the community.	N

235	S47	Concern around the legacy the Proposed Development will create for future generations	The Proposed Development is designed to create a positive legacy for future generations. It includes extensive environmental mitigation and enhancement strategies, such minimum of 10% Biodiversity Net Gain through habitat creation and management. The Proposed Development supports local agriculture by enabling continued agricultural use of the land alongside the renewable energy project. Additionally, the Proposed Development will generate enough renewable energy to power 180,000 homes, around 50% of all homes in Nottinghamshire, contributing to the UK's renewable energy goals and helping mitigate climate change. The Proposed Development will also deliver £320,000 a year in community benefits, equating to approximately £13 million over the lifetime of the project. This could include RES' unique Local Electricity Discount Scheme (LEDS) which is proposed to provide a minimum discount of £350 on the electricity bills of the closest homes and businesses every year. Visual impacts are minimised through detailed landscape and visual impact assessments, including new hedgerow and tree planting. The Proposed Development has been shaped by extensive consultation with local stakeholders, ensuring it meets local needs and addresses concerns.	N

236	S47	Statement that the Proposed Development is being forced upon them	The Applicant has undertaken two rounds of consultation. Over 100 responses were received from the local community during the non-statutory consultation held in Autumn 2023, all of which have been considered and responded to as part of our early informal consultation report, published in March 2024. The statutory consultation was held in early 2025 and received over 150 responses. All responses to these consultations have been considered. The **Consultation Report [EN010163/APP/5.1]** is submitted as part of the DCO application. This report details all the activity the Applicant undertook as part of its non-statutory and statutory consultation periods, the feedback received and how the Applicant had regard for that feedback. The application will be subject to examination and the final decision on whether the project is granted consent will be made by the Secretary of State.	N
237	S47	Concern regarding lack of compensation for those who cannot sell their properties	The Applicant acknowledges the concerns raised in relation to changes in property values as a result of the Proposed Development. It is not considered that the Proposed Development would impact property value, and in any event the impact on house prices is not a material planning consideration in the determination of this application.	N

238	S47	Concern about impact on horse riding	The impact on Public Rights of Way and bridleways has been considered as part of the design development. The DCO Application is supported by **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** which includes **ES Volume 3, Figure 3.3, Public Rights of Way Plan [EN010163/APP/6.4.3]** and sets out details on how Public Rights of Way and permissive paths will be managed to ensure user safety during the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Proposed Development. It details that the diversions and safety measures will be implemented as a priority, so that local communities are still able to safely enjoy the enhanced connectivity routes from the start of construction. Additionally, no bridleways will be lost as part of the Proposed Development. and no significant impact have been raised in terms of glint and glare or user experience throughout the assessment of the Proposed Development.	N
239	S47	Concern regarding impact on businesses/livelihoods	The Applicant acknowledges the concerns raised regarding impact on local businesses as a result of the Proposed Development. As part of the planning application, the Applicant has assessed the impact on socioeconomic receptors, which includes local businesses within the local area. The assessment itself and the findings of it can be found in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10 – Socio Economics [EN010163/APP/6.2.10]** which has concluded no significant effects.	N

240	S47	Concern regarding the loss of employment	**ES Volume 1, Chapter 10 – Socio Economics [EN010163/APP/6.2.10]** covers a full assessment of impacts and benefits regarding jobs and employment, with no jobs being lost as a result of the Proposed Development.	N
241	S47	Concern that no consideration is being given to residents	The Applicant has undertaken two rounds of consultation. Over 100 responses were received from the local community during the non-statutory consultation held in Autumn 2023, all of which have been considered and responded to as part of our early informal consultation report, published in March 2024. The statutory consultation was held in early 2025 and received over 150 responses. All responses to these consultations have been considered. The **Consultation Report [EN010163/APP/5.1]** is submitted as part of the DCO application. This report details all the activity the Applicant undertook as part of its non-statutory and statutory consultation periods, the feedback received and how the Applicant had regard for that feedback	N
242	S47	Concern regarding impact on farmers' livelihoods/Concern regarding impact on farmers	Solar farms provide valuable income for farmers, as the land can still be used for grazing and can support UK farmers to continue food production on other parts of their land. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's food security. Indeed, the reverse is true: the solar industry is working closely with Britain's farmers	N

			to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground underneath to recover, while providing income for the farming business. Solar farms also help regenerate soil quality and so are helping to ensure the continued availability of high-quality agricultural acreage for future generations.	
243	S47	Concern regarding the loss of employment/Concern regarding job losses and the impact on the economy	**ES Volume 1, Chapter 10 – Socio Economics [EN010163/APP/6.2.10]** covers a full assessment of impacts and benefits regarding jobs and employment, with no jobs being lost as a result of the Proposed Development.	N
244	S47	Concern regarding the landowner not being local to the area	While the landowner may not reside locally, the Proposed Development has been designed to bring significant benefits to the local community. The Proposed Development will generate approximately 450 MW of clean, green electricity, enough to power around 180,000 homes every year. This contribution supports the UK's renewable energy goals and helps mitigate climate change. Additionally, the Proposed Development will deliver £320,000 a year in community benefits, equating to approximately £13 million over the lifetime of the project. This could include RES' unique Local Electricity Discount Scheme (LEDS) which is proposed to provide a minimum	N

			discount of £350 on the electricity bills of the closest homes and businesses every year. The Applicant is committed to ongoing engagement with local stakeholders to ensure that the Proposed Development meets local needs and addresses concerns. The Proposed Development has been shaped by extensive consultation with local stakeholders and statutory parties.	
245	S47	Statement that the landowner has no interest in the impact on the village	While the landowner may not reside locally, the Proposed Development has been designed to bring significant benefits to the local community. The Proposed Development will generate approximately 450 MW of clean, green electricity, enough to power around 180,000 homes every year. This contribution supports the UK's renewable energy goals and helps mitigate climate change. In addition to this the Proposed Development has been subject to a detailed Environmental Impact Assessment and will undergo a thorough examination. Additionally, the Proposed Development will deliver £320,000 a year in community benefits, equating to approximately £13 million over the lifetime of the project. This could include RES' unique Local Electricity Discount Scheme (LEDS) which is proposed to provide a minimum discount of £350 on the electricity bills of the closest homes and businesses every year.	N

			The Applicant is committed to ongoing engagement with local stakeholders to ensure that the Proposed Development meets local needs and addresses concerns. The Proposed Development has been shaped by extensive consultation with local stakeholders and statutory parties.	
246	S47	Statement that the Proposed Development will only benefit businesses	If consented, the Proposed Development would generate up to 600MW of clean, green electricity: enough renewable energy to power 180,000 homes, around 50% of all homes in Nottinghamshire. This represents a significant contribution to local and national climate commitments, by helping to decarbonise our energy mix, reduce bills and improve the UK's energy security. In addition, the Proposed Development would also: • Utilise electricity grid capacity made available from the decommissioning of the adjacent West Burton Power Station • Deliver £320,000 a year in community benefits, equating to approximately £13 million over the lifetime of the project. This could include RES' unique Local Electricity Discount Scheme (LEDS) which is proposed to provide a minimum discount of £350 on the electricity bills of the closest homes and businesses every year	

			• Deliver £224 million of investment into the construction of the scheme, providing a boost to the local construction sector • Create 400 jobs over the 24-month build programme, supporting skills and employment in the local community • Enable continued agricultural use of the land alongside the renewable energy project	
247	S47	Statement that the Proposed Development will only benefit landowners	If consented, the Proposed Development would generate up to 600MW of clean, green electricity: enough renewable energy to power 180,000 homes, around 50% of all homes in Nottinghamshire. This represents a significant contribution to local and national climate commitments, by helping to decarbonise our energy mix, reduce bills and improve the UK's energy security. In addition, the Proposed Development would also: • Utilise electricity grid capacity made available from the decommissioning of the adjacent West Burton Power Station • Deliver £320,000 a year in community benefits, equating to approximately £13 million over the lifetime of the project. This could include RES' unique Local Electricity Discount Scheme (LEDS) which is proposed to provide a minimum	

			discount of £350 on the electricity bills of the closest homes and businesses every year • Deliver £224 million of investment into the construction of the scheme, providing a boost to the local construction sector • Create 400 jobs over the 24-month build programme, supporting skills and employment in the local community • Enable continued agricultural use of the land alongside the renewable energy project	
248	S47	Statement that the Proposed Development is too close to their house (Manor Grove)	The proposed secondary access located close to Manor Grove and accessing off Main St, North Leverton with Habblesthorpe, has been removed from the Proposed Development. The location of any infrastructure in relation to Manor Grove is now over 450m away as part of the Proposed Development.	Y
249	S47	Statement that the access road is too close to their house (Manor Grove)	The proposed secondary access located close to Manor Grove and accessing off Main St, North Leverton with Habblesthorpe, has been removed from the Proposed Development.	Y

250	S47	Concern regarding potential damage to their property during construction	**ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** has been developed as part of the DCO application to outline how construction activities will be managed throughout the construction process. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.1, Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** sets out strategies and measures for managing construction activities, including stakeholder engagement, site management, environmental considerations, community impact, health and safety, and monitoring and compliance. The Applicant will ensure responsible construction practices while minimising disruptions and environmental impacts. It will be the responsibility of the Applicant and the principal contractor to make good any damage if it were to occur.	N
251	S47	Concern regarding impact on farmers due to loss of rentable land	Solar farms provide valuable income for farmers, they can still be used for grazing and can support UK farmers to continue food production on other parts of their land. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's food security. Indeed, the reverse is true: the solar industry is working closely with Britain's farmers to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground underneath to recover, while providing income for the	N

			farming business. Solar farms also help regenerate soil quality and so are helping to ensure the continued availability of high-quality agricultural acreage for future generations.	
252	S47	Concern that industrial sites will lie close to the Church of St Peter and St John	The heritage assessment considers the potential effects of the development on cultural and historical assets in the area, including the Church of St Peter and St John, scheduled monuments, and other heritage features. The assessment has identified no direct impacts on designated heritage assets. However, indirect effects, such as changes to the setting of nearby heritage sites, will be carefully managed. To preserve local heritage, we propose: • Buffer zones to protect the visual setting of heritage assets. • Using appropriate materials and layouts to minimise intrusion on historic landscapes. • Ongoing consultation with heritage experts and stakeholders to refine mitigation strategies.	N
253	S47	General concern regarding the safety of local people	Safety for local communities, construction workers and local wildlife is a key priority for the Applicant during the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Proposed Development. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan**	N

			[EN010163/APP/6.3.13] has been developed as part of the DCO application to outline how construction activities will be managed throughout the construction process. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.1, Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** sets out strategies and measures for managing construction activities, including stakeholder engagement, site management, environmental considerations, community impact, health and safety, and monitoring and compliance. This document ensures responsible construction practices while minimising disruptions and environmental impacts.	
254	S47	Statement that car journeys will need to be made to find alternative walking routes	All Public Rights of Way would be kept open during construction as far as is practicable and safe. Where it would not be practicable and safe, there may be a requirement for some public rights of way to be temporarily diverted or closed for a duration of approximately three months. **ES Volume 3, Figure 3.3, Public Rights of Way Plan [EN010163/APP/6.4.3]** has been submitted in support of this DCO application. This sets out a schedule of public rights of way within the Proposed Development and outlines the measures to manage any requirements to temporarily close or divert public rights of way within the Proposed Development during construction.	N

			All PRoWs will be available during operation as well as two new permissive paths enhancing public access, connectivity and active travel.	
255	S47	Concern regarding the impact of enjoyment of walking routes	The DCO Application is supported by **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** which includes **ES Volume 3, Figure 3.3, Public Rights of Way Plan [EN010163/APP/6.4.3]** and sets out details on how Public Rights of Way and permissive paths will be managed to ensure users safety during the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Proposed Development. It details that the diversions and safety measures will be implemented as a priority, so that local communities are still able to safely enjoy the enhanced connectivity routes from the start of construction. All PRoWs will be available during operation as well as two new permissive paths enhancing public access, connectivity and active travel.	N

256	S47	Concern regarding damage to properties	**ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** has been developed as part of the DCO application to outline how construction activities will be managed throughout the construction process. The **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.1, Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** sets out strategies and measures for managing construction activities, including stakeholder engagement, site management, environmental considerations, community impact, health and safety, and monitoring and compliance. The Applicant will ensure responsible construction practices while minimising disruptions and environmental impacts. It will be the responsibility of the Applicant and the principal contractor to make good any damage if it were to occur.	N
257	S47	Concern that no one will want to live in the area as a result of the Proposed Development	The Applicant acknowledges the concern raised regarding the desirability of the area. The applicant does not consider that the Proposed Development will have any significant impact on the desirability of the locality.	N
258	S47	Statement that nearby properties will become untenanted as a result of the Proposed Development/ Concern regarding the future of untenanted homes/ Concern regarding loss of homes	The Applicant acknowledges the concerns raised in relation to changes in rented property uptake as a result of the Proposed Development. It is not considered that the Proposed Development would impact the rentability of	N

			properties. Furthermore, property tenure, availability and values are not planning considerations.	
259	S47	Statement that four farms will be ceased	**ES Volume 1, Chapter 15 - Land Use and Agriculture [EN010163/APP/6.2.15]** reports on the farming enterprises impacted.	N
260	S47	Statement that the local environment will no longer be able to be enjoyed	The Applicant has prepared and submitted a **Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3]** which outlines the approach taken to the design development of the Proposed Development, including how the design has been shaped and influenced by the local landscape, and with local communities and their enjoyment of the local area in mind. The Proposed Development design is expected to protect existing long-range or panoramic views from public rights of way wherever reasonably practicable. The Proposed Development will also provide additional opportunities for public recreation, with two new permissive paths linking into the existing PRoW network, for the lifetime of the Proposed Development.	N

261	S47	Statement that the farming community should be cherished	Solar farms provide valuable income for farmers, they can still be used for grazing, and can support UK farmers to continue food production on other parts of their land. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's food security. Indeed, the reverse is true: the solar industry is working closely with Britain's farmers to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground underneath to recover, while providing income for the farming business. Solar farms also help regenerate soil quality, and so are helping to ensure the continued availability of high-quality agricultural acreage for future generations.	N
262	S47	Concern that farms will become unviable as a result of the Proposed Development	**ES Volume 1, Chapter 15 - Land Use and Agriculture [EN010163/APP/6.2.15]** reports on the farming enterprises impacted.	N
Land Use				

263	S47	Concern regarding loss of footpaths	The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW. The Applicant will provide two significant permissive paths within the Proposed Development. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** is submitted with the DCO application. This includes **ES Volume 3, Figure 3.3, Public Rights of Way Plan [EN010163/APP/6.4.3]** to identify and minimise potential areas of conflict to PRoW routes affected by the Proposed Development. It will be implemented during the construction phase and throughout the operational phase. PRoWs may require temporary alteration during construction but will remain unchanged during operation.	N
264	S47	Statement that food security is more important than energy security	The UK has a legally binding commitment to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050. As one of the cheapest and most rapidly deployable forms of renewable energy, solar will play an important role in achieving this commitment. The Energy Security Strategy (April 2022) sets an ambition of 70 GW of solar by 2035. The current Labour government made major commitments to the delivery of clean energy in its election manifesto, including to achieve “Clean Power by 2030”, including tripling solar power by 2030. This cannot be achieved through rooftop and brownfield solar installations alone, as they have considerable practical barriers of their own. Many domestic and industrial buildings either do not have roofs made of	N

			suitable material to support a solar system, do not have the infrastructure to export electricity to the gird, or simply present as an unaffordable solution, with initial costs of installation too high for some. As a result, ground mounted solar, on agricultural land in a necessity to deliver the quantum of solar power needed. The Proposed Development can still be used for grazing and can support continued food production. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's food security. Indeed, the reverse is true: the solar industry is working closely with Britain's farmers to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground underneath to recover, while providing income for the farming business. Solar farms also help regenerate soil quality and so are helping to ensure the continued availability of high-quality agricultural acreage for future generations.	
265	S47	Mentions of and concerns regarding food security	The UK has a legally binding commitment to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050. As one of the cheapest and most rapidly deployable forms of renewable energy, solar will play an important role in achieving this commitment. The Energy Security Strategy (April 2022) set an ambition of 70 GW of solar by 2035. The current Labour government made major commitments to the delivery of clean energy in its election manifesto, including to achieve "Clean	N

			Power by 2030", including tripling solar power by 2030. This cannot be achieved through rooftop and brownfield solar installations alone, as they have considerable practical barriers of their own. Many domestic and industrial buildings either do not have roofs made of suitable material to support a solar system, do not have the infrastructure to export electricity to the gird, or simply present as an unaffordable solution, with initial costs of installation too high for some. As a result, ground mounted solar, on agricultural land in a necessity to deliver the quantum of solar power needed. The Proposed Development can still be used for grazing and can support continued food production. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's food security. Indeed, the reverse is true: the solar industry is working closely with Britain's farmers to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground underneath to recover, while providing income for the farming business. Solar farms also help regenerate soil quality and so are helping to ensure the continued availability of high-quality agricultural acreage for future generations.	

266	S47	Statement that reducing carbon would affect food production	During the operational phase, significant greenhouse gas savings are anticipated due to the displacement of fossil-fuel derived electricity within the National Grid. Proposed planting could increase the carbon sequestration potential of the land. The Government's Food Security Report published in December 2021 is clear that 'the biggest medium to long term risk to the UK's food production comes from climate change and other environmental pressures. The Independent National Food Strategy Review, which looks at the entire food chain from field to fork, concluded that solar farms do not in any way pose a risk to the UK's food security.	N
267	S47	Statement that farmland should not be the answer to expanding renewable energy	The Applicant understands that there are concerns regarding the loss of agricultural land locally and nationwide, however only 0.06% of land in the UK is currently occupied by solar and if the UK had a 70GW solar output this would only occupy 0.4% of land nationally. Solar farms are specifically designed to be dual purpose and allow for the generation of clean electricity alongside agricultural purposes such as sheep grazing. Typically, a solar farm uses approximately just 5% of the total ground area of a site, meaning a significant proportion of land is left available for uses such as sheep grazing and habitat re-wilding. The impact on agricultural land use as a result of the Proposed Development is fully assessed in **ES**	N

			Volume 1, Chapter 15 - Land Use and Agriculture [EN010163/APP/6.2.15].	
268	S47	Statement that we need to move away from mono-crop farming	The Applicant notes this comment. Crop choices and rotations are a matter for the individual, influenced by farm practices (e.g. rotations), soil considerations, disease control considerations and economics. Historically there have incentives for multi-crop practices but these are matters not of direct relevance to the Proposed Development.	N
269	S47	Concern that access to Dog Holes Lane will be restricted/Concern regarding impact on recreational use of Dog Holes Lane	The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW. The Applicant will provide two significant permissive paths within the Proposed Development. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** is submitted with the DCO application. This includes **ES Volume 3, Figure 3.3, Public Rights of Way Plan [EN010163/APP/6.4.3]** to identify and minimise potential areas of conflict to PRoW routes affected by the Proposed Development. It will be implemented during the construction phase and throughout the operational phase. PRoWs may require	N

			temporary alteration during construction but will remain unchanged during operation.	
270	S47	Statement that it is immoral to surround a village	The Applicant is cognisant of other projects being proposed in the area and has undertaken assessments to consider the potential cumulative effect of this. Any new developments will need to go through the relevant planning regime. If an Environmental Impact Assessment is required for other future development, they will have to consider cumulative impacts of that project, with others in the area. Additionally, the **Design and Access Statement [EN010163163/APP/7.3]** sets out the Proposed Development has been subject to a design evolution process. To reduce the impact to Sturton le Steeple and local residents, infrastructure has been removed from a 40-55m corridor on the eastern edge of the western parcel to reduce visual impact on the edge of Sturton le Steeple. Furthermore, the Proposed Development can be accommodated into the local landscape due to a maximum upper solar panel height of 3 metres and sighting larger elements including the substation and Battery Energy Storage System near West Burton Power Station. Mitigation measures against direct impacts by enhancing local landscape features through planting and landscape improvements as set out in **ES Volume 2,**	N

			Appendix 7.14, Outline Landscape and Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.7]. Measures include planting improvements and management; woodland and shelterbelt planting and management, scattered trees and native shrub planting.	
271	S47	Concern regarding the loss of agricultural land/Concern regarding loss of arable land/Statement that land is a threatened commodity	The Applicant understands that there are concerns regarding the loss of agricultural land locally and nationwide, however only 0.06% of land in the UK is currently occupied by solar development and if the UK had a 70GW solar output this would only occupy 0.4% of land nationally. Solar farms are specifically designed to be dual purpose and allow for the generation of clean electricity alongside agricultural purposes such as sheep grazing. Typically, a solar farm uses approximately just 5% of the total ground area of a site, meaning a significant proportion of land is left available for uses such as sheep grazing and habitat re-wilding. The impact on agricultural land use as a result of the Proposed Development is fully assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 15 - Land Use and Agriculture [EN010163/APP/6.2.15]**.	N
272	S47	Statement that the Proposed Development is not an effective use of the land	A **Planning Statement [EN010163/APP/7.1]** has been submitted as part of the application, explaining the reasons for the Proposed Development being large scale solar generation, and setting out the context, requirement and contribution of the Proposed Development to securing and decarbonising UK energy supply. The	N

			Applicant is committed to the opportunity to repower the region with clean, green and affordable energy and replace the energy produced by the West Burton A power Station. The Applicant understands that there are concerns regarding the loss of agricultural land locally and nationwide, however only 0.06% of land in the UK is currently occupied by solar and even if the UK had a 70GW solar output this would only occupy 0.4% of land nationally. Solar farms are specifically designed to be dual purpose and allow for the generation of clean electricity alongside agricultural purposes such as sheep grazing. Typically, a solar farm uses approximately just 5% of the total ground area of a site, meaning a significant proportion of land is left available for uses such as sheep grazing and habitat re-wilding.	
273	S47	Concern about the impact on countryside	The Applicant notes this comment. The site used for the Proposed Development can continue to contribute to local agriculture. Over 95% of the solar panel areas can be made available for sheep grazing, retaining an agricultural use and allowing topsoil to recover, by increasing soil organic matter and improving the soil structure. The leases the Applicant has agreed on the solar land grant the landowners the right to graze sheep over the life of the Proposed Development. The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW. The Applicant will provide two significant permissive paths within the Proposed Development **ES Volume 2,**	N

			Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13] is submitted with the DCO application. This includes **ES Volume 3, Figure 3.3, Public Rights of Way Plan [EN010163/APP/6.4.3]** to identify and minimise potential areas of conflict to PRoW routes affected by the Proposed Development. It will be implemented during the construction phase and throughout the operational phase. PRoWs may require temporary alteration during construction but will remain unchanged during operation.	
274	S47	Statement that black grass has made the land to the east difficult to farm	Blackgrass is a particular problem for cereal production in some areas, and makes land difficult to farm, requiring chemical and operational activities, but these are matters not of direct relevance to the Proposed Development.	N
275	S47	General support of the use of the site for solar	The Applicant welcomes this comment.	N
276	S47	Statement that land is a threatened commodity	The Applicant recognises that there are concerns regarding the loss of and use of agricultural land. The Proposed Development is reversible and there will be no significant loss of the resource. The impact on agricultural land use as a result of the Proposed Development is fully assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 15 - Land Use and Agriculture [EN010163/APP/6.2.15]**.	N

277	S47	Statement that existing PROWs would be harmed	The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW. The Applicant will provide two significant permissive paths within the Proposed Development. An **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** is submitted with the DCO application. This includes **ES Volume 3, Figure 3.3, Public Rights of Way Plan [EN010163/APP/6.4.3]** to identify and minimise potential areas of conflict to PRoW routes affected by the Proposed Development. It will be implemented during the construction phase and throughout the operational phase. PRoWs may require temporary alteration during construction, but will remain unchanged during operation.	N
278	S47	Statement that existing PROWs should remain/Statement that PROWs near villages should be protected	The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW. The Applicant will provide two significant permissive paths within the Proposed Development. An **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** is submitted with the DCO application. This includes **ES Volume 3, Figure 3.3, Public Rights of Way Plan [EN010163/APP/6.4.3]** to identify and minimise potential areas of conflict to PRoW routes affected by the Proposed Development. It will be implemented during the construction phase and throughout the operational phase. PRoWs may require temporary alteration during construction but will remain unchanged during operation.	N

279	S47	Concern regarding the impact on PROWs	The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW. The Applicant will provide two significant permissive paths within the Proposed Development. An **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** is submitted with the DCO application. This includes **ES Volume 3, Figure 3.3, Public Rights of Way Plan [EN010163/APP/6.4.3]** to identify and minimise potential areas of conflict to PRoW routes affected by the Proposed Development. It will be implemented during the construction phase and throughout the operational phase. PRoWs may require temporary alteration during construction, but will remain unchanged during operation.	N
280	S47	Statement that PROWs should not be enclosed/Concern that PROWs will be engulfed by the PD	The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW. The Applicant will provide two significant permissive paths within the Proposed Development. An **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** is submitted with the DCO application. This includes **ES Volume 3, Figure 3.3, Public Rights of Way Plan [EN010163/APP/6.4.3]** to identify and minimise potential areas of conflict to PRoW routes affected by the Proposed Development. It will be implemented during the construction phase and throughout the operational phase. PRoWs may require temporary alteration during	Y

			construction, but will remain unchanged during operation.	
281	S47	Concern regarding loss of land that could be used for new homes	The Applicant notes the comment. The Applicant can only comment on land use within the Order Limits and has no control on land uses outside of the Order Limits. Within the Order Limits, the Proposed Development will be operational for 40 years. Once the Proposed Development ceases to operate, the development will be decommissioned and land intended to be returned to its former state. There will be no permanent loss of agricultural land extent or quality, with the land left to rest this will enhance the functional capacity of the soil resource for future arable production.	N
282	S47	Statement that the Proposed Development will industrialise the local area	The Applicant is cognisant of other projects being proposed in the area and has undertaken assessments to consider the potential cumulative effect of this. Any new developments will need to go through the relevant planning regime. If an Environmental Impact Assessment is required for other future development, they will have to consider cumulative impacts of that project, with others in the area. Additionally, the **Design and Access Statement [EN010163163/APP/7.3]** sets out the Proposed Development has been subject to a design evolution	N

			process. To reduce the impact to Sturton le Steeple and local residents, infrastructure has been removed from a 40-55m corridor on the eastern edge of the western parcel to reduce visual impact on the edge of Sturton le Steeple. Furthermore, the Proposed Development can be accommodated into the local landscape due to a maximum upper solar panel height of 3 metres and sighting larger elements including the substation and Battery Energy Storage System near West Burton Power Station. Mitigation measures against direct impacts by enhancing local landscape features through planting and landscape improvements as set out in the **ES Volume 2, Appendix 7.14, Outline Landscape and Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.7]**. Measures include planting improvements and management; woodland and shelterbelt planting and management, scattered trees and native shrub planting.	
283	S47	Statement that fields are for farming	The Applicant understands that there are concerns regarding the loss of agricultural land locally and nationwide, however only 0.06% of land in the UK is currently occupied by solar and if the UK had a 70GW solar output this would only occupy 0.4% of land nationally. Solar farms are specifically designed to be dual purpose and allow for the generation of clean electricity alongside agricultural purposes such as sheep grazing. Typically, a solar farm uses approximately just 5% of the total ground area of a site, meaning a significant proportion of land is	N

			left available for uses such as sheep grazing and habitat re-wilding. The impact on agricultural land use as a result of the Proposed Development is fully assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 15 - Land Use and Agriculture [EN010163/APP/6.2.15]**.	
284	S47	Statement that sheep farming is a waste of the land	The Applicant notes the comment. The primary use of the land will be for the Proposed Development as a renewable energy infrastructure. In addition, solar farms are specifically designed to be dual purpose and allow for the generation of clean electricity alongside agricultural purposes such as sheep grazing. Typically, a solar farm uses approximately just 5% of the total ground area of a site, meaning a significant proportion of land is left available for uses such as sheep grazing and habitat re-wilding. The impact on agricultural land use as a result of the Proposed Development is fully assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 15 - Land Use and Agriculture [EN010163/APP/6.2.15]**.	N
285	S47	Statement that there has not been a true evaluation of the land	**ES Volume 1, Chapter 15 - Land Use and Agriculture [EN010163/APP/6.2.15]** reports on the condition of the land, and is supported by **ES Volume 2, Appendix 15.1, Agricultural Land Classification Report [EN010163/APP/6.3.15].**	N

286	S47	Statement that the land is not suitable for sheep farming/ Statement that land could not be used for sheep farming	The Applicant recognises that there are concerns regarding the loss of and use of agricultural land. Much of the grassland on Site will be managed by sheep grazing, retaining an agricultural use. The stocking density of sheep any one plot will be controlled to prevent overgrazing or poaching of the land. The grasslands will be subject to monitoring, so that corrective actions can be taken (such as reducing stocking densities or switching management to a mowing regime) if the grasslands show signs of damage. More details of the proposed grassland management and monitoring is included in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 7.14, Outline Landscape and Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.7].**	N
287	S47	Concern about availability of farmland in the future	The Applicant recognises that there are concerns regarding the loss of and use of agricultural land. The Proposed Development is reversible and there will be no significant loss of the resource. The impact on agricultural land use as a result of the Proposed Development is fully assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 15 - Land Use and Agriculture [EN010163/APP/6.2.15]**.	N
288	S47	Statement that further detailed work on land classification is essential	**ES Volume 1, Chapter 15 - Land Use and Agriculture [EN010163/APP/6.2.15]** reports on the condition of the land and is supported by **ES Volume 2, Appendix 15.1, Agricultural Land Classification Report [EN010163/APP/6.3.15].**	N

289	S47	Concern regarding damage to the land	There will be no significant damage to the land, either in terms of effects on land quality or on the soils. The equipment mostly involves only minimal disturbance to the land, and small areas of fixed equipment needing bases are all restorable on decommissioning. The works will be subject to an **ES Volume 2, Appendix 15.2, Outline Soil Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.15]**. The impact on agricultural land use as a result of the Proposed Development is fully assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 15 - Land Use and Agriculture [EN010163/APP/6.2.15]**.	N
290	S47	Statement that access to the grid via West Burton is an advantage	The Applicant welcomes the comment. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3 - Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** and the **Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3]** set out as part of the design evolution alternative sites have been considered a greater distance from the point of connection but have been discounted for numerous other material planning considerations. Furthermore, the greater a generation site is from the point of connection the greater the length of cable reducing efficiency due to increased resistance and voltage drop. Longer cables lead to more resistance, which converts electrical energy into heat, resulting in power loss. This voltage drop can significantly impact the solar systems overall performance.	N

291	S47	Statement that the development of solar farms is restricted to scarce countryside	The Applicant recognises that there are concerns regarding the loss of and use of agricultural land. The Proposed Development is reversible and there will be no significant loss of the resource. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3 - Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** and the **Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3]** sets out the alternative sites that have been considered but have been discounted for numerous other material planning considerations. The impact on agricultural land use as a result of the Proposed Development is fully assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 15 - Land Use and Agriculture [EN010163/APP/6.2.15]**.	N
292	S47	Statement that sheep farming is not the historical use of the land	Historically land was often rested and left fallow, and may have been grazed. Increased mechanisation has tended to result in continuous cropping. There is the opportunity to change the use to grassland with sheep grazing, for the duration of the Proposed Development, which will result in improvement to the soils. The impact on agricultural land use as a result of the Proposed Development is fully assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 15 - Land Use and Agriculture [EN010163/APP/6.2.15]**.	N

293	S47	Concern regarding loss of access to countryside for recreation	The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW. The Applicant will provide two significant permissive paths within the Proposed Development. An **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** is submitted with the DCO application. This includes **ES Volume 3, Figure 3.3, Public Rights of Way Plan [EN010163/APP/6.4.3]** to identify and minimise potential areas of conflict to PRoW routes affected by the Proposed Development. It will be implemented during the construction phase and throughout the operational phase. PRoWs may require temporary alteration during construction but will remain unchanged during operation.	N
294	S47	Suggestion that using solar farms to encourage wildflowers and grass would support holistic approach to farming	The Applicant welcomes this comment. Encouragement and funding has been available in recent years for reverting arable land to grassland or wildflower, bird mixes etc., in recognition of the need for biodiversity enhancement and the benefits for soils that result.	N
295	S47	Concern that there will be no access to the land as a result of the Proposed Development	Construction access points and routing will be managed through mitigation set out in **ES Volume 3, Figure 3.3, Public Rights of Way Plan [EN010163/APP/6.4.3]** to ensure minimal impacts. The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW and the addition of two significant permissive paths within the Proposed Development. The Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan is submitted with the DCO application.	N

			This includes **ES Volume 3, Figure 3.3, Public Rights of Way Plan [EN010163/APP/6.4.3]** to identify and minimise potential areas of conflict to PRoW routes affected by the Proposed Development. It will be implemented during the construction phase and throughout the operational phase. PRoWs may require temporary alteration during construction but will remain unchanged during operation.	
296	S47	Statement that panels do not detract from the countryside	The Applicant welcomes this comment and acknowledges that some visual effects would arise as a result of the solar panels included with the Proposed Development but these would be localised and further reduced following implementation of the mitigation planting included with the Proposed Development. In many views the panels would not be visible due to screening by existing or proposed planting. Furthermore, as part of the final proposals the maximum height of the solar panels has been reduced when compared with the parameters previously assumed. The impact on landscape and visual effects as a result of the Proposed Development is fully assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6 - Landscape and Visual and Residential Amenity [EN010163/APP/6.2.6]**.	N
297	S47	Concern regarding loss of crop production	The use of agricultural land for the deployment of solar is required to meet net zero targets. The UK's production of food has remained stable in recent years, and we are largely self-sufficient in the staple crops that we can grow such as cereals. The need for increased renewable energy and increased areas for biodiversity and other uses places	N

			a challenge on balancing the use of land. There is no food production concern within law or policy.	
298	S47	Suggestion that agriculture is a better use of the land	The Applicant understands that there are concerns regarding the loss of agricultural land locally and nationwide, however only 0.06% of land in the UK is currently occupied by solar and if the UK had a 70GW solar output this would only occupy 0.4% of land nationally. Solar farms are specifically designed to be dual purpose and allow for the generation of clean electricity alongside agricultural purposes such as sheep grazing. Typically, a solar farm uses approximately just 5% of the total ground area of a site, meaning a significant proportion of land is left available for uses such as sheep grazing and habitat re-wilding. The impact on agricultural land use as a result of the Proposed Development is fully assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 15 - Land Use and Agriculture [EN010163/APP/6.2.15]**.	N
299	S47	Concern regarding impact on farmland	The Applicant understands that there are concerns regarding the loss of agricultural land locally and nationwide, however only 0.06% of land in the UK is currently taken up by solar and even if the UK had a 70GW solar output this would only take up 0.4% of land nationally. Solar farms are specifically designed to be dual purpose and allow for the generation of clean electricity alongside agricultural purposes such as sheep grazing. Typically, a	N

			solar farm uses approximately just 5% of the total ground area of a site, meaning a significant proportion of land is left available for uses such as sheep grazing and habitat re-wilding. The impact on agricultural land use as a result of the Proposed Development is fully assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 15 - Land Use and Agriculture [EN010163/APP/6.2.15]**.	
300	S47	Statement that the UK needs to go back to seasonal vegetation	Crop choices and rotations are a matter for the individual, influenced by farm practices (e.g. rotations), soil considerations, disease control considerations and economics. Historically there have been incentives for multi-crop practices but these are matters not of direct relevance to the Proposed Development. Food self-sufficiency could be improved by greater consumption of seasonally produced crops, reducing importation, but that is a matter of consumer choice and is not influenced by or of direct relevance to the Proposed Development.	N
301	S47	Statement that land is good quality for growing crops	The impact on agricultural land use as a result of the Proposed Development and land quality is fully assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 15 - Land Use and Agriculture [EN010163/APP/6.2.15]**. The implications for crop production and food production are also assessed in this chapter.	N

302	S47	Statement that PRoWs shouldn't be located around glass panels	The Applicant acknowledges there would be some visual effects on the local footpath network, but all routes would remain open during the life of the development and would be supplemented by new permissive paths. Offsets have been provided to help minimise impacts to users of the footpath network, alongside mitigation planting to complement the existing vegetation at the Site.	N
303	S47	Concern regarding current lack of footpaths	The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW. The Applicant will provide two significant permissive paths within the Proposed Development. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** is submitted with the DCO application. This includes **ES Volume 3, Figure 3.3, Public Rights of Way Plan [EN010163/APP/6.4.3]** to identify and minimise potential areas of conflict to PRoW routes affected by the Proposed Development. It will be implemented during the construction phase and throughout the operational phase. PRoWs may require temporary alteration during construction, but will remain unchanged during operation.	N
304	S47	Statement that public routes must remain visible and unobstructed by law	The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW. The Applicant will provide two significant permissive paths within the Proposed Development. An **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** is submitted with the DCO application. This includes **ES Volume 3,**	N

			Figure 3.3, Public Rights of Way Plan [EN010163/APP/6.4.3] to identify and minimise potential areas of conflict to PRoW routes affected by the Proposed Development. It will be implemented during the construction phase and throughout the operational phase. PRoWs may require temporary alteration during construction, but will remain unchanged during operation.	
305	S47	Support for the additional "green routes" identified in area "E" linking Dog Holes Lane with North Leverton	The Applicant acknowledges the comments and welcomes the support for new permissive paths that will add to the existing PRoW network.	Y
306	S47	Concern regarding the impact on the Trent Valley Way	The Applicant acknowledges there would be some visual effects on the local footpath network, but all routes would remain open during the life of the development and would be supplemented by new permissive paths. Offsets have been provided to help minimise impacts to users of the footpath network, alongside mitigation planting to complement the existing vegetation at the Site.	N
307	S47	Statement that existing PRoWs are well used by walkers	The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW. The Applicant will provide two significant permissive paths within the Proposed Development. An **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** is submitted with the DCO application. This includes **ES Volume 3, Figure 3.3, Public Rights of Way Plan [EN010163/APP/6.4.3]** to identify and minimise potential	N

			areas of conflict to PRoW routes affected by the Proposed Development. It will be implemented during the construction phase and throughout the operational phase. PRoWs may require temporary alteration during construction, but will remain unchanged during operation.	
308	S47	Statement that existing PRoWs are well used by runners	The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW. The Applicant will provide two significant permissive paths within the Proposed Development. An **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** is submitted with the DCO application. This includes **ES Volume 3, Figure 3.3, Public Rights of Way Plan [EN010163/APP/6.4.3]** to identify and minimise potential areas of conflict to PRoW routes affected by the Proposed Development. It will be implemented during the construction phase and throughout the operational phase. PRoWs may require temporary alteration during construction, but will remain unchanged during operation.	N
309	S47	Statement that existing PROWs are well used by cyclists	The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW. The Applicant will provide two significant permissive paths within the Proposed Development. An **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** is submitted with the DCO application. This includes **ES Volume 3,**	N

			Figure 3.3, Public Rights of Way Plan [EN010163/APP/6.4.3] to identify and minimise potential areas of conflict to PRoW routes affected by the Proposed Development. It will be implemented during the construction phase and throughout the operational phase. PRoWs may require temporary alteration during construction, but will remain unchanged during operation.	
310	S47	Statement that existing PROWs are well used by horse riders	The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW. The Applicant will provide two significant permissive paths within the Proposed Development. An **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** is submitted with the DCO application. This includes **ES Volume 3, Figure 3.3, Public Rights of Way Plan [EN010163/APP/6.4.3]** to identify and minimise potential areas of conflict to PRoW routes affected by the Proposed Development. It will be implemented during the construction phase and throughout the operational phase. PRoWs may require temporary alteration during construction, but will remain unchanged during operation.	N
311	S47	Suggestion to introduce footpaths that pass through field that do not have panels	The Applicant will provide two significant permissive paths within the Proposed Development. There are no proposals as part of this application to provide any further permissive routes outside the Order Limits.	Y

312	S47	Suggestion to improve surface cycled access on existing connections to Blue Stocking Lane in Area G	The Applicant welcomes this suggestion. During the statutory consultation the Applicant sought feedback on its community benefit proposals and asked the community for suggestions and how they would like to see the fund used to benefit the community. All suggestions have been considered by the Applicant when finalising the proposals for the community benefits set to be delivered alongside the Proposed Development.	Y
313	S47	Suggestion to provide a circular route that does not have panels near	The Applicant will provide two significant permissive paths within the Proposed Development. There are no proposals as part of this application to provide any further permissive routes outside the Order Limits.	Y
314	S47	Suggestion to improve surface cycled access on existing bridleways	The Applicant welcomes this suggestion. During the statutory consultation the Applicant sought feedback on its community benefit proposals and asked the community for suggestions and how they would like to see the fund used to benefit the community. All suggestions have been considered by the Applicant when finalising the proposals for the community benefits set to be delivered alongside the Proposed Development.	Y
315	S47	Concern regarding the legal right of way across Area E	The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW. The Applicant will provide two significant permissive paths within the Proposed Development. An **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** is submitted with the DCO application. This includes **ES Volume 3,**	N

			Figure 3.3, Public Rights of Way Plan [EN010163/APP/6.4.3] to identify and minimise potential areas of conflict to PRoW routes affected by the Proposed Development. It will be implemented during the construction phase and throughout the operational phase. PRoWs may require temporary alteration during construction, but will remain unchanged during operation.	
316	S47	Concern regarding the impact of CCTV on footpaths	The Applicant notes this comment. The Proposed Development will incorporate security measures throughout the Site. Operational areas of the Proposed Development will be surrounded by perimeter fencing up to 3m in height with pole-mounted CCTV cameras adjacent to the perimeter fencing for security, facing inwards. Security requirements for the Proposed Development have been embedded into the design of the proposals from the outset and are considered proportionate.	N
317	S47	Concern regarding the impact of fencing on footpaths	The Proposed Development will incorporate fencing for security and safety reasons. Permissive paths will be enclosed with stock wire deer fencing up to 5m in height. The Proposed Development incorporates landscaping and planting to soften the proposals and mitigate visual impacts. The existing PRoWs will remain accessible during the operation of the Proposed Development and no permanent closures or diversions are anticipated.	N

			However, temporary closures may occur during the construction phase of development to protect public health and safety.	
318	S47	Concern regarding the impact of noise on footpaths	The Applicant acknowledges that some sound and vibration could be generated during the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Proposed Development via the use of certain construction plant, the operation of various ancillary electrical equipment and the additional traffic generated by the Proposed Development in isolative and cumulative terms. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11 – Noise and Vibration [EN010163/APP/6.2.11]** addresses all relevant potential sound and vibratory effects from the introduction of the Proposed Development, concluding that sound and vibration generated during the temporary construction, operation and decommissioning of the site is considered not significant in the context of normal planning requirements, provided that typical mitigation measures are implemented and that best practice is followed.	N

319	S47	Concern regarding loss of local walks	The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW. The Applicant will provide two significant permissive paths within the Proposed Development. An **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** is submitted with the DCO application. This includes **ES Volume 3, Figure 3.3, Public Rights of Way Plan [EN010163/APP/6.4.3]** to identify and minimise potential areas of conflict to PRoW routes affected by the Proposed Development. It will be implemented during the construction phase and throughout the operational phase. PRoWs may require temporary alteration during construction, but will remain unchanged during operation.	N
320	S47	Statement that the Proposed Development includes many PROWs	The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW. The Applicant will provide two significant permissive paths within the Proposed Development. An **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** is submitted with the DCO application. This includes **ES Volume 3, Figure 3.3, Public Rights of Way Plan [EN010163/APP/6.4.3]** to identify and minimise potential areas of conflict to PRoW routes affected by the Proposed Development. It will be implemented during the construction phase and throughout the operational phase. PRoWs may require temporary alteration during	N

			construction, but will remain unchanged during operation.	
321	S47	Statement that no circular routes will remain	The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW and the addition of two significant permissive routes within the Proposed Development. No existing PRoW will be lost and with the addition of two further routes the ability for circular routes is actually increased.	N
322	S47	Concern that the land is not suitable for the Proposed Development	The Applicant notes the comment. The Applicant has followed a step-by- step site selection process which confirms the location of the Proposed Development is suitable for a large-scale solar farm. This has included the avoidance of sensitive landscape and environmental designations in confirming site suitability and consideration of alternative sites. Details of this are set out in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3 - Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3].**	N
323	S47	Concern regarding security measures on the countryside	The Applicant notes the comment. The Proposed Development will incorporate security measures throughout the Site. Operational areas of the Proposed Development will be surrounded by perimeter fencing up to 3m in height with pole-mounted CCTV cameras	N

			adjacent to the perimeter fencing for security, facing inwards. Security requirements for the Proposed Development have been embedded into the design of the proposals from the outset and are considered proportionate.	
324	S47	Statement that access to PRoWs will be removed completely	The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW. The Applicant will provide two significant permissive paths within the Proposed Development. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** is submitted with the DCO application. This includes **ES Volume 3, Figure 3.3, Public Rights of Way Plan [EN010163/APP/6.4.3]** to identify and minimise potential areas of conflict to PRoW routes affected by the Proposed Development. It will be implemented during the construction phase and throughout the operational phase. PRoWs may require temporary alteration during construction, but will remain unchanged during operation.	N
325	S47	Statement that existing PRoWs must be maintained by law	The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW. The Applicant will provide two significant permissive paths within the Proposed Development. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** is submitted with the DCO application. This includes **ES Volume 3, Figure 3.3, Public Rights of Way Plan [EN010163/APP/6.4.3]** to identify and	N

			minimise potential areas of conflict to PRoW routes affected by the Proposed Development. It will be implemented during the construction phase and throughout the operational phase. PRoWs may require temporary alteration during construction but will remain unchanged during operation. The PRoWs and permissive paths will be maintained.	
326	S47	Statement that existing bridleways must be preserved even if they cross the site	The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW, including bridleways. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** is submitted with the DCO application. This includes **ES Volume 3, Figure 3.3, Public Rights of Way Plan [EN010163/APP/6.4.3]** to identify and minimise potential areas of conflict to PRoW routes affected by the Proposed Development. It will be implemented during the construction phase and throughout the operational phase. PRoWs may require temporary alteration during construction, but will remain unchanged during operation.	N
327	S47	Statement that existing PRoWs must be preserved even if they cross the site	The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** is submitted with the DCO application. This includes **ES Volume 3, Figure 3.3, Public Rights of Way Plan [EN010163/APP/6.4.3]**	N

			to identify and minimise potential areas of conflict to PRoW routes affected by the Proposed Development. It will be implemented during the construction phase and throughout the operational phase. PRoWs may require temporary alteration during construction, but will remain unchanged during operation.	
328	S47	Statement that new PRoWs should be created	The Applicant will provide two significant permissive paths within the Proposed Development. These will be available throughout the lifetime of the Proposed Development.	N
329	S47	General concern about the loss of PROWs/Concern PROWs will be restricted for safety/Concern that access to PROWs will be restricted	The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW. The Applicant will provide two significant permissive paths within the Proposed Development. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** is submitted with the DCO application. This includes **ES Volume 3, Figure 3.3, Public Rights of Way Plan [EN010163/APP/6.4]** to identify and minimise potential areas of conflict to PRoW routes affected by the Proposed Development. It will be implemented during the construction phase and throughout the operational phase. PRoWs may require temporary alteration during construction, but will remain unchanged during operation.	N

330	S47	Concern regarding impact on byways	The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW, including byways. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** is submitted with the DCO application. This includes **ES Volume 3, Figure 3.3, Public Rights of Way Plan [EN010163/APP/6.4]** to identify and minimise potential areas of conflict to PRoW routes affected by the Proposed Development. It will be implemented during the construction phase and throughout the operational phase. PRoWs may require temporary alteration during construction, but will remain unchanged during operation.	N
331	S47	Concern regarding impact on bridleways	The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW, including bridleways. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** is submitted with the DCO application. This includes **ES Volume 3, Figure 3.3, Public Rights of Way Plan [EN010163/APP/6.4]** to identify and minimise potential areas of conflict to PRoW routes affected by the Proposed Development. It will be implemented during the construction phase and throughout the operational phase. PRoWs may require temporary alteration during construction, but will remain unchanged during operation.	N

332	S47	Concern regarding the impact on footpaths	The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW. The Applicant will provide two significant permissive paths within the Proposed Development. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** is submitted with the DCO application. This includes **ES Volume 3, Figure 3.3, Public Rights of Way Plan [EN010163/APP/6.4]** to identify and minimise potential areas of conflict to PRoW routes affected by the Proposed Development. It will be implemented during the construction phase and throughout the operational phase. PRoWs may require temporary alteration during construction, but will remain unchanged during operation. The PRoWs and permissive paths will be maintained.	N
333	S47	Statement that no one would want to use PROWs surrounded by solar panels	The Applicant considers that notwithstanding its scale, the Proposed Development has been well designed such that it would give rise to relatively limited and localised landscape and visual effects, with such effects further reduced following implementation of the proposed mitigation planting. The impact on landscape and visual effects as a result of the Proposed Development is fully assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6 - Landscape and Visual Impact and Residential Amenity [EN010163/APP/6.2.6]**.	NN

334	S47	Statement that the Proposed includes BMV land and should be protected from development	The impact on agricultural land use as a result of the Proposed Development and land quality is fully assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 15 - Land Use and Agriculture [EN010163/APP/6.2.15]**. It includes land of BMV quality, which is not prohibited in policy. The Applicant recognises that there are concerns regarding the loss of and use of agricultural land. The Proposed Development is reversible and there will be no significant loss of or impact on the resource.	N
335	S47	Statement that the Proposed Development would result in a major loss to food producing capacity at a time of rapid population growth	The use of agricultural land for the deployment of solar is required to meet the targets. The UK's production of food has remained stable in recent years, and we are largely self-sufficient in the staple crops that we can grow such as cereals. The need for increased renewable energy and increased areas for biodiversity and other uses places a challenge on balancing the use of land. There is no food production concern in law or policy, and this will need to be balanced with the recognised need for and benefits of renewable energy.	N
336	S47	Statement that there will not be enough room for livestock to graze on the land	The stocking density of sheep any one plot will be controlled to prevent overgrazing or poaching of the land. The grasslands will be subject to monitoring, so that corrective actions can be taken (such as reducing stocking densities or switching management to a mowing regime) if the grasslands show signs of damage. More details of the proposed grassland management and monitoring is	N

			included in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 7.14, Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.7].**	
337	S47	Statement that using good quality agricultural land is counter productive	The use of agricultural land for the deployment of solar is required to meet the targets. The UK's production of food has remained stable in recent years, and we are largely self-sufficient in the staple crops that we can grow such as cereals. The need for increased renewable energy and increased areas for biodiversity and other uses places a challenge on balancing the use of land. There is no food production concern in law or policy, and this will need to be balanced with the recognised need for and benefits of renewable energy.	N
338	S47	Statement that the developer wants to ignore the fact that the land is for agricultural use	The Applicant understands that there are concerns regarding the loss of agricultural land locally and nationwide, however only 0.06% of land in the UK is currently occupied by solar and if the UK had a 70GW solar output this would only occupy 0.4% of land nationally. Solar farms are specifically designed to be dual purpose and allow for the generation of clean electricity alongside agricultural purposes such as sheep grazing. Typically, a solar farm uses approximately just 5% of the total ground area of a site, meaning a significant proportion of land is left available for uses such as sheep grazing and habitat re-wilding. The impact on agricultural land use as a result of the Proposed Development is fully assessed in **ES**	N

			Volume 1, Chapter 15 - Land Use and Agriculture [EN010163/APP/6.2.15].	
339	S47	Statement that the whole area is devoted to agriculture	The Applicant understands that there are concerns regarding the loss of agricultural land locally and nationwide, however only 0.06% of land in the UK is currently occupied by solar and if the UK had a 70GW solar output this would only occupy 0.4% of land nationally. Solar farms are specifically designed to be dual purpose and allow for the generation of clean electricity alongside agricultural purposes such as sheep grazing. Typically, a solar farm uses approximately just 5% of the total ground area of a site, meaning a significant proportion of land is left available for uses such as sheep grazing and habitat re-wilding. The impact on agricultural land use as a result of the Proposed Development is fully assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 15 - Land Use and Agriculture [EN010163/APP/6.2.15].**	N
340	S47	Concern that the land would only be suitable for limited livestock as a result of the PD	The stocking density of sheep any one plot will be controlled to prevent overgrazing or poaching of the land. The grasslands will be subject to monitoring, so that corrective actions can be taken (such as reducing stocking densities or switching management to a mowing regime) if the grasslands show signs of damage. More details of the	N

			proposed grassland management and monitoring is included in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 7.14, Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.7]**	
341	S47	Concern regarding the viability of the land surveys	The ALC is reported in the ES, and has been carried out by qualified professionals under the ALC methodology (MAFF, 1988). **ES Volume 1, Chapter 15 - Land Use and Agriculture [EN010163/APP/6.2.15]** reports on the condition of the land and is supported by **ES Volume 2, Appendix 15.1, Agricultural Land Classification Report [EN010163/APP/6.3.15]**.	N
342	S47	Concern that the area will be ruined for recreation	The Applicant notes this comment. The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW. The Applicant will provide two significant permissive paths within the Proposed Development. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** is submitted with the DCO application. This includes a Public Right of Way Management Plan to identify and minimise potential areas of conflict to PRoW routes affected by the Proposed Development. It will be implemented during the construction phase and throughout the operational phase. PRoWs may require temporary alteration during construction, but will remain unchanged during operation.	N

343	S47	Statement that existing PROWs are well used	The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW. The Applicant will provide two significant permissive paths within the Proposed Development. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** is submitted with the DCO application. This includes a Public Right of Way Management Plan to identify and minimise potential areas of conflict to PRoW routes affected by the Proposed Development. It will be implemented during the construction phase and throughout the operational phase. PRoWs may require temporary alteration during construction, but will remain unchanged during operation.	N
344	S47	Concern regarding the maintenance of the land	Much of the grassland on Site will be managed by sheep grazing, retaining an agricultural use. The stocking density of sheep any one plot will be controlled to prevent overgrazing or poaching of the land. The grasslands will be subject to monitoring, so that corrective actions can be taken (such as reducing stocking densities or switching management to a mowing regime) if the grasslands show signs of damage. More details of the proposed grassland management and monitoring is included in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 7.14, Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.7]**	N

345	S47	Suggestion to create new PROWs near the site	The Applicant will provide two significant permissive paths within the Proposed Development. These will be available throughout the lifetime of the Proposed Development.	N
346	S47	Concerns about loss of countryside/green space	The Applicant notes this comment. The site used for the Proposed Development can continue to contribute to local agriculture. Over 95% of the solar panel areas can be made available for sheep grazing, retaining an agricultural use and allowing topsoil to recover, by increasing soil organic matter and improving the soil structure. The leases the Applicant has agreed on the solar land grant the landowners the right to graze sheep over the life of the Proposed Development. The Applicant also does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW. The Applicant will provide two significant permissive paths within the Proposed Development. An **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** is submitted with the DCO application. This includes **ES Volume 3, Figure 3.3, Public Rights of Way Plan [EN010163/APP/6.4]** to identify and minimise potential areas of conflict to PRoW routes affected by the Proposed Development. It will be implemented during the construction phase and throughout the operational	N

			phase. PRoWs may require temporary alteration during construction but will remain unchanged during operation.	
347	S47	Do not want villages to be industrialised	The Applicant is cognisant of other projects being proposed in the area and has undertaken assessments to consider the potential cumulative effect of this. Any new developments will need to go through the relevant planning regime. If an Environmental Impact Assessment is required for other future development, they will have to consider cumulative impacts of that project, with others in the area. Additionally, the **Design and Access Statement [EN010163163/APP/7.3]** sets out the Proposed Development has been subject to a design evolution process. To reduce the impact to Sturton le Steeple and local residents' infrastructure has been removed from a 40-55m corridor on the eastern edge of the western parcel to reduce visual impact on the edge of Sturton le Steeple. Furthermore, the Proposed Development can be accommodated into the local landscape due to a maximum upper solar panel height of 3 metres and sighting larger elements including the substation and Battery Energy Storage System near West Burton Power Station. Mitigation measures against direct impacts by enhancing local landscape features through planting and landscape improvements as set out in the **ES Volume 2,**	N

			Appendix 7.14, Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.7]. Measures include planting improvements and management; woodland and shelterbelt planting and management, scattered trees and native shrub planting.	
348	S47	Suggestion to include more access to land on byways and footpaths	The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW. The Applicant will provide two significant permissive paths within the Proposed Development. An **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** is submitted with the DCO application. This includes a Public Right of Way Management Plan to identify and minimise potential areas of conflict to PRoW routes affected by the Proposed Development. It will be implemented during the construction phase and throughout the operational phase. PRoWs may require temporary alteration during construction, but will remain unchanged during operation.	N
349	S47	Suggestion to improve the local community's access	The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW and the addition of two significant permissive routes within the Proposed Development. No existing PRoW will be lost and with the addition of two further routes the ability for circular routes is actually increased.	N

350	S47	Suggestion to invest in agriculture	Land use decisions of that nature go beyond the considerations of relevance for the Proposed Development. It is however noted that the use of agricultural land for the deployment of solar is required to meet the targets. The UK's production of food has remained stable in recent years, and we are largely self-sufficient in the staple crops that we can grow such as cereals. The need for increased renewable energy and increased areas for biodiversity and other uses places a challenge on balancing the use of land. There is no food production policy or concern, and this will need to be balanced with the recognised need for and benefits of renewable energy.	N
351	S47	Statement that sheep farming is a waste of the land	The Applicant notes the comment. The primary use of the land will be for the Proposed Development as a renewable energy infrastructure. In addition, solar farms are specifically designed to be dual purpose and allow for the generation of clean electricity alongside agricultural purposes such as sheep grazing. Typically, a solar farm uses approximately just 5% of the total ground area of a site, meaning a significant proportion of land is left available for uses such as sheep grazing and habitat re-wilding. The impact on agricultural land use as a result of the Proposed Development is fully assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 15 - Land Use and Agriculture [EN010163/APP/6.2.15].**	N

352	S47	Concern about availability of farmland in the future	The Applicant recognises that there are concerns regarding the loss of and use of agricultural land. The Proposed Development is reversible and there will be no significant loss of the resource. There will be no adverse impact on the availability of the resource in the future, but there will be a limitation on the type of agricultural use that can be operated for the duration of the Proposed Development.	N
353	S47	Statement that sheep grazing is a limiting factor	The primary use of the land will be for the Proposed Development as renewable energy infrastructure. In addition, solar farms are specifically designed to be dual purpose and allow for the generation of clean electricity alongside agricultural purposes such as sheep grazing. There will be an increase in availability of land for grazing sheep. More details of the proposed grassland management and monitoring is included in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 7.14, Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.7].**	N
354	S47	Statement that lamb is the least popular red meat in the UK	The Applicant notes the comment but does not consider it relevant to the Proposed Development.	N
355	S47	Concern regarding loss of arable land	The Applicant understands that there are concerns regarding the loss of agricultural land locally and nationwide, however only 0.06% of land in the UK is currently occupied by solar and if the UK had a 70GW solar output this would only occupy 0.4% of land nationally. Solar farms are specifically designed to be dual purpose	N

			and allow for the generation of clean electricity alongside agricultural purposes such as sheep grazing. Typically, a solar farm uses approximately just 5% of the total ground area of a site, meaning a significant proportion of land is left available for uses such as sheep grazing and habitat re-wilding. The impact on agricultural land use as a result of the Proposed Development is fully assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 15 - Land Use and Agriculture [EN010163/APP/6.2.15].**	
356	S47	Statement that the use of the land is contrary to government guidelines	The Proposed Development can still be used for grazing and can support continued food production. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's food security or increase the risk/need for the importation of food. Indeed, the reverse is true: the solar industry is working closely with Britain's farmers to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground underneath to recover, while providing income for the farming business. Solar farms also help regenerate soil quality and so are helping to ensure the continued availability of high-quality agricultural acreage for future generations. Government guidance seeks to direct development away from the highest grades of land but	N

			there is no prohibition to the use of agricultural land for development.	
357	S47	Statement the land should be used for food production	The Proposed Development can still be used for grazing and can support continued food production. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's food security or increase the risk/need for the importation of food. Indeed, the reverse is true: the solar industry is working closely with Britain's farmers to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground underneath to recover, while providing income for the farming business. Solar farms also help regenerate soil quality and so are helping to ensure the continued availability of high-quality agricultural acreage for future generations. Government guidance seeks to direct development away from the highest grades of land but there is no prohibition to the use of agricultural land for development.	N

358	S47	Concern regarding the future of livestock on the land	Options for graziers will be explored locally to provide sheep for grazing. Where sheep are not available, grassland management at the Proposed Development can be undertaken by mowing. The stocking density of sheep any one plot will be controlled to prevent overgrazing or poaching of the land. More details of the proposed grassland management and monitoring is included in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 7.14, Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.7]**	N
359	S47	Concern regarding the loss of agricultural land	The Applicant understands that there are concerns regarding the loss of agricultural land locally and nationwide, however only 0.06% of land in the UK is currently occupied by solar and if the UK had a 70GW solar output this would only occupy 0.4% of land nationally. Solar farms are specifically designed to be dual purpose and allow for the generation of clean electricity alongside agricultural purposes such as sheep grazing. Typically, a solar farm uses approximately just 5% of the total ground area of a site, meaning a significant proportion of land is left available for uses such as sheep grazing and habitat re-wilding. The impact on agricultural land use as a result of the Proposed Development is fully assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 15 - Land Use and Agriculture [EN010163/APP/6.2.15].**	N

360	S47	Statement that BMV land should not be used	The land quality is assessed and reported in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 15 - Land Use and Agriculture [EN010163/APP/6.2.15].** It includes land of BMV quality but there is no policy prohibition regarding the use of BMV land for such uses. The Applicant recognises that there are concerns regarding the loss of and use of agricultural land. The Proposed Development is reversible and there will be no significant loss of the resource.	N
361	S47	Statement that they hope bridleways will remain open for horse riding	The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW, including bridleways. The Applicant will provide two significant permissive paths within the Proposed Development. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** is submitted with the DCO application. This includes a Public Right of Way Management Plan to identify and minimise potential areas of conflict to PRoW routes affected by the Proposed Development. It will be implemented during the construction phase and throughout the operational phase. PRoWs may require temporary alteration during construction but will remain unchanged during operation.	N
362	S47	Statement that the land should be classified as farming land	The current classification of land use in planning terms is agricultural. The Proposed Development can still be used for grazing and can support continued food production. It is noted that the use of agricultural land for the deployment of solar is required to meet the targets. The	N

			UK's production of food has remained stable in recent years, and we are largely self-sufficient in the staple crops that we can grow such as cereals. The need for increased renewable energy and increased areas for biodiversity and other uses places a challenge on balancing the use of land. There is no food production concern in law or policy, and this will need to be balanced with the recognised need for and benefits of renewable energy.	
363	S47	Concern regarding loss of grazing land	There will be an increase in availability of land for grazing sheep. More details of the proposed grassland management and monitoring is included in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 7.14, Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.7]**	N
364	S47	Concern regarding loss of grazing land for sheep	There will be an increase in availability of land for grazing sheep. More details of the proposed grassland management and monitoring is included in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 7.14, Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.7].**	N
365	S47	Concern regarding loss of grazing land for cattle	There will be an increase in availability of land for grazing sheep. Cattle grazing will not be possible under and around the panels. More details of the proposed grassland management and monitoring is included in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 7.14, Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.7].**	N

366	S47	General opposition to sheep farming	The Applicant notes the comment but states that the Proposed Development can still be used for grazing and can support continued food production. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's food security or increase the risk/need for the importation of food. Indeed, the reverse is true: the solar industry is working closely with Britain's farmers to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground underneath to recover, while providing income for the farming business. Solar farms also help regenerate soil quality and so are helping to ensure the continued availability of high-quality agricultural acreage for future generations.	N
367	S47	Statement that more emphasis should be places on the findings of an independent LQA	**ES Volume 1, Chapter 15 - Land Use and Agriculture [EN010163/APP/6.2.15]** reports on the condition of the land and is supported by **ES Volume 2, Appendix 15.1 - Agricultural Land Classification Report [EN010163/APP/6.3.15]**.	N
LEDS				
368	S47	Statement that LEDs will not be honoured/Concern that LEDS will not actually be offered	The Applicant has been successfully operating its innovative Local Electricity Discount Scheme (LEDS) since its launch in 2013 and currently provides LEDS to 36 wind	N

			farms/solar farms/battery storage facilities for over 10,000 eligible properties across the UK for a range of clients. As part of the statutory consultation for the Proposed Development, the Applicant sought input on how people would best like the community benefits package to be delivered, which could include LEDS, if the Proposed Development is granted development consent. The Applicant has committed to deliver a tailored community benefits package of £320,000 a year, equating to approximately £13 million over its 40-year lifetime. To show how LEDS at the Proposed Development could be delivered (if the full amount of available funding was allocated to the scheme), the Applicant presented an indicative scenario on page 29 of the consultation brochure, and invited feedback regarding the proposed eligible area and discount per property. While the majority of respondents to the statutory consultation have expressed interest in LEDS forming part of the community benefits package, the final LEDS discount per property, and extent of the eligible area, will be subject to the installed capacity of the final constructed project, and whether the full amount of annual community benefit funding is put towards LEDS or only a proportion of it. The Applicant remains open to suggestions from the local community on how best to utilise the community benefit	

			funding that would become available once the Proposed Development is operational and will consult community representatives before finalising the tailored package of benefits if the Proposed Development is granted development consent. It is common across the industry for projects to change hands over their operational lifetime. Planning consent is connected to the land not the developer, therefore, all DCO requirements must be followed by any new owner to ensure that the project is operated and maintained to the agreed standard, including decommissioning. While not a formal planning requirement, any community benefit agreement entered into will also be transferred to future owners.	
369	S47	Statement that discounts will not help farmers	The Local Electricity Discount Scheme (LEDS) is a benefit proposed by the Applicant that provides direct discounts on electricity bills for eligible properties near participating renewable energy projects. For the Proposed Development, LEDS offers a minimum annual discount of £350 as part of a community benefits package worth £320,000 per year, totalling approximately £13 million over the project's 40-year lifespan. The final LEDS discount per property, and extent of the eligible area, will be subject to the installed capacity of the final constructed project, and whether the full amount of annual community benefit funding is put towards LEDS or	N

			only a proportion of it. Therefore, the final confirmed detail of the scheme will become available if the Proposed Development is granted development consent. LEDS has been purposefully designed to be inclusive, with a simple methodology based on a set distance that is easy to understand. The qualifying properties within the eligible area would be contacted at the relevant time and offered the opportunity to apply for the annual discount. Information on LEDS terms and conditions will be included in this communication. By taking an open, transparent and robust approach, LEDS payments are made directly to the electricity supplier of eligible properties, ensuring the benefit is used for its intended purpose. Vouchers can also be provided to ensure residents on prepayment meters can benefit too. While the majority of respondents to the statutory consultation have expressed interest in LEDS forming part of the community benefits package, the Applicant remains open to suggestions from the local community on how best to utilise the community benefit funding that would become available once the Proposed Development is operational and will consult community representatives before finalising the tailored package of benefits.	

370	S47	Statement that the LEDs is government bribe	It is important to note that community benefits, which include LEDS, are a voluntary contribution and are not a material planning consideration. To be material, a matter must relate to the "purposes of planning". Therefore, any local and/or community benefit delivered by the Proposed Development will not influence the recommendation of the Planning Inspectorate or the decision of the Secretary of State regarding consent for the project. Further, any support expressed for community benefit will be considered separately to views on the planning application. The Applicant firmly believes that its renewable energy projects should also provide meaningful benefits locally, and engaging with the Applicant on community benefits would not prevent someone from objecting to the proposal.	N
371	S47	Statement that the Proposed Development will have no community benefits	The Applicant is committed to delivering meaningful, long-term economic, social, and environmental benefits that align with the priorities of the community. During the early informal consultation in 2023, the Applicant invited feedback on the types of projects and initiatives the community would like to see supported as part of a tailored community benefits package if the Proposed Development was consented. However, limited suggestions were received. As a result, the Applicant decided to present more detailed proposals for LEDS during the statutory consultation while	N

			continuing to encourage the community to share ideas on how best to utilise the community benefit funding once the Proposed Development becomes operational. The Applicant has committed to deliver a tailored community benefits package of £320,000 a year, equating to approximately £13 million over the Proposed Development's 40-year lifetime.	
372	S47	Statement that the proposed LEDs is insufficient	The feedback the Applicant received during the early informal consultation included concern about whether LEDS would offer a real benefit to the local community. As part of the subsequent statutory consultation, the Applicant presented an indicative scenario on page 29 of the consultation brochure to show how LEDS at the Proposed Development could be delivered, if the full amount of available funding was allocated to the scheme. In the feedback form the following question was asked to invite feedback regarding the proposed eligible area and discount per property: *Q8b. If you think LEDS is a good use of the community benefits package, do you agree with the proposed 1km eligible area which would provide a minimum annual discount of £350 per property?* *Yes*	N

			No – I think the eligible area should be increased (this would mean the amount per property would decrease) *No – I think the eligible area should be decreased (this would mean the amount per property would increase)* While the majority of respondents to the statutory consultation have expressed interest in LEDS forming part of the community benefits package, the final LEDS discount per property, and extent of the eligible area, will be subject to the installed capacity of the final constructed project, and whether the full amount of annual community benefit funding is put towards LEDS or only a proportion of it. The Applicant remains open to suggestions from the local community on how best to utilise the community benefit funding that would become available once the Proposed Development is operational and will consult community representatives before finalising the tailored package of benefits if the Proposed Development is granted development consent.	
373	S47	Statement that financial incentives are not worth the negative impact/ Statement that no benefits will compensate for increased security concerns /Statement that the long-term impact outweighs the incentives	It is important to note that community benefits, which include LEDS, are a voluntary contribution and are not a material planning consideration, nor should be seen as compensation for subjective matters. To be material, a matter must relate to the "purposes of planning". Therefore, any local and/or community benefit	

			delivered by the Proposed Development will not influence the recommendation of the Planning Inspectorate or the decision of the Secretary of State regarding consent for the project. Further, any support expressed for community benefit will be considered separately to views on the planning application. The Applicant firmly believes that its renewable energy projects should also provide meaningful benefits locally, and engaging with the Applicant on community benefits would not prevent someone from objecting to the proposal.	
374	S47	General support for LEDs benefit	The Applicant is pleased that sharing information on LEDS has been received well by some of the community.	N
375	S47	Statement that no amount of LEDS could increase support/Statement that CBF is irrelevant as the Proposed Development should be scrapped/Suggestion that the Proposed Development not being brought forward would be preferable to benefits/Statement that damage done by the Proposed Development can not be compensated	The Applicant acknowledges that there have been a range of views expressed with some in general opposition to the Proposed Development. It is important to note that community benefits, which include LEDS, are a voluntary contribution and are not a material planning consideration. the planning balance in the **Planning Statement [EN010163/APP/7.1]** considers the benefits of the scheme against its impacts. To be material, a matter must relate to the "purposes of planning". Therefore, any local and/or community benefit delivered by the Proposed Development will not influence the recommendation of the Planning Inspectorate or the decision of the Secretary of State regarding consent for the project. Further, any support expressed for community	N

			benefit will be considered separately to views on the planning application. The Applicant firmly believes that its renewable energy projects should also provide meaningful benefits locally, and engaging with the Applicant on community benefits would not prevent someone from objecting to the proposal.	
376	S47	Statement that they would like more details about LEDs	The Local Electricity Discount Scheme (LEDS) is a benefit proposed by the Applicant that provides direct discounts on electricity bills for eligible properties near participating renewable energy projects. For the Proposed Development, LEDS offers a minimum annual discount of £350 as part of a community benefits package worth £320,000 per year, totalling approximately £13 million over the project's 40-year lifespan. The final LEDS discount per property, and extent of the eligible area, will be subject to the installed capacity of the final constructed project, and whether the full amount of annual community benefit funding is put towards LEDS or only a proportion of it. Therefore, the final confirmed detail of the scheme will become available if the Proposed Development is granted development consent. LEDS has been purposefully designed to be inclusive, with a simple methodology based on a set distance that is easy to understand. The qualifying properties within the eligible area would be contacted at the relevant time and offered the opportunity to apply for the annual discount.	N

			Information on LEDS terms and conditions will be included in this communication. By taking an open, transparent and robust approach, LEDS payments are made directly to the electricity supplier of eligible properties, ensuring the benefit is used for its intended purpose. Vouchers can also be provided to ensure residents on prepayment meters can benefit too. While the majority of respondents to the statutory consultation have expressed interest in LEDS forming part of the community benefits package, the Applicant remains open to suggestions from the local community on how best to utilise the community benefit funding that would become available once the Proposed Development is operational and will consult community representatives before finalising the tailored package of benefits.	
377	S47	Suggestion that each homeowner should receive cash compensation for inconveniences and loss of property value	The Applicant acknowledges the concerns raised in relation to changes in property values as a result of the Proposed Development. It is not considered that the Proposed Development would impact property value, and in any event the impact on house prices is not a material planning consideration in the determination of this application.	N

378	S47	General opposition to LEDs / Do not agree with LEDs	The Applicant notes this comment. While the majority of respondents to the statutory consultation have expressed interest in LEDS forming part of the community benefits package, the Applicant remains open to suggestions from the local community on how best to utilise the community benefit funding that would become available once the Proposed Development is operational, and will consult community representatives before finalising the tailored package of benefits.	N
379	S47	Statement that no amount of LEDS can buy back the countryside destroyed by the PD/Statement that there is no point in talking about community benefits when rural area is being destroyed	The Applicant acknowledges that there have been a range of views expressed with some in general opposition to the Proposed Development. However, it is important to note that community benefits, which include LEDS, are a voluntary contribution and are not a material planning consideration, nor should be seen as compensation for subjective matters. The Applicant firmly believes that its renewable energy projects should also provide meaningful benefits locally, and engaging with the Applicant on community benefits would not prevent someone from objecting to the proposal. As part of the DCO process the Applicant carried out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to assess the likely significant effects (both positive and negative) the Proposed Development could have on the environment and local area. **ES Volume 1, Chapters 6 through to Chapter 16 [EN010163/APP/6.2.6 - 6.2.16)** provide	N

			details of a wide range of topics and the respective findings.	
380	S47	Statement that LEDS will not compensate for reduction in house value	Queries are often raised in relation to the potential of solar farms to impact upon the value of house prices as there can be a perception that there must be a negative effect on house prices. Property value is subjective and can be affected by a range of factors. There is no firm evidence on whether solar farms do or do not affect house prices. There are residents close to other renewable energy projects, who enjoy having renewable energy projects close by and believe that they add value to their community. The Applicant acknowledges the concerns raised in relation to changes in property values as a result of the Proposed Development. It is not considered that the Proposed Development would impact property value. It is important to note that community benefits, which include LEDS, are a voluntary contribution and are not a material planning consideration, nor should be seen as compensation for subjective matters. The impact on house prices is not a material planning consideration in the determination of this application.	N

381	S47	Statement that it is unfair all eligible properties get the same LEDs amount	The Applicant believes that renewable energy projects should, where possible, provide direct, lasting benefits to local communities and there are a number of ways that this can be achieved. The Applicant seeks to be a power for good in the communities that neighbour its projects by working openly and constructively to ensure tangible local benefits. LEDS has been purposefully designed to be inclusive, and easy to understand. By using a set distance to determine eligibility, there is an open, transparent and simple methodology which can be clearly communicated. The qualifying area for LEDS at the Proposed Development will be calculated by taking a straight line distance (the set distance) from the edge of the built project and identifying all the properties located within this set distance. The set distance varies from project to project - reflective of location and size. As part of the statutory consultation, the Applicant presented an indicative scenario on page 29 of the consultation brochure to show how LEDS at the Proposed Development could be delivered, if the full amount of available funding was allocated to the scheme. LEDS is not linked to any particular supplier or tariff which also ensures fairness in approach. Special arrangements will be made for any qualifying properties using electricity pre-payment meters to provide energy credit vouchers or top-ups	N

			(as applicable). The final LEDS discount per property, and extent of the eligible area for the Proposed Development will be subject to the installed capacity of the final constructed project, and whether the full amount of annual community benefit funding is put towards LEDS or only a proportion of it. Therefore, the final confirmed detail of the scheme will become available if the Proposed Development is granted development consent. The qualifying properties within the eligible area will then be contacted at the relevant time and offered the opportunity to apply for the annual discount which would be paid directly to their electricity supplier.	
382	S47	Suggestion that free electricity should be considered for those most affected	The Applicant is a renewable energy developer, not an electricity supplier, and has no control over the price of electricity. However, the Applicant's unique Local Electricity Discount Scheme (LEDS) which has been operating successfully for over 10 years, was developed in response to research and feedback from local communities around the Applicant's operational wind farms, and seeks to deliver direct and tangible benefits to people living and working closest to participating renewable energy projects. After consulting local communities on their preferred choice of a community benefit fund, discounts on electricity bills came up as a top priority. LEDS has been purposefully designed to be inclusive with a	N

			simple methodology based on a set distance that is easy to understand. By taking an open, transparent and robust approach, LEDS payments are made directly to the electricity supplier of eligible properties, ensuring the benefit is used for its intended purpose. Vouchers can also be provided to ensure residents on prepayment meters can benefit too.	
383	S47	Statement that their property will be surrounded on 3 sides (Three Leys Lane) and properties 1km away will get the same amount	LEDS has been purposefully designed to be inclusive, and easy to understand. By using a set distance to determine eligibility, there is an open, transparent and simple methodology which can be clearly communicated. As part of the statutory consultation, the Applicant presented an indicative scenario on page 29 of the consultation brochure to show how LEDS at the Proposed Development could be delivered, if the full amount of available funding was allocated to the scheme. In the feedback form the following question was asked to invite feedback regarding the proposed eligible area and discount per property: *Q8b. If you think LEDS is a good use of the community benefits package, do you agree with the proposed 1km eligible area which would provide a minimum annual discount of £350 per property?* *Yes* *No – I think the eligible area should be increased (this would mean the amount per property would decrease)* *No – I think the eligible area should be decreased (this would mean the amount per property would increase)*	N

			The final LEDS discount per property, and extent of the eligible area for the Proposed Development will be subject to the installed capacity of the final constructed project, and whether the full amount of annual community benefit funding is put towards LEDS or only a proportion of it. Therefore, the final confirmed detail of the scheme will become available if the Proposed Development is granted development consent.	
384	S47	Statement that LEDS wouldn't be supported even if it meant electricity was free	The Applicant notes this comment however it is important to note that community benefits, which include LEDS, are a voluntary contribution and are not a material planning consideration, nor should be seen as compensation for subjective matters. The Applicant firmly believes that its renewable energy projects should also provide meaningful benefits locally, and engaging with the Applicant on community benefits would not prevent someone from objecting to the proposal. While the majority of respondents to the statutory consultation have expressed interest in LEDS forming part of the community benefits package, the Applicant remains open to suggestions from the local community on how best to utilise the community benefit funding that would become available once the Proposed Development is operational, and will consult community representatives before finalising the tailored package of benefits.	N

385	S47	Statement that LEDS discount could help compensate for the rise in food costs	While the majority of respondents to the statutory consultation have expressed interest in LEDS forming part of the community benefits package, the Applicant remains open to suggestions from the local community on how best to utilise the community benefit funding that would become available once the Proposed Development is operational and will consult community representatives before finalising the tailored package of benefits.	N
386	S47	Supportive of LEDS should the Proposed Development go ahead	The Applicant welcomes this comment.	N
387	S47	Suggestion that those affected by the Proposed Development should benefit	The Local Electricity Discount Scheme (LEDS) is a benefit proposed by the Applicant that provides direct discounts on electricity bills for eligible properties near participating renewable energy projects. For the Proposed Development, LEDS offers a minimum annual discount of £350 as part of a community benefits package worth £320,000 per year, totalling approximately £13 million over the project's 40-year lifespan. The final LEDS discount per property, and extent of the eligible area, will be subject to the installed capacity of the final constructed project, and whether the full amount of annual community benefit funding is put towards LEDS or only a proportion of it. Therefore, the final confirmed	N

			detail of the scheme will become available if the Proposed Development is granted development consent. LEDS has been purposefully designed to be inclusive, with a simple methodology based on a set distance that is easy to understand. The qualifying properties within the eligible area would be contacted at the relevant time and offered the opportunity to apply for the annual discount. Information on LEDS terms and conditions will be included in this communication. By taking an open, transparent and robust approach, LEDS payments are made directly to the electricity supplier of eligible properties, ensuring the benefit is used for its intended purpose. Vouchers can also be provided to ensure residents on prepayment meters can benefit too. While the majority of respondents to the statutory consultation have expressed interest in LEDS forming part of the community benefits package, the Applicant remains open to suggestions from the local community on how best to utilise the community benefit funding that would become available once the Proposed Development is operational, and will consult community representatives before finalising the tailored package of benefits.	

388	S47	Statement that they would rather pay full electricity bills rather than have the Proposed Development go ahead	The Applicant believes that renewable energy projects should, where possible, provide direct, lasting benefits to local communities and there are a number of ways that this can be achieved. The Applicant seeks to be a power for good in the communities that neighbour its projects by working openly and constructively to ensure tangible local benefits. The Applicant's unique Local Electricity Discount Scheme (LEDS) which has been operating successfully for over 10 years, was developed in response to research and feedback from local communities around the Applicant's operational wind farms, and seeks to deliver direct and tangible benefits to people living and working closest to participating renewable energy projects. After consulting local communities on their preferred choice of a community benefit fund, discounts on electricity bills came up as a top priority, hence the scheme was established in 2013. LEDS has been purposefully designed to be inclusive, with a simple methodology based on a set distance that is easy to understand. By taking an open, transparent and robust approach, LEDS payments are made directly to the electricity supplier of eligible properties, ensuring the benefit is used for its intended purpose. Vouchers can also	NN

			be provided to ensure residents on prepayment meters can benefit too. The final LEDS discount per property, and extent of the eligible area for the Proposed Development will be subject to the installed capacity of the final constructed project, and whether the full amount of annual community benefit funding is put towards LEDS or only a proportion of it. Therefore, the final confirmed detail of the scheme will become available if the Proposed Development is granted development consent. While the majority of respondents to the statutory consultation have expressed interest in LEDS forming part of the community benefits package, the Applicant remains open to suggestions from the local community on how best to utilise the community benefit funding that would become available once the Proposed Development is operational and will consult community representatives before finalising the tailored package of benefits. It is important to note that community benefits, which include LEDS, are a voluntary contribution and are not a material planning consideration, nor should be seen as compensation for subjective matters.	

389	S47	Suggestion LEDS is just to appease the community	It is important to note that community benefits, which include LEDS, are a voluntary contribution and are not a material planning consideration. To be material, a matter must relate to the "purposes of planning". Therefore, any local and/or community benefit delivered by the Proposed Development will not influence the recommendation of the Planning Inspectorate or the decision of the Secretary of State regarding consent for the project. Further, any support expressed for community benefit will be considered separately to views on the planning application. The Applicant firmly believes that its renewable energy projects should also provide meaningful benefits locally, and engaging with the Applicant on community benefits would not prevent someone from objecting to the proposal.	NN
390	S47	Statement that they are not interested in LEDs/benefits	The Applicant notes this comment however it is important to note that community benefits, which include LEDS, are a voluntary contribution and are not a material planning consideration, nor should be seen as compensation for subjective matters. The Applicant firmly believes that its renewable energy projects should also provide meaningful benefits locally, and engaging with the Applicant on community benefits would not prevent someone from objecting to the proposal.	N

			While the majority of respondents to the statutory consultation have expressed interest in LEDS forming part of the community benefits package, the Applicant remains open to suggestions from the local community on how best to utilise the community benefit funding that would become available once the Proposed Development is operational and will consult community representatives before finalising the tailored package of benefits.	
391	S47	LEDS should only benefit those most directly impacted by the proposals/Most affected villages should be compensated the most	LEDS has been purposefully designed to be inclusive, with a simple methodology based on a set distance that is easy to understand. The qualifying properties within the eligible area would be contacted at the relevant time and offered the opportunity to apply for the annual discount. Information on LEDS terms and conditions will be included in this communication. By taking an open, transparent and robust approach, LEDS payments are made directly to the electricity supplier of eligible properties, ensuring the benefit is used for its intended purpose. Vouchers can also be provided to ensure residents on prepayment meters can benefit too. While the majority of respondents to the statutory consultation have expressed interest in LEDS forming part of the community benefits package, the Applicant remains open to suggestions from the local community on how best to utilise the community benefit funding that would become available once the Proposed Development is	N

			operational, and will consult community representatives before finalising the tailored package of benefits.	
392	S47	Statement that the LEDs is t bribe/blackmail	It is important to note that community benefits, which include LEDS, are a voluntary contribution and are not a material planning consideration. To be material, a matter must relate to the "purposes of planning". Therefore, any local and/or community benefit delivered by the Proposed Development will not influence the recommendation of the Planning Inspectorate or the decision of the Secretary of State regarding consent for the project. Further, any support expressed for community benefit will be considered separately to views on the planning application. The Applicant firmly believes that its renewable energy projects should also provide meaningful benefits locally, and engaging with the Applicant on community benefits would not prevent someone from objecting to the proposal.	N
393	S47	Statement that LEDS won't compensate for the impact of the Proposed Development /Statement that the £350 discount is offers little compensation for what will be lost/Statement that no benefits will compensate for the loss of green space/Statement that no benefits will compensate for	The Applicant acknowledges that there have been a range of views expressed with some in general opposition to the Proposed Development. The Applicant notes these comments however it is important to note that community benefits, which include LEDS, are a voluntary contribution and are not a material planning	N

		disruption/Statement that no benefits are likely to change people's minds	consideration, nor should be seen as compensation for subjective matters. The Applicant firmly believes that its renewable energy projects should also provide meaningful benefits locally, and engaging with the Applicant on community benefits would not prevent someone from objecting to the proposal. While the majority of respondents to the statutory consultation have expressed interest in LEDS forming part of the community benefits package, the Applicant remains open to suggestions from the local community on how best to utilise the community benefit funding that would become available once the Proposed Development is operational, and will consult community representatives before finalising the tailored package of benefits.	
394	S47	Statement that LEDs scheme is an insult	Community benefits, which include LEDS, are a voluntary contribution and are not a material planning consideration, nor should be seen as compensation for subjective matters. The Applicant firmly believes that its renewable energy projects should also provide meaningful benefits locally, and engaging with the Applicant on community benefits would not prevent someone from objecting to the proposal. While the majority of respondents to the statutory consultation have expressed interest in LEDS forming part of the community benefits package, the Applicant remains open to suggestions from the local community on how best to utilise the community benefit funding that would become	N

			available once the Proposed Development is operational, and will consult community representatives before finalising the tailored package of benefits.	
395	S47	Statement that the long-term impact outweighs the incentives	The Applicant notes this comment however it is important to note that community benefits, which include LEDS, are a voluntary contribution and are not a material planning consideration, nor should be seen as compensation for subjective matters. The Applicant firmly believes that its renewable energy projects should also provide meaningful benefits locally, and engaging with the Applicant on community benefits would not prevent someone from objecting to the proposal. While the majority of respondents to the statutory consultation have expressed interest in LEDS forming part of the community benefits package, the Applicant remains open to suggestions from the local community on how best to utilise the community benefit funding that would become available once the Proposed Development is operational, and will consult community representatives before finalising the tailored package of benefits. As part of the DCO process the Applicant carried out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to assess the likely significant effects (both positive and negative) the Proposed	N

			Development could have on the environment and local area. **ES Volume 1, Chapters 6-16** provide details of a wide range of topics and the respective findings.	
396	S47	Statement that other projects that benefit the community should be considered	The Applicant believes that renewable energy projects should, where possible, provide direct, lasting benefits to local communities and there are a number of ways that this can be achieved. If consented, the Proposed Development would deliver a tailored community benefits package of £320,000 a year, equating to approximately £13 million over its 40-year lifetime. As part of the statutory consultation, the Applicant sought feedback on how people would best like community benefits to be delivered by the Proposed Development once it's operational. This approach helps to tailor a package of benefits that is aligned with the local communities' priorities, and could for instance, provided funding for projects that sit outside the parameters of a traditional, application-based fund. Some examples of other benefits from other communities that we've worked with include: - business start-up initiatives - road safety initiatives	N

			- apprenticeships/educational schemes - improvements to village halls - improved broadband provision - improvements to local footpaths and/or signage While the majority of respondents to the statutory consultation have expressed interest in LEDS forming part of the community benefits package, the final LEDS discount per property, and extent of the eligible area, will be subject to the installed capacity of the final constructed project, and whether the full amount of annual community benefit funding is put towards LEDS or only a proportion of it. The Applicant remains open to suggestions from the local community on how best to utilise the community benefit funding that would become available once the Proposed Development is operational, and will consult community representatives before finalising the tailored package of benefits if the Proposed Development is granted development consent.	
397	S47	Statement that the landowner should contribute more to the CBF	The Applicant notes this comment. The Applicant has entered into an agreement with the landowner(s) to lease the land required for the proposal. Any local/community benefit delivered by the Proposed Development would be a voluntary contribution from the Applicant as the developer of the Proposed Development.	N

398	S47	LEDS should provide free electricity for life/LEDS pot should be bigger/Statement that LEDS should provide free electricity for life	The Applicant is unable to offer free electricity, however, its unique Local Electricity Discount Scheme (LEDS) which has been operating successfully for over 10 years, was developed in response to research and feedback from local communities around the Applicant's operational wind farms, as a means to lower consumer bills for people living and working closest to participating renewable energy projects. After consulting local communities on their preferred choice of a community benefit fund, discounts on electricity bills came up as a top priority. Community benefits are voluntary arrangements offered by renewable energy businesses to communities located near developments. The amount of community benefit funding available can differ from project to project, developer to developer, based on the respective project economics. If consented, and once fully operational, the Proposed Development would deliver a tailored community benefits package of £320,000 a year, equating to approximately £13 million over its 40-year operational lifetime. The annual £320,000 is based on the minimum 400MW of installed - or nameplate - capacity for the solar element of the Proposed Development; if the installed capacity of the solar element of the project increases, so will the available community benefit pot. The final LEDS discount per property, and extent of the eligible area, will be subject to the installed capacity of the	N

			final constructed project, and whether the full amount of annual community benefit funding is put towards LEDS or only a proportion of it. Therefore, the final confirmed detail of the scheme will become available if the Proposed Development is granted development consent. LEDS has been purposefully designed to be inclusive, with a simple methodology based on a set distance that is easy to understand. The qualifying properties within the eligible area would be contacted at the relevant time and offered the opportunity to apply for the annual discount. Information on LEDS terms and conditions will be included in this communication. By taking an open, transparent and robust approach, LEDS payments are made directly to the electricity supplier of eligible properties, ensuring the benefit is used for its intended purpose. Vouchers can also be provided to ensure residents on prepayment meters can benefit too.	
399	S47	Statement that LEDS payment should not be conditional on project productivity	While the annual £320,000 is based on the minimum 400MW of installed - or nameplate - capacity for the solar element of the Proposed Development, it is not conditional on how much electricity the project generates in any given period. It follows that if the installed capacity of the solar element of the project increases, so will the available community benefit pot, however for the avoidance of doubt, the final annual amount of community benefit funding will only ever increase in line with index-linking.	N

400	S47	Statement that companies make it hard for people to claim the LEDS discount	The Applicant seeks to be a power for good in the communities that neighbour its projects by working openly and constructively to ensure tangible local benefits. LEDS has been purposefully designed to be inclusive, and easy to understand. By using a set distance to determine eligibility, there is an open, transparent and simple methodology which can be clearly communicated. The Proposed Development would be open to all residential, business and community buildings with an electricity meter (including schools, places of worship and village halls) within the defined eligible area. Qualifying properties within the eligible area would be written to directly at the relevant time and offered the opportunity to apply for the annual discount using the Unique Reference Code they are provided, either online, by post or over the phone. While LEDS is paid directly to the electricity supplier, it is not linked to any particular supplier or tariff. Qualifying properties simply need to contact the LEDS team to update their details at the relevant time. Special arrangements will be made for any qualifying properties using electricity pre-payment meters to provide energy credit vouchers or top-ups (as applicable).	N
401	S47	Statement that Q8a was a trick question	The Applicant notes this comment. The feedback the Applicant received during the early informal consultation included concerns about whether LEDS would offer a real benefit to the local community. As part of the subsequent statutory consultation, the Applicant presented	N

			an indicative scenario on page 29 of the consultation brochure to show how LEDS at the Proposed Development could be delivered, if the full amount of available funding was allocated to the scheme. The purpose of Question 8a in the statutory consultation feedback form was therefore to invite feedback on whether other forms of benefit should be considered alongside LEDS if it was delivered. The Applicant has made it clear within the consultation materials its commitment to working directly with the communities that host its renewable energy projects to understand how they can best support the local area and help to secure meaningful and long-term economic, social and environmental benefits. This approach helps to tailor a package of benefits that is aligned with the local communities' priorities, and could for instance, provided funding for projects that sit outside the parameters of a traditional, application-based fund.	
402	S47	Statement that LEDS should go beyond 1km	As part of the statutory consultation, the Applicant presented an indicative scenario on page 29 of the consultation brochure to show how LEDS at the Proposed Development could be delivered, if the full amount of available funding was allocated to the scheme. In the feedback form the following question was asked to invite feedback regarding the proposed eligible area and discount per property: *Q8b. If you think LEDS is a good use of the community benefits package, do you agree with the proposed 1km eligible area which would provide a minimum annual discount*	N

			of £350 per property? *Yes* *No – I think the eligible area should be increased (this would mean the amount per property would decrease)* *No – I think the eligible area should be decreased (this would mean the amount per property would increase)* While the majority of respondents to the statutory consultation have expressed interest in LEDS forming part of the community benefits package, the Applicant remains open to suggestions from the local community on how best to utilise the community benefit funding that will become available, and will consult community representatives before finalising the tailored package of benefits. The final LEDS discount per property, and extent of the eligible area for the Proposed Development will be subject to the installed capacity of the final constructed project, and whether the full amount of annual community benefit funding is put towards LEDS or only a proportion of it. Therefore, the final confirmed detail of the scheme will become available if the Proposed Development is granted development consent.	
403	S47	Suggestion that money available from LEDS should be spent on permanent community/village benefits/ Suggestion to make lasting benefits on the ground	The Applicant believes that renewable energy projects should, where possible, provide direct, lasting benefits to local communities and there are a number of ways that this can be achieved. If consented, the Proposed Development would deliver a	N

			tailored community benefits package of £320,000 a year, equating to approximately £13 million over its 40-year lifetime. As part of the statutory consultation, the Applicant sought feedback on how people would best like community benefits to be delivered by the Proposed Development once it's operational. This approach helps to tailor a package of benefits that is aligned with the local communities' priorities, and could for instance, provided funding for projects that sit outside the parameters of a traditional, application-based fund. Some examples of other benefits from other communities that we've worked with include: - business start-up initiatives - road safety initiatives - apprenticeships/educational schemes - improvements to village halls - improved broadband provision - improvements to local footpaths and/or signage While the majority of respondents to the statutory consultation have expressed interest in LEDS forming part of the community benefits package, the final LEDS discount per property, and extent of the eligible area, will be subject to the installed capacity of the final constructed project, and whether the full amount of annual community benefit funding is put towards LEDS or only a proportion of it.	

			The Applicant remains open to suggestions from the local community on how best to utilise the community benefit funding that would become available once the Proposed Development is operational, and will consult community representatives before finalising the tailored package of benefits if the Proposed Development is granted development consent.	
404	S47	Suggestion that LEDs should be allocated on a sliding scale based on distance/Statement that LEDs should be proportional to the distance	The Applicant seeks to be a power for good in the communities that neighbour its projects by working openly and constructively to ensure tangible local benefits. Community benefits are offered on a voluntary basis and often represent a positive relationship between renewable energy businesses and communities. They should not be seen as compensation for subjective matters. LEDS has been purposefully designed to be inclusive, and easy to understand. By using a set distance to determine eligibility, there is an open, transparent and simple methodology which can be clearly communicated. The scheme would be open to all residential, business and community buildings with an electricity meter (including schools, places of worship and village halls) within the defined eligible area - with every property eligible to receive the same amount.	N

			The feedback the Applicant received during the early informal consultation included concern about whether LEDS would offer a real benefit to the local community. As part of the subsequent statutory consultation, the Applicant presented an indicative scenario on page 29 of the consultation brochure to show how LEDS at the Proposed Development could be delivered, if the full amount of available funding was allocated to the scheme. The purpose of Question 8b in the statutory consultation feedback form was to seek views on the extent of the eligible area for LEDS (and therefore amount per property) if it is delivered as part of the tailored community benefits package.	
405	S47	Statement that bills are already high because of the government supporting green initiatives	Solar projects like the Proposed Development are not just good for the environment but also for the consumer as they contribute to net zero carbon emission targets, enable more energy to be generated domestically improving security of supply, and are the cheapest form of new electricity generation, alongside other renewable technologies. The Applicant's unique Local Electricity Discount Scheme (LEDS) which has been operating successfully for over 10 years, was developed in response to research and feedback from local communities around the Applicant's operational wind farms, as a means to lower consumer bills for people living and working closest to participating renewable energy projects. After consulting local communities on their	N

			preferred choice of a community benefit fund, discounts on electricity bills came up as a top priority.	
406	S47	Statement that LEDS should not be delivered because the project will not be consented	Community benefits, which include LEDS, are a voluntary contribution and are not a material planning consideration, nor should be seen as compensation for subjective matters. The Applicant firmly believes that its renewable energy projects should also provide meaningful benefits locally, and engaging with the Applicant on community benefits would not prevent someone from objecting to the proposal.	N
407	S47	Statement that most people would prefer to pay to not have the PD	Community benefits, which include LEDS, are a voluntary contribution and are not a material planning consideration, nor should be seen as compensation for subjective matters. The Applicant firmly believes that its renewable energy projects should also provide meaningful benefits locally, and engaging with the Applicant on community benefits would not prevent someone from objecting to the proposal. The Applicant notes the majority of respondents to the statutory consultation have expressed interest in LEDS forming part of the community benefits package.	N

408	S47	LEDS amount is not comparable to RES' profits from the PD	Community benefits are voluntary arrangements offered by renewable energy businesses to communities located near developments. The amount of community benefit funding available can differ from project to project, developer to developer, based on the respective project economics. If consented, and once fully operational, the Proposed Development would deliver a tailored community benefits package of £320,000 a year, equating to approximately £13 million over its 40-year operational lifetime. The annual £320,000 is based on the minimum 400MW of installed - or nameplate - capacity for the solar element of the Proposed Development; if the installed capacity of the solar element of the project increases, so will the available community benefit pot.	N
409	S47	Statement that LEDS is not specific enough	The feedback the Applicant received during the early informal consultation included concern about whether LEDS would offer a real benefit to the local community. As part of the subsequent statutory consultation, the Applicant presented an indicative scenario on page 29 of the consultation brochure to show how LEDS at the Proposed Development could be delivered, if the full amount of available funding was allocated to the scheme. The purpose of Question 8b in the statutory consultation feedback form was to seek views on the extent of the eligible area for LEDS (and therefore amount per property) if it is delivered as part of the tailored community benefits package. LEDS has been purposefully designed to be inclusive, and	N

			easy to understand. By using a set distance to determine eligibility, there is an open, transparent and simple methodology which can be clearly communicated. The scheme would be open to all residential, business and community buildings with an electricity meter (including schools, places of worship and village halls) within the defined eligible area - with every property eligible to receive the same amount. Qualifying properties within the eligible area would be written to directly at the relevant time and offered the opportunity to apply for the annual discount using the Unique Reference Code they are provided, either online, by post or over the phone. While LEDS is paid directly to the electricity supplier, it is not linked to any particular supplier or tariff. Qualifying properties simply need to contact the LEDS team to update their details at the relevant time. Special arrangements will be made for any qualifying properties using electricity pre-payment meters to provide energy credit vouchers or top-ups (as applicable). While the majority of respondents to the statutory consultation have expressed interest in LEDS forming part of the community benefits package, the final LEDS discount per property, and extent of the eligible area, will be subject to the installed capacity of the final constructed project, and whether the full amount of annual community benefit funding	

			is put towards LEDS or only a proportion of it. The Applicant remains open to suggestions from the local community on how best to utilise the community benefit funding that would become available once the Proposed Development is operational and will consult community representatives before finalising the tailored package of benefits if the Proposed Development is granted development consent.	
410	S47	Statement that those most affected should benefit more from LEDS	The Applicant believes that renewable energy projects should, where possible, provide direct, lasting benefits to local communities and there are a number of ways that this can be achieved. As part of the statutory consultation, the Applicant presented an indicative scenario on page 29 of the consultation brochure to show how LEDS at the Proposed Development could be delivered, if the full amount of available funding was allocated to the scheme. In the feedback form the following question was asked to invite feedback regarding the proposed eligible area and discount per property: *Q8b. If you think LEDS is a good use of the community benefits package, do you agree with the proposed 1km eligible* *area which would provide a minimum annual discount of £350 per property?* *Yes*	N

			No – I think the eligible area should be increased (this would mean the amount per property would decrease) *No – I think the eligible area should be decreased (this would mean the amount per property would increase)* While the majority of respondents to the statutory consultation have expressed interest in LEDS forming part of the community benefits package, the Applicant remains open to suggestions from the local community on how best to utilise the community benefit funding that will become available, and will consult community representatives before finalising the tailored package of benefits. The final LEDS discount per property, and extent of the eligible area for the Proposed Development will be subject to the installed capacity of the final constructed project, and whether the full amount of annual community benefit funding is put towards LEDS or only a proportion of it. Therefore, the final confirmed detail of the scheme will become available if the Proposed Development is granted development consent.	
411	S47	Statement that the Proposed Development will affect people more than 1km away	As part of the statutory consultation, the Applicant presented an indicative scenario on page 29 of the consultation brochure to show how LEDS at the Proposed Development could be delivered, if the full amount of available funding was allocated to the scheme. In the feedback form the following question was asked to invite feedback regarding the proposed eligible area and	N

			discount per property: Q8b. If you think LEDS is a good use of the community benefits package, do you agree with the proposed 1km eligible area which would provide a minimum annual discount of £350 per property? Yes No – I think the eligible area should be increased (this would mean the amount per property would decrease) No – I think the eligible area should be decreased (this would mean the amount per property would increase) While the majority of respondents to the statutory consultation have expressed interest in LEDS forming part of the community benefits package, the Applicant remains open to suggestions from the local community on how best to utilise the community benefit funding that will become available, and will consult community representatives before finalising the tailored package of benefits. The final LEDS discount per property, and extent of the eligible area for the Proposed Development will be subject to the installed capacity of the final constructed project, and whether the full amount of annual community benefit funding is put towards LEDS or only a proportion of it. Therefore, the final confirmed detail of the scheme will	

			become available if the Proposed Development is granted development consent.	
412	S47	Suggestion that LEDS should include all properties in North Leverton	The Applicant notes this comment. While the majority of respondents to the statutory consultation have expressed interest in LEDS forming part of the community benefits package, the final LEDS discount per property, and extent of the eligible area, will be subject to the installed capacity of the final constructed project, and whether the full amount of annual community benefit funding is put towards LEDS or only a proportion of it. The Applicant remains open to suggestions from the local community on how best to utilise the community benefit funding that would become available once the Proposed Development is operational and will consult community representatives before finalising the tailored package of benefits if the Proposed Development is granted development consent.	N
413	S47	Concern regarding residents of Littleborough not being offered LEDS discount	While the majority of respondents to the statutory consultation have expressed interest in LEDS forming part of the community benefits package, the final LEDS discount per property, and extent of the eligible area, will be subject to the installed capacity of the final constructed project, and whether the full amount of annual community benefit funding	N

			is put towards LEDS or only a proportion of it. The Applicant notes that the indicative LEDS scenario on page 29 of the consultation brochure includes some but not all of the few residences in Littleborough. This scenario was produced to show how LEDS at the Proposed Development could be delivered if the full amount of available funding was allocated to the scheme. The purpose of Question 8b in the statutory consultation feedback form was therefore to invite feedback on whether the indicative scenario presented was acceptable or whether an alternative scenario (i.e. more properties benefitting from a lesser discount or less properties benefitting from a larger discount) would be more favourable to the community. The Applicant remains open to suggestions from the local community on how best to utilise the community benefit funding that would become available once the Proposed Development is operational, and will consult community representatives before finalising the tailored package of benefits if the Proposed Development is granted development consent.	
414	S47	Statement that residents should be gifted solar panels/Suggestion to improve access with better surfaces/Suggestion to create educational areas in proximity to the site/ Statement that educational areas should be included/ Statement that recreational improvements should be incorporated in the design/	The Applicant believes that renewable energy projects should, where possible, provide direct, lasting benefits to local communities and there are a number of ways that this can be achieved. Ideas for use of the community benefit funding that would become available once the Proposed Development is operational are welcomed and the Applicant	Y

		Suggestion to create educational areas in proximity to the site/ Suggestion that nothing can benefit the community/Suggestion to provide new permanent tree planting/Suggestion to support local charities	will discuss these in more detail with community representatives if the Proposed Development is granted development consent, including what proportion of the annual community benefit funding is put towards LEDS if at all. The Applicant is committed to working directly with the communities that host its renewable energy projects to understand how they can best support the local area and help to secure meaningful and long-term economic, social and environmental benefits. This approach helps to tailor a package of benefits that is aligned with the local communities' priorities, and could for instance, provide funding for projects that sit outside the parameters of a traditional, application-based fund.	
415	S47	Statement that community should be able to share in financial profits	The Applicant notes this comment. While shared ownership is not something the Applicant is currently in a position to offer for the Proposed Development, they would be happy to explore potential shared ownership opportunities in the future.	N
416	S47	Statement that those closest to solar panels should receive a higher payment	As part of the statutory consultation, the Applicant presented an indicative scenario on page 29 of the consultation brochure to show how LEDS at the Proposed Development could be delivered, if the full amount of available funding was allocated to the scheme. In the feedback form the following question was asked to invite feedback regarding the proposed eligible area and discount per property:	N

			Q8b. If you think LEDS is a good use of the community benefits package, do you agree with the proposed 1km eligible area which would provide a minimum annual discount of £350 per property? *Yes* *No – I think the eligible area should be increased (this would mean the amount per property would decrease)* *No – I think the eligible area should be decreased (this would mean the amount per property would increase)* While the majority of respondents to the statutory consultation have expressed interest in LEDS forming part of the community benefits package, the Applicant remains open to suggestions from the local community on how best to utilise the community benefit funding that will become available, and will consult community representatives before finalising the tailored package of benefits. The final LEDS discount per property, and extent of the eligible area for the Proposed Development will be subject to the installed capacity of the final constructed project, and whether the full amount of annual community benefit funding is put towards LEDS or only a proportion of it. Therefore, the final confirmed detail of the scheme will become available if the Proposed Development is granted development consent.	

417	S47	Statement that money is not important in situation, integrity of the village is	The Applicant notes this comment however it is important to note that community benefits, which include LEDS, are a voluntary contribution and are not a material planning consideration, nor should be seen as compensation for subjective matters. The Applicant firmly believes that its renewable energy projects should also provide meaningful benefits locally, and engaging with the Applicant on community benefits would not prevent someone from objecting to the proposal.	N
418	S47	Statement that benefit should be index linked and reviewed annually	The tailored community benefits package of £320,000 a year will be index linked to take into account annual inflation. This will be specified in any community benefit fund agreement created, should the Proposed Development gain consent.	N
419	S47	Statement that discount on properties benefits residents	The Applicant welcomes this comment.	N
420	S47	Statement that only those living in the village should be compensated	The Applicant believes that renewable energy projects should, where possible, provide direct, lasting benefits to local communities and there are a number of ways that this can be achieved. While the majority of respondents to the statutory consultation have expressed interest in LEDS forming part of the community benefits package, the final LEDS discount per property, and extent of the eligible area, will be subject to the installed capacity of the final constructed project, and	N

			whether the full amount of annual community benefit funding is put towards LEDS or only a proportion of it. The Applicant remains open to suggestions from the local community on how best to utilise the community benefit funding that would become available once the Proposed Development is operational, and will consult community representatives before finalising the tailored package of benefits if the Proposed Development is granted development consent. Community benefits are offered on a voluntary basis and often represent a positive relationship between renewable energy businesses and communities. They should not be seen as compensation for subjective matters.	
421	S47	LEDS scheme should be used on affordable housing in the area for young	The Applicant notes this comment. The Applicant welcomes suggestions from the community on the distribution of the community benefit fund and all suggestions are welcomed and will be considered.	N
422	S47	Statement that Q8b is a meaningless question	The Applicant notes this comment. The feedback the Applicant received during the early informal consultation included concern about whether LEDS would offer a real benefit to the local community. As part of the subsequent statutory consultation, the Applicant presented an indicative scenario on page 29 of the consultation	N

			brochure to show how LEDS at the Proposed Development could be delivered, if the full amount of available funding was allocated to the scheme. The purpose of Question 8b in the statutory consultation feedback form was therefore to invite feedback on whether the indicative scenario presented was acceptable or whether an alternative scenario (i.e. more properties benefitting from a lesser discount or less properties benefitting from a larger discount) would be more favourable to the community. The final LEDS discount per property, and extent of the eligible area for the Proposed Development will be subject to the installed capacity of the final constructed project, and whether the full amount of annual community benefit funding is put towards LEDS or only a proportion of it. Therefore, the final confirmed detail of the scheme will become available if the Proposed Development is granted development consent.	
423	S47	Statement that any discount should be paid in cash not a discount on energy bills	The Applicant's unique Local Electricity Discount Scheme (LEDS) which has been operating successfully for over 10 years, was developed in response to research and feedback from local communities around the Applicant's operational wind farms, and seeks to deliver direct and tangible benefits to people living and working closest to participating renewable energy projects. After consulting local communities on their preferred choice of a community benefit fund, discounts on electricity bills came up as a top priority.	N

			LEDS has been purposefully designed to be inclusive, with a simple methodology based on a set distance that is easy to understand. By taking an open, transparent and robust approach, LEDS payments are made directly to the electricity supplier of eligible properties, ensuring the benefit is used for its intended purpose. Vouchers can also be provided to ensure residents on prepayment meters can benefit too. No LEDS payments will be made as direct cash payments to participants. In the rare situation where an electricity supplier is unable to accept a bank transfer payment by a third party, eligible parties would first need to switch to an electricity supplier who does accept the LEDS payment method to participate in the scheme.	
424	S47	LEDS should not be offered as the Proposed Development should not go ahead	Community benefits, which include LEDS, are a voluntary contribution and are not a material planning consideration, nor should be seen as compensation for subjective matters. The Applicant firmly believes that its renewable energy projects should also provide meaningful benefits locally, and engaging with the Applicant on community benefits would not prevent someone from objecting to the proposal.	N

425	S47	Statement that LEDs does not compensate for loss of property value /Statement that property prices will fall	Queries are often raised in relation to the potential of solar farms to impact upon the value of house prices as there can be a perception that there must be a negative effect on house prices. Property value is subjective and can be affected by a range of factors. There is no firm evidence on whether solar farms do or do not affect house prices. There are residents close to other renewable energy projects, who enjoy having renewable energy projects close by and believe that they add value to their community. The Applicant acknowledges the concerns raised in relation to changes in property values as a result of the Proposed Development. It is not considered that the Proposed Development would impact property value. Community benefits are offered on a voluntary basis and often represent a positive relationship between renewable energy businesses and communities. They should not be seen as compensation for subjective matters. The impact on house prices is not a material planning consideration in the determination of this application.	N
426	S47	Statement that landowners contributing more would lessen the bill for residents	The Applicant notes this comment. The Applicant has entered into an agreement with the landowner(s) to lease the land required for the proposal. Any local/community benefit delivered by the Proposed Development would be a voluntary contribution from the Applicant as the developer of the Proposed Development.	N

427	S47	Statement that landowners should be contributing more	The Applicant notes this comment. The Applicant has entered into an agreement with the landowner(s) to lease the land required for the proposal. Any local/community benefit delivered by the Proposed Development would be a voluntary contribution from the Applicant as the developer of the Proposed Development.	N
428	S47	Statement that solar farm will generate more money compared to the loss that each resident will incur	The Applicant acknowledges that there have been a range of views expressed with some in general opposition to the Proposed Development. The Applicant notes these comments however it is important to note that community benefits, which include LEDS, are a voluntary contribution and are not a material planning consideration, nor should be seen as compensation for subjective matters. The Applicant firmly believes that its renewable energy projects should also provide meaningful benefits locally, and engaging with the Applicant on community benefits would not prevent someone from objecting to the proposal. While the majority of respondents to the statutory consultation have expressed interest in LEDS forming part of the community benefits package, the Applicant remains open to suggestions from the local community on how best to utilise the community benefit funding that would become available once the Proposed Development is	N

			operational and will consult community representatives before finalising the tailored package of benefits.	
429	S47	Suggestion to give each household shares in the project or ownership of some of the panels	The Applicant notes this comment. While shared ownership is not something The Applicant is currently in a position to offer for the Proposed Development, they would be happy to explore potential shared ownership opportunities in the future.	
430	S47	Statement that any LEDS mitigation should be guaranteed no matter the rate of energy generation of the panels or who owns the site if its sold in future	The Applicant has committed to deliver a tailored community benefits package of £320,000 a year, equating to approximately £13 million over the Proposed Development's 40-year lifetime. This amount has been based on the project's economics, and the minimum 400MW of installed - or nameplate - capacity for the solar element of the Proposed Development; it is not conditional on how much electricity the project generates in any given period. Depending on the final installed capacity of the Proposed Development, the amount available in the first year post operation, will only increase in line with index-linking, As part of the statutory consultation, the Applicant sought input on how people would best like the community benefits package to be delivered, which could include LEDS, if the Proposed Development is granted development consent.	

			If LEDS forms part of the tailored community benefits package for the Proposed Development, the final LEDS discount per property, and extent of the eligible area, will be subject to the installed capacity of the final constructed project, and whether the full amount of annual community benefit funding is put towards LEDS or only a proportion of it. Therefore, the final confirmed detail of the scheme will become available if the Proposed Development is granted development consent. While the majority of respondents to the statutory consultation have expressed interest in LEDS forming part of the community benefits package, the Applicant remains open to suggestions from the local community on how best to utilise the community benefit funding that would become available once the Proposed Development is operational, and will consult community representatives before finalising the tailored package of benefits. It is common across the industry for projects to change hands over their operational lifetime. Planning consent is connected to the land not the developer, therefore, all conditions associated with the planning application must be followed by any new owner to ensure that the project is operated and maintained to the agreed standard, including decommissioning. While not a formal planning requirement, any community benefit agreement entered into will also be transferred to future owners.	

431	S47	Statement that scheme is not wanted	The Applicant acknowledges that there have been a range of views expressed with some in general opposition to the Proposed Development. The Applicant notes this comment however it is important to note that community benefits, which include LEDS, are a voluntary contribution and are not a material planning consideration, nor should be seen as compensation for subjective matters. The Applicant firmly believes that its renewable energy projects should also provide meaningful benefits locally, and engaging with the Applicant on community benefits would not prevent someone from objecting to the proposal. While the majority of respondents to the statutory consultation have expressed interest in LEDS forming part of the community benefits package, the Applicant remains open to suggestions from the local community on how best to utilise the community benefit funding that would become available once the Proposed Development is operational, and will consult community representatives before finalising the tailored package of benefits.	
432	S47	Statement that households should benefit should the Proposed Development go ahead	The Applicant believes that renewable energy projects should, where possible, provide direct, lasting benefits to local communities and there are a number of ways that this can be achieved. The Applicant seeks to be a power for good in the communities that neighbour its projects by working	

			openly and constructively to ensure tangible local benefits. The Applicant's unique Local Electricity Discount Scheme (LEDS) which has been operating successfully for over 10 years, was developed in response to research and feedback from local communities around the Applicant's operational wind farms and seeks to deliver direct and tangible benefits to people living and working closest to participating renewable energy projects. After consulting local communities on their preferred choice of a community benefit fund, discounts on electricity bills came up as a top priority, hence the scheme was established in 2013. LEDS has been purposefully designed to be inclusive, with a simple methodology based on a set distance that is easy to understand. By taking an open, transparent and robust approach, LEDS payments are made directly to the electricity supplier of eligible properties, ensuring the benefit is used for its intended purpose. Vouchers can also be provided to ensure residents on prepayment meters can benefit too.	
Cumulative Impacts				
433	S47	Concern regarding the cumulative impact	The cumulative impacts of the Proposed Development alongside other developments in close proximity to the Site have been fully assessed across all technical chapters	N

			scoped into the ES. Refer to **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6 through to Chapter 17 [EN010163/APP/6.2.6 - 6.2.17]** of the cumulative effects assessment. Significant cumulative residual effects are identified only for ecology and biodiversity, socio-economics and climate change. Significant beneficial effects are realised on employment and economic contribution as a result of the combined effect of the Proposed Development with other developments during the construction, operation and decommissioning phases. During the construction phase a significant adverse cumulative effect is identified for accommodation demand. This presents a worst case scenario should the other developments construction timeframes overlap, however, in reality this is unlikely and the significance level identified would be reduced. In regard to ecology and biodiversity, a local to district level significant adverse cumulative effects anticipated for breeding skylark birds. When considering cumulative effects with other renewable generation projects with the Proposed Development during the operational phase, there would be a beneficial cumulative effect on climate change through the contribution to the UK's legally binding emission reduction targets. A summary of the cumulative effects is identified within **Volume 1, Chapter 18: Summary [EN010163/APP/6.2.18].**	

434	S47	Concern that multiple projects in the area are uncoordinated	The Applicant notes the comment, however the Applicant has no control over other developers' timescales for submission of other developments. The Applicant has engaged with relevant developers cooperatively to explore opportunities to reduce potential cumulative impacts, where possible. The cumulative impacts of the Proposed Development alongside other developments in close proximity to the Site have been fully assessed across all technical chapters scoped into the ES. Refer to **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6 through to Chapter 17 [EN010163/APP/6.2.6 - 6.2.17]** of the cumulative effects assessment.	
435	S47	Concern regarding the cumulative impact with Cottam Solar Farm	The cumulative impacts of the Proposed Development alongside other developments in close proximity to the Site (including Cottam Solar Farm) have been fully assessed across all technical chapters (where relevant) scoped into the ES. Refer to **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6 through to Chapter 17 [EN010163/APP/6.2.6 - 6.2.17]** of the cumulative effects assessment.	N
436	S47	Concern regarding the cumulative impact with already approved solar projects/ Bumblebee Farm/ Wood Lane	The cumulative impacts of the Proposed Development alongside other developments in close proximity to the Site (including Land North West And South Of Field Farm, Wood Lane, Sturton Le Steeple- planning reference 20/00117/FUL and Land East of Bumble Bee Farm, Gainsborough Road, Saundby - planning reference 22/00358/FUL) have been fully assessed across all	

			technical chapters (where relevant) scoped into the ES. Refer to **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6 through to Chapter 17 [EN010163/APP/6.2.6 - 6.2.17]** of the cumulative effects assessment.	
437	S47	Concern regarding the cumulative impact with nuclear power station/Concern regarding the cumulative impact with West Burton Fusion/Concern regarding the cumulative impact with STEP	The Applicant notes there is an intention for a nuclear fusion development (STEP) at the former West Burton A Power Station site. The proposed STEP development will not be located within the Order Limits of the Proposed Development. As the STEP development does not have a design as yet, this project cannot be assessed in the cumulative effects assessment within the ES. However, any future application for that development will need to consider the cumulative impacts between STEP and the Proposed Development.	N
438	S47	Concern regarding the cumulative impact with Bole Ings	The cumulative impacts of the Proposed Development alongside other developments in close proximity to the Site (including Bole Ings Ash Disposal Site, West Burton Power Station, Nottinghamshire - planning reference 20/00117/FUL and Land East of Bumble Bee Farm, Gainsborough Road, Saundby - planning reference F/3581, and V/4079 (variation of conditions 11, 13, and 53 of planning permission 1/18/00234/CDM)) have been fully assessed across all technical chapters (where relevant) scoped into the ES. Refer to **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6**	N

			through to Chapter 17 [EN010163/APP/6.2.6 - 6.2.17] of the cumulative effects assessment.	
439	S47	Concern regarding the cumulative impact with National Grid overhead cables	The Applicant notes this comment. All cables associated with the Proposed Development will be underground, and no new overhead lines and associated poles will be required.	N
440	S47	Concern regarding the cumulative impact with West Burton C	The cumulative impacts of the Proposed Development alongside other developments in close proximity to the Site (including West Burton C - planning reference 22/01713/FUL) have been fully assessed across all technical chapters scoped into the ES. Refer to **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6 through to Chapter 17 [EN010163/APP/6.2.6 - 6.2.17]** of the cumulative effects assessment.	N
441	S47	Concern regarding the cumulative impact with gas power station	The cumulative impacts of the Proposed Development alongside other developments in close proximity to the Site (including the demolition of West Burton A Power Station - planning reference 23/00485/DEM) have been fully assessed across all technical chapters (where relevant) scoped into the ES. Refer to **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6 through to Chapter 17 [EN010163/APP/6.2.6 - 6.2.17]** of the cumulative effects assessment.	N

442	S47	Concern regarding the cumulative impact with quarry at Sturton/Concern regarding the cumulative impact with gravel pit	The cumulative impacts of the Proposed Development alongside other developments in close proximity to the Site (including Sturton le Steeple Sand and Gravel Extraction- planning reference V/4386) have been fully assessed across all technical chapters (where relevant) scoped into the ES. Refer to **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6 through to Chapter 17 [EN010163/APP/6.2.6 - 6.2.17]** of the cumulative effects assessment.	N
443	S47	Concern regarding cumulative impact with West Burton Coal Power facility	West Burton A Power Station (coal power facility) closed on the 31st of March 2023. This site will be decommissioned and plans to restore the site with a nuclear fusion development (STEP) are in progress. The cumulative impacts of the Proposed Development alongside other developments in close proximity to the Site (including demolition of West Burton A Power Station - planning reference 23/00485/DEM) have been fully assessed across all technical chapters (where relevant) scoped into the ES. Refer to **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6 through to Chapter 17 [EN010163/APP/6.2.6 - 6.2.17]** of the cumulative effects assessment.	N
444	S47	Concern regarding remaining land being populated with "infill" housing projects	The Applicant notes the comment. The Applicant can only comment on land use within the Order Limits and has no control on land uses outside of the Order Limits. Within the Order Limits, the Proposed Development will be operational for 40 years. Once the Proposed Development ceases to operate, the development will be	

			decommissioned and land intended to be returned to its former state. There will be no permanent loss of agricultural land extent or quality, with the land left to rest this will enhance the functional capacity of the soil resource for future arable production.	
445	S47	Concern regarding the cumulative environmental impact	The cumulative impacts of the Proposed Development alongside other developments in close proximity to the Site have been fully assessed across all technical chapters (where relevant) scoped into the ES. Refer to **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6 through to Chapter 17 [EN010163/APP/6.2.6 - 6.2.17]** of the cumulative effects assessment**.**	N
446	S47	Concern regarding the cumulative impact with West Burton Flue Ash recovery	The cumulative impacts of the Proposed Development alongside other developments in close proximity to the Site (including Bole Ings Ash Disposal Site, West Burton Power Station, Nottinghamshire - planning reference 20/00117/FUL and Land East of Bumble Bee Farm, Gainsborough Road, Saundby - planning reference F/3581, and V/4079 (variation of conditions 11, 13, and 53 of planning permission 1/18/00234/CDM)) have been fully assessed across all technical chapters (where relevant)scoped into the ES. Refer to **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6 through to Chapter 17 [EN010163/APP/6.2.6 - 6.2.17]** of the cumulative effects assessment.	N

447	S47	Concern regarding cumulative impact with battery storage projects	**ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.3, Outline Fire Risk Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** is submitted with this DCO application, setting out the regulatory guidance, safety standards and battery management systems of the BESS. Other developments will be subject to the same policy and regulatory requirements as the Proposed Development (or equivalents at the time of submission), with appropriate mitigation incorporated into their schemes. The cumulative impacts of the Proposed Development alongside other developments in close proximity to the Site have been fully assessed across all technical chapters (where relevant) scoped into the ES. Refer to **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6 through to Chapter 17 [EN010163/APP/6.2.6 - 6.2.17]** of the cumulative effects assessment.	N
448	S47	Statement that solar farms are dominating Nottinghamshire planning	The Applicant is cognisant of other projects being proposed in the area and has undertaken assessments to consider the potential cumulative effect of this. Any new developments will need to go through the relevant planning regime. If an Environmental Impact Assessment is required for other future development, they will have to consider cumulative impacts of that project, with others in the area. The cumulative impacts of the Proposed Development alongside other developments in close proximity to the Site have been fully assessed across all technical chapters scoped into the ES. Refer to **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6 through to Chapter 17**	N

			[EN010163/APP/6.2.6 - 6.2.17] of the cumulative effects assessment.	
449	S47	Statement that multiple projects could pose a safety risk to the UK	The Applicant notes the comment. The Proposed Development has been designed to meet relevant health and safety standards. Operational areas of the Proposed Development will be surrounded by perimeter fencing up to 3m in height with pole-mounted CCTV cameras adjacent to the perimeter fencing for security. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14 – Miscellaneous Issues [EN010163/APP/6.2.17]** includes a 'Major Accidents and Disasters' section that assesses safety risk of the Proposed Development, in isolation and cumulatively with other developments. The cumulative impacts of the Proposed Development alongside other developments in close proximity to the Site have been fully assessed across all technical chapters (where relevant) scoped into the ES. Refer to **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6 through to Chapter 17 [EN010163/APP/6.2.6 - 6.2.17]** of the cumulative effects assessment.	N
450	S47	Concern that all projects will use same construction access	The Applicant notes the comment. Within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 - Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]**, a cumulative effects assessment is undertaken with relative other developments scoped in. This includes assessing the highway links associated with the construction access. No significant cumulative effects are identified. It should also be noted given the nature of	N

			the Proposed Development, its traffic impact will be the greatest during the temporary construction/ decommissioning phase, and during the operational phase (40 years) traffic will be negligible due to no permanent operational staff onsite.	
451	S47	Concern that cumulative construction traffic will use main route for residents to enter village from Gainsborough	The Applicant notes the comment. Within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 - Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]**, a cumulative effects assessment is undertaken with relative other developments scoped in. This includes assessing the highway links locally. No significant cumulative effects are identified. It should also be noted given the nature of the Proposed Development, its traffic impact will be the greatest during the temporary construction/ decommissioning phase, and during the operational phase (40 years) traffic will be negligible due to no permanent operational staff onsite.	N
452	S47	Statement that the village is contributing enough already	The Applicant notes the comment. The Applicant has followed a step-by- step site selection process which confirms the location of the Proposed Development is suitable for a large-scale solar farm. This has included the avoidance of sensitive landscape and environmental designations in confirming site suitability and consideration of alternative sites. Details of this are set out in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3 - Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3].**	N

453	S47	Statement that the village is contributing enough already with the STEP project	The Applicant notes the comment. The Applicant has followed a step-by step site selection process which confirms the location of the Proposed Development is suitable for a large-scale solar farm. This has included the avoidance of sensitive landscape and environmental designations in confirming site suitability and consideration of alternative sites. Details of this are set out in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3 - Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3].** The Applicant notes there is an intention for a nuclear fusion development (STEP) at the former West Burton A Power Station site. The proposed STEP development will not be located within the Order Limits of the Proposed Development.	N
454	S47	Statement that the area is saturated	The Applicant is cognisant of other projects being proposed in the area and has undertaken assessments to consider the potential cumulative effect of this. Any new developments will need to go through the relevant planning regime. If an Environmental Impact Assessment is required for other future development, they will have to consider cumulative impacts of that project, with others in the area. The cumulative impacts of the Proposed Development alongside other developments in close proximity to the Site have been fully assessed across all technical chapters scoped into the ES. Refer to **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6 through to Chapter 17**	N

			[EN010163/APP/6.2.6 - 6.2.17] of the cumulative effects assessment.	
455	S47	Statement that the West Burton Power Station upgrade negates the need for the PD	A **Planning Statement [EN010163/APP/7.1]** has been submitted as part of the application, explaining the reasons for the Proposed Development being large scale solar generation, and setting out the context, requirement and contribution of the Proposed Development to securing and decarbonising UK energy supply. The Applicant is committed to the opportunity to repower the region with clean, green and affordable energy and replace the energy produced by the West Burton A power Station.	N
456	S47	Statement that STEP fusion negates the need for the PD	The Proposed Development does not include any connection to the proposed nuclear fusion development (STEP) at the former West Burton A Power Station site. A **Planning Statement [EN010163/APP/7.1]** has been submitted as part of the application, explaining the reasons for the Proposed Development being large scale solar generation, and setting out the context, requirement and contribution of the Proposed Development to securing and decarbonising UK energy supply. The Applicant is committed to the opportunity to repower the region with clean, green and affordable energy and replace the energy produced by the West Burton A power Station.	N

457	S47	General opposition to the number of projects in one area	The Applicant is aware that there are several consented and proposed solar schemes in Nottinghamshire and Lincolnshire and in proximity to the Proposed Development. However, with a target to triple the UK's solar capacity by 2030, there is a need to consider the feasibility of solar delivery on land in all areas of the country, even if there are already some consented and operational solar schemes in the area. Any new developments will need to go through the relevant planning regime. If an Environmental Impact Assessment is required for other future development, they will have to consider cumulative impacts of that project, with others in the area.	N
458	S47	Concern that the village will become surrounded	Any new developments will need to go through the relevant planning regime. If an Environmental Impact Assessment is required for other future development, they will have to consider cumulative impacts of that project, with others in the area.	N
459	S47	Statement that there is too many competing projects in one area	The Applicant is cognisant of other projects being proposed in the area and has undertaken assessments to consider the potential cumulative effect of this. Any new developments will need to go through the relevant planning regime. If an Environmental Impact Assessment is required for other future development, they will have to consider cumulative impacts of that project, with others in the area.	N

460	S47	Concern the cumulative impacts have not been considered	The cumulative impacts of the Proposed Development alongside other developments in close proximity to the Site have been fully assessed across all technical chapters scoped into the ES. Refer to **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6 through to Chapter 17 [EN010163/APP/6.2.6 - 6.2.17]** of the cumulative effects assessment.	N
461	S47	Statement that the Trent Valley has provided much for power generation over the years	The Applicant is cognisant of other projects being proposed in the area and has undertaken assessments to consider the potential cumulative effect of this. Any new developments will need to go through the relevant planning regime. If an Environmental Impact Assessment is required for other future development, they will have to consider cumulative impacts of that project, with others in the area.	N
462	S47	Statement that PROWs are already restricted due to construction of quarry access road	**ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** is submitted with the DCO application. This includes a Public Right of Way Management Plan to identify and minimise potential areas of conflict to PRoW routes affected by the Proposed Development. It will be implemented during the construction phase and throughout the operational phase. PRoWs may require temporary alteration during construction, but will remain unchanged during operation.	N

463	S47	Statement that cumulative impacts will be irreversible	The Applicant confirms the Proposed Development will be operational for 40 years and will be decommissioned after the 40-year operational life. The Proposed Development is therefore a reversible development, and the land within the Order Limits would be returned to its original use as far as possible and practical with areas of established mitigation left in situ where possible and in agreement with the landowner. As part of the DCO application, the Applicant has produced an **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.2, Outline Decommissioning Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** outlining procedures during the decommissioning phase to ensure no significant adverse environmental effects remain.	
464	S47	Statement that negative effects of the Proposed Development are intensified by the clustering of projects	The Applicant is cognisant of other projects being proposed in the area and has undertaken assessments to consider the potential cumulative effect of this. Any new developments will need to go through the relevant planning regime. If an Environmental Impact Assessment is required for other future development, they will have to consider cumulative impacts of that project, with others in the area. The cumulative impacts of the Proposed Development alongside other developments in close proximity to the Site have been fully assessed across all technical chapters scoped into the ES**.** Refer to **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6 through to Chapter 17**	N

			[EN010163/APP/6.2.6 - 6.2.17] of the cumulative effects assessment.	
465	S47	Statement that each project will add to global warming	The Proposed Development has a range of benefits to the community and the UK as a whole. If consented the Proposed Development would generate approximately 450MW of clean, green, electricity; enough energy to power approximately 180,000 homes every year. Over the lifecycle of the Proposed Development, a total greenhouse gas emissions saving of 1,380,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent is anticipated, as stated in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12 - Climate Change [EN010163/APP/6.2.12].** This chapter includes a cumulative effects assessment and concludes during the operational phase a moderate beneficial (significant) effect is anticipated due to the combined greenhouse gas emission savings.	
466	S47	Concern regarding the cumulative loss of PROWs as a result of multiple projects	**ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** is submitted with the DCO application. This includes a Public Right of Way Management Plan to identify and minimise potential areas of conflict to PRoW routes affected by the Proposed Development. It will be implemented during the construction phase and throughout the operational phase. PRoWs may require temporary alteration during	N

			construction, but will remain unchanged during operation. Other developments will be subject to the same policy and regulatory requirements as the Proposed Development (or equivalents at the time of submission), with appropriate mitigation incorporated into their schemes. The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW. The Applicant will provide two significant permissive paths within the Proposed Development.	
467	S47	Concern regarding the isolated agendas of individual developers	The Applicant notes the comment, however the Applicant has no control over other developers' timescales for submission of other developments. The Applicant has engaged with relevant developers cooperatively to explore opportunities to reduce potential cumulative impacts, where possible. The cumulative impacts of the Proposed Development alongside other developments in close proximity to the Site have been fully assessed across all technical chapters scoped into the ES. Refer to **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6 through to Chapter 17 [EN010163/APP/6.2.6 - 6.2.17]** of the cumulative effects assessment.	N
468	S47	Concern regarding the cumulative impact with the proposed battery storage in Rampton	**An Outline Fire Risk Management Plan, [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** is submitted with this DCO application, setting out the regulatory guidance, safety standards and battery management systems of the BESS. Other developments will be subject to the same policy and	N

			regulatory requirements as the Proposed Development (or equivalents at the time of submission), with appropriate mitigation incorporated into their schemes. The cumulative impacts of the Proposed Development alongside other developments in close proximity to the Site have been fully assessed across all technical chapters (where relevant) scoped into the ES. Refer to **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6 through to Chapter 17 [EN010163/APP/6.2.6 - 6.2.17]** of the cumulative effects assessment.	
469	S47	Concern that the village is being targeted	The Applicant is cognisant of other projects being proposed in the area and has undertaken assessments to consider the potential cumulative effect of this. Any new developments will need to go through the relevant planning regime. If an Environmental Impact Assessment is required for other future development, they will have to consider cumulative impacts of that project, with others in the area. The Applicant has followed a step-by- step site selection process which confirms the location of the Proposed Development is suitable for a large-scale solar farm. This has included the avoidance of sensitive landscape and environmental designations in confirming site suitability and consideration of alternative sites. Details of this are set out in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3 - Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3].**	N

470	S47	Concern that the cumulative impacts have not been considered	The cumulative impacts of the Proposed Development alongside other developments in close proximity to the Site have been fully assessed across all technical chapters (where relevant) scoped into the ES. Refer to **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6 through to Chapter 17 [EN010163/APP/6.2.6 - 6.2.17]** of the cumulative effects assessment.	N
471	S47	Statement that West Burton Fusion would benefit the whole country	The Applicant notes there is an intention for a nuclear fusion development (STEP) at the former West Burton A Power Station site. The proposed STEP development will not be located within the Order Limits of the Proposed Development. As the STEP development does not have a design as yet, this project cannot be assessed in the cumulative effects assessment within the ES. The Proposed Development does not include any link to the proposed nuclear fusion development (STEP) at the former West Burton A Power Station site. The UK has a legally binding commitment to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050. As one of the cheapest and most rapidly deployable forms of renewable energy, solar will play an important role in achieving this commitment. The UK Government has made it clear in its recently published National Policy Statement (NPS) that these commitments can only be achieved with the deployment of renewable technologies rather that fossil fuels such as North Sea oil.	N
Location				

472	S47	General opposition to the project location	The Applicant notes the comments. The **Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3]** explains the Scheme's design evolution including site location. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3 - Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** provides more information regarding site selection. The location has been chosen for a number of reasons including connection agreement, proximity of grid connection, good access, screening provisions and offsets to sensitive receptors/ physical constraints can be achieved.	N
473 MN	S47	Statement that this is a preferred site due to existing infrastructure	The Applicant notes the comments. The **Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3]** explains the Scheme's design evolution including site location. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3 - Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** provides more information regarding site selection. The location has been chosen for a number of reasons including connection agreement, proximity of grid connection, good access, screening provisions and offsets to sensitive receptors/ physical constraints can be achieved. Whilst existing infrastructure has formed part of the site selection criteria it is not the sole reason.	N

474	S47	Statement that there is no need to use Green Belt land for the PD	The Applicant notes the comment. In this case there is no green belt land within the **Order Limits [EN/010163/APP/2.4]**. There is greenfield land within the order limits. However, renewable energy development on greenfield land is not prevented by National Policy Statements EN-1, EN-3 or EN-5. In addition, **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3 - Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** and the **Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3]** set out there is not sufficient brownfield land or roof space to accommodate the scale of solar development proposed.	N
475	S47	Statement that alternative site could/should be used/Statement that alternative locations should have been considered	The Applicant notes the comments. The **Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3]** explains the Scheme's design evolution including site location. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3 - Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** provides more information regarding site selection. The location has been chosen for a number of reasons including connection agreement, proximity of grid connection, good access, screening provisions and offsets to sensitive receptors/ physical constraints can be achieved. The area of search was centred on the available grid capacity at the existing substation at the West Burton A Power Station site and extended to 15km to allow the best opportunity for an appropriate location to be identified. Three alternative sites have been considered in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3 - Site Description, Site**	N

			Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3] of similar land parcel areas size. These alternative site locations were discounted for a range of reasons including flood risk, proximity to heritage assets and ecological designations, and landscape designations.	
476	S47	Opposition to the use of greenfield site	The Applicant notes the comment. There is greenfield land within the **Order Limits [EN010163/APP/2.4]**. However, renewable energy development on greenfield land is not prevented by National Policy Statements EN-1, EN-3 or EN-5. In addition, **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3 - Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** and the **Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3]** set out that there is not sufficient brownfield land or roof space to accommodate the scale of solar development proposed.	N
477	S47	Suggestion that brownfield sites should be considered	The Applicant notes the comment. A search was undertaken of the potential brownfield land within the prescribed 15km Area of Search from the point of connection at West Burton Power Station, which identified that there were no sites or combinations of sites, that had the necessary footprint to accommodate the Proposed Development on brownfield land. This is set out in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3 - Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** and the **Design and Access**	N

			Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3]. It is recognised that at this scale, it is likely that applicants' developments will use some agricultural land, stated in National Policy Statements EN-3. Renewable energy development on greenfield land is not prevented by National Policy Statements EN-1, EN-3 or EN-5.	
478	S47	Concerns that the Proposed Development surrounds houses	The Applicant notes the comment. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3 - Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** and the **Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3]** set out as part of the design evolution a strip of panels has been removed 45-55 metres in width on the eastern side of the western parcel improving the separation distance from the Scheme to Sturton le Steeple. Furthermore, proximity to residential properties has also been considered as part of the site selection criteria and sufficient offsets can be achieved along with retention of existing and provision of new soft landscaping to screen the proposed development. Solar panels will not be placed right up to the boundary with residential properties. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6 - Landscape and Visual Impacts and Residential Amenity [EN010163/APP/6.2.6]** identifies there are no significant adverse residual effects on residential receptors for all phases of the Proposed Development.	N

479	S47	General concern about proximity of the Proposed Development to houses	The Applicant notes the comment. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3 - Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** and the **Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3]** set out as part of the design evolution a strip of panels has been removed 45-55 metres in width on the eastern side of the western parcel improving the separation distance from the Scheme to Sturton le Steeple. Furthermore, proximity to residential properties has also been considered as part of the site selection criteria and sufficient offsets can be achieved along with retention of existing and provision of new soft landscaping to screen the proposed development. Solar panels will not be placed right up to the boundary with residential properties. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6 - Landscape and Visual Impact and Residential Amenity [EN010163/APP/6.2.6]** identifies there are no significant adverse residual effects on residential receptors for all phases of the Proposed Development.	N
480	S47	Statement that the land to the west is too close to housing	The Applicant notes the comment. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3 - Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** and the **Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3]** set out as part of the design evolution a strip of panels has been removed 45-55 metres in width on the eastern side of the western parcel improving the separation distance from the Scheme to Sturton le Steeple. Furthermore, proximity to	N

			residential properties has also been considered as part of the site selection criteria and sufficient offsets can be achieved along with retention of existing and provision of new soft landscaping to screen the proposed development. Solar panels will not be placed right up to the boundary with residential properties. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6 - Landscape and Visual Impact and Residential Amenity [EN010163/APP/6.2.6]** identifies there are no significant adverse residual effects on residential receptors for all phases of the Proposed Development.	
481	S47	Suggestion that solar panels should be placed on industrial buildings	The Applicant notes the comment. A search was undertaken of the potential brownfield land (including rooftops within residential areas) within the prescribed 15km Area of Search form the point of connection at West Burton Power Station, which identified that there were no sites or combinations of sites, that had the necessary footprint to accommodate the Proposed Development on brownfield land. This is set out in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3 - Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** and the **Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3].** The UK Government has set an expectation of reaching 70 GW of installed solar capacity by 2035, a fivefold increase on the current installed capacity. This cannot be achieved through rooftop and brownfield solar installations alone, as they have considerable practical barriers of their own.	N

			Many domestic and industrial buildings either do not have roofs made of suitable material to support a solar system, do not have the infrastructure to export electricity to the grid, or simply present as an unaffordable solution, with initial costs of installation too high for some.	
482	S47	Suggestion that the Proposed Development should be placed in a town	The Applicant notes the comment. A search was undertaken of the potential brownfield land (including rooftops within residential areas) within the prescribed 15km Area of Search form the point of connection at West Burton Power Station, which identified that there were no sites or combinations of sites, that had the necessary footprint to accommodate the Proposed Development on brownfield land. This is set out in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3 - Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** and the **Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3].** The UK Government has set an expectation of reaching 70 GW of installed solar capacity by 2035, a fivefold increase on the current installed capacity. This cannot be achieved through rooftop and brownfield solar installations alone, as they have considerable practical barriers of their own. Many domestic and industrial buildings either do not have roofs made of suitable material to support a solar system, do not have the infrastructure to export electricity to the grid,	N

			or simply present as an unaffordable solution, with initial costs of installation too high for some.	
483	S47	Suggestion that solar panels should be placed on motorways	The Applicant notes the comment. A search was undertaken of the potential brownfield and greenfield land (including land adjacent to motorways) within the prescribed 15km Area of Search form the point of connection at West Burton Power Station, which identified that there were no sites or combinations of sites, that had the necessary footprint to accommodate the Proposed Development on land near motorways. This is set out in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3 - Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** and the **Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3].**	N
484	S47	Suggestion that solar panels should be placed on train tracks	The Applicant notes the comment. A search was undertaken of the potential brownfield and greenfield land (including land near to train tracks) within the prescribed 15km Area of Search form the point of connection at West Burton Power Station, which identified that there were no sites or combinations of sites, that had the necessary footprint to accommodate the Proposed Development on land near train tracks. This is set out in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3 - Site Description,**	N

			Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3] and the **Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3].**	
485	S47	Suggestion that solar panels should be placed on airport runways	The Applicant notes the comment. There is greenfield land within the **Order Limits [EN010163/APP/2.4]**. However, renewable energy development on greenfield land is not prevented by National Policy Statements EN-1, EN-3 or EN-5. In addition, **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3 - Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** and the **Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3]** set out that there is not sufficient brownfield land, land in towns, industrial buildings, or roof space to accommodate the scale of solar development proposed. Solar panels cannot be accommodated on airport runways as they would prevent its use by aeroplanes.	N
486	S47	Statement that solar panels should be placed on new builds/Statement that solar would make sense on new build	The Applicant notes the comment. Unfortunately, solar panels on new buildings is out of the Applicant's control. Furthermore, the number of solar panels required to generate the same amount of electricity as the Proposed Development is not feasible in a single development.	N

487	S47	Suggestion that solar panels should be placed on roofs	The Applicant notes the comment. A search was undertaken of the potential brownfield land (including rooftops within residential areas) within the prescribed 15km Area of Search form the point of connection at West Burton Power Station, which identified that there were no sites or combinations of sites, that had the necessary footprint to accommodate the Proposed Development on brownfield land. This is set out in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3 - Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** and the **Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3]**. The UK Government has set an expectation of reaching 70 GW of installed solar capacity by 2035, a fivefold increase on the current installedcapacity. This cannot be achieved through rooftop and brownfield solar installations alone, as they have considerable practical barriers of their own. Many domestic and industrial buildings either do not have roofs made of suitable material to support a solar system, do not have the infrastructure to export electricity to the grid, or simply present as an unaffordable solution, with initial costs of installation too high for some.	N
488	S47	Statement the proximity of the Proposed Development to Sturton-le-Steeple is a breach of human rights	The Applicant notes the comment. Development Consent Orders (DCOs) consider human rights, particularly right to property, within the context of their impact on development projects. The Planning Inspectorate assesses applications for DCOs considering whether any interference with individual rights is necessary,	N

			proportionate, and in the public interest. The DCO process also allows for landowners to make representations to the Inspectorate, enabling them to voice concerns and potentially negotiate access arrangements with developers. In essence while DCOs grant powers to developers for large infrastructure projects, they also require careful consideration of human rights impacts, particularly the right to property, and ensure that any interference with individual rights is justified and proportionate. No breaches of human rights arise as a result of the Proposed Development	
489	S47	Concern regarding the proximity to village/Concern that the location is too close to village	The Applicant notes the comment. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3 - Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** and the **Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3]** set out as part of the design evolution a strip of panels has been removed 45-55 metres in width on the eastern side of the western parcel improving the separation distance from the Proposed Development to Sturton le Steeple. Furthermore, proximity to residential properties has also been considered as part of the site selection criteria and sufficient offsets can be achieved along with retention of existing and provision of new soft landscaping to screen the proposed development. Solar panels will not be	N

			placed right up to the boundary with residential properties.	
490	S47	Statement that the Proposed Development can be moved further away using underground cables	The Applicant notes the comment. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3 - Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** and the **Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3]** set out as part of the design evolution alternative sites have been considered a greater distance from the point of connection but have been discounted for numerous other material planning considerations. Furthermore, the greater a generation site is from the point of connection the greater the length of cable reducing efficiency due to increased resistance and voltage drop. Longer cables lead to more resistance, which converts electrical energy into heat, resulting in power loss. This voltage drop can significantly impact the solar systems overall performance.	N
491	S47	Statement that location has been chosen for a cheap connection to the grid/Statement that location net to power stations helps to lower energy costs	The Applicant notes the comment. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3 - Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** and the **Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3]** set out as part of the design evolution alternative sites have been considered a greater distance from the point of	N

			connection but have been discounted for numerous other material planning considerations. The UK Government's Renewables Obligation Certificate scheme to subsidise solar photovoltaic (PV) development ended in April 2017. In the absence of subsidy, the scale of solar farms is required to be larger in capacity in order to achieve a viable scheme and to achieve economies of scale. Subsidy-free projects take a considerable amount of extra time to pay back the initial capital investment required to develop and construct a solar farm. The scale of the projects needs to be larger in order to achieve the economies of scale, which enables investors to take the development risk in the first place. These larger schemes cannot connect into low or medium voltage lines or substations as they do not have the capacity to carry the electricity that would be produced from the solar farm. As a result, these larger schemes need to connect into a high voltage 132kV line or 132kV substation. This connection into the high voltage network is considerably more expensive than a low or medium voltage connection. A sub-optimal amount of acreage on a larger scheme will result in a significant increase in the grid connection cost per megawatt (MW), which undermines the viability of any given scheme.	

492	S47	Statement that the project is in the wrong location	The Applicant notes the comments. The **Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3]** explains the Proposed Development's design evolution including site location. **ES Chapter 3 - Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** provides more information regarding site selection. The location has been chosen for a number of reasons including connection agreement, proximity of grid connection, good access, screening provisions and offsets to sensitive receptors/ physical constraints can be achieved. Alternative sites have been considered but were discounted for numerous reasons such as proximity to heritage assets, ecological designations etc.	N
493	S47	Suggestion to locate solar on land at West Burton	The Applicant notes the comments. The **Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3]** explains the Scheme's design evolution including site location. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3 - Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** provides more information regarding site selection. Land at West Burton has been considered but there was less suitable available land with more environmental constraints present to accommodate the proposal. The location has been chosen for a number of reasons including connection agreement, proximity of grid connection, good access, screening provisions and offsets	N

			to sensitive receptors/ physical constraints can be achieved.	
494	S47	Suggestion that Cottam would be a more suitable location/Suggestion to locate solar at Cottam and High Marnham power stations	The Applicant notes the comments. **The Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3]** explains the Scheme's design evolution including site location. **ES Chapter 3 - Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** provides more information regarding site selection. Land at Cottam and High Marnham has been considered but there was less suitable available land with more environmental constraints present to accommodate the proposal. The location has been chosen for a number of reasons including connection agreement, proximity of grid connection, good access, screening provisions and offsets to sensitive receptors/ physical constraints can be achieved.	N
495	S47	Statement that the sea is a better location for renewable energy source	The Applicant notes the comment and acknowledges the sea is a good location for other renewable generators such as wind. However, with regards solar, the panels would sink even if you put them on a floating platform they would likely be lost in storms, ripped loose and drift out to sea. They would also shade large areas of water and kill plant life beneath.	N

496	S47	Statement that location next to power stations helps to lower energy costs	The Applicant notes the comment. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3: Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** and the **Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3]** set out as part of the design evolution alternative sites have been considered a greater distance from the point of connection but have been discounted for numerous other material planning considerations. Furthermore, the greater a generation site is from the point of connection the greater the length of cable reducing efficiency due to increased resistance and voltage drop. Longer cables lead to more resistance, which converts electrical energy into heat, resulting in power loss. This voltage drop can significantly impact the solar systems overall performance. The UK Government's Renewables Obligation Certificate scheme to subsidise solar photovoltaic (PV) development ended in April 2017. In the absence of subsidy, the scale of solar farms is required to be larger in capacity in order to achieve a viable scheme and to achieve economies of scale. Subsidy-free projects take a considerable amount of extra time to pay back the initial capital investment required to develop and construct a solar farm. The scale of the projects needs to be larger in order to achieve the economies of scale, which enables investors to take the development risk in the first place. These larger schemes cannot connect into low or medium voltage lines or substations as they do not have	N

			the capacity to carry the electricity that would be produced from the solar farm. As a result, these larger schemes need to connect into a high voltage 132kV line or 132kV substation. This connection into the high voltage network is considerably more expensive than a low or medium voltage connection. A sub-optimal amount of acreage on a larger scheme will result in a significant increase in the grid connection cost per megawatt (MW), which undermines the viability of any given scheme.	
497	S47	Statement that it is understandable why the location has been chosen due to access to the grid	The Applicant welcomes these comments. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3: Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** and the **Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3]** set out as part of the design evolution alternative sites have been considered a greater distance from the point of connection but have been discounted for numerous other material planning considerations.	N
498	S47	Suggestion to locate the Proposed Development to the east of West Burton Power Station	The Applicant notes the comments. The **Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3]** explains the Scheme's design evolution including site location. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3: Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** provides more information regarding site selection. Land east of West Burton power station has been considered but there was there was less suitable available land with more environmental constraints present to accommodate	N

			the proposal. The location has been chosen for a number of reasons including connection agreement, proximity of grid connection, good access, screening provisions and offsets to sensitive receptors/ physical constraints can be achieved.	
499	S47	Suggestion to locate the Proposed Development to the west of Gainsborough to Retford railway line	The Applicant notes the comments. The **Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3]** explains the Scheme's design evolution including site location. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3: Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** provides more information regarding site selection. Land west of Gainsborough to Retford railway line has been considered but there was less suitable available land with more environmental constraints present to accommodate the proposal. The location has been chosen for a number of reasons including connection agreement, proximity of grid connection, good access, screening provisions and offsets to sensitive receptors/ physical constraints can be achieved.	N
500	S47	Concern regarding proximity of Proposed Development to residential properties	The Applicant notes the comment. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3 : Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** and the **Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3]** set out as part of the design evolution a strip of panels has been removed 45-55 metres in width on the eastern side of the western parcel improving the separation distance from the	N

			Scheme to Sturton le Steeple. Furthermore, proximity to residential properties has also been considered as part of the site selection criteria and sufficient offsets can be achieved along with retention of existing and provision of new soft landscaping to screen the proposed development. Solar panels will not be placed right up to the boundary with residential properties.	
501	S47	Statement that the proposed land does not belong to West Burton Power Station	The Applicant notes the comment. The Applicant has a lease agreement in place for land within the Order limits that will cover construction, operation and decommissioning of the Scheme. This does not affect the connection agreement to the National Electrical Grid at West Burton Power Station.	N
502	S47	Statement that at least the Proposed Development land won't be used for alternative developments such as housing	The Applicant welcomes the comment and the Proposed Development will only be used for the intended renewable energy solar farm development.	N
503	S47	Suggestion that the Proposed Development should be installed on non productive land	The Applicant notes the comments. **The Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3]** explains the Scheme's design evolution including site location. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3: Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** provides more information regarding site selection. The location has been chosen for a number of reasons including connection agreement, proximity of grid	N

			connection, good access, screening provisions and offsets to sensitive receptors/ physical constraints can be achieved. Alternative sites have been considered but were discounted for numerous reasons such as proximity to heritage assets, ecological designations etc. The land quality is assessed and reported in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 15 - Land Use and Agriculture [EN010163/APP/6.2.15]**. It includes land of BMV quality but there is no policy prohibition regarding the use of BMV land for such uses. The Applicant recognises that there are concerns regarding the loss of and use of agricultural land. The Proposed Development is reversible and there will be no significant loss of the resource.	
504	S47	Suggestion that the Proposed Development should be located on railway embankments	The Applicant notes the comment. A search was undertaken of the potential brownfield and greenfield land (including land near to railway embankments) within the prescribed 15km Area of Search form the point of connection at West Burton Power Station, which identified that there were no sites or combinations of sites, that had the necessary footprint to accommodate the Proposed Development on land near train tracks. This is set out in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3: Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** and the **Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3**]. Solar Panels cannot be	N

			accommodated on train embankments as they would prevent use of railway tracks by trains.	
505	S47	Concern land will be turned into a solar wasteland	The Applicant notes the comment. **The Planning Statement [EN010163/APP/7.1]**, **ES Volume 1, Chapter 17 – Miscellaneous Issues [EN010163/APP/6.2.17]**, **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4.1] and Outline Decommissioning Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4.2]** provide details on how the proposed Scheme would be constructed, operated and decommissioned with land restored before being returned to the landowner. This will prevent the site from becoming a solar wasteland.	N
506	S47	Concern regarding distance of mitigation areas from the village	The Applicant notes the comment. Ecological mitigation areas have been chosen to provide the optimum biodiversity benefits. They are within a short distance of the village and publicly accessible through Public Right of Ways. The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW, including bridleways. PRoWs may require temporary alteration during construction, but will remain unchanged during operation.	N

507	S47	Suggestion to subsidise private solar installations on homes instead	The Applicant notes the comment. As part of the Scheme a community benefits package is proposed for local residents. This includes a Local Electricity Discount (LEDS) scheme where local residents within a defined area would benefit from a yearly discount (around £350) on their energy bills Indexed Linked for the operational lifetime of the solar farm. The Applicant can only comment on land use within the Order Limits and has no control on land uses outside of the Order Limits, and subsidisations of private solar installations.	N
Cultural heritage and archaeology				
508	S47	Statement that the Proposed Development doesn't take into account the history of the village	History of a village is not a heritage asset, however historic development of the site and its surrounds is considered within **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.1, Cultural Heritage Technical Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9].**	N
509		Concern about loss of character	Character is not a heritage asset. Setting and potential impacts to the significance of the heritage assets in the Order Limits and vicinity are considered in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 - Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9]** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.1 - Cultural Heritage Technical Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**	N

510		Concern regarding impact on listed buildings	The Applicant has considered potential impacts to the significance of the heritage assets (including Listed buildings) in the vicinity in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 - Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9]** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.1 - Cultural Heritage Technical Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**	N
511		Concern regarding impact on listed windmill	The Applicant has considered potential impacts to the significance of the North Leverton Windmill in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 - Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9]** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.1 - Cultural Heritage Technical Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**	N
512		Concern regarding the impact on views from North Leverton Windmill	The Applicant has considered potential impacts to the significance of the North Leverton Windmill in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 - Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9]** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.1 - Cultural Heritage Technical Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**	N
513		Statement that there is no consideration of North Leverton Windmill	Potential impacts to the significance of the North Leverton Windmill have been considered by the Applicant in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 - Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9]** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.1 - Cultural Heritage Technical Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**	N

514		Statement that the surrounding and landscape around heritage assets should be preserved	Potential impacts to the significance of the heritage assets in the vicinity, via changes to their setting are considered by the Applicant **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 - Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9]** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.1 - Cultural Heritage Technical Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**	N
515		Concern regarding loss of hedges/trees	Important hedgerows in so far as they relate to heritage are considered in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 - Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9]** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.1 - Cultural Heritage Technical Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**	N
516		Concern regarding impact on historic village of Sturton/Concern regarding impact on heritage assets in Sturton	Sturton village is not a heritage asset. Potential impacts to the significance of the heritage assets in the vicinity, via changes to their setting are considered in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 - Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9]** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.1 - Cultural Heritage Technical Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**	N
517		Concern regarding impact on historic village of Sturton	Sturton village is not a heritage asset. Potential impacts to the significance of the heritage assets in the vicinity, via changes to their setting are considered in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 - Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9]** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.1 - Cultural Heritage Technical Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**	N

518		General concern regarding impact on heritage and heritage assets	Potential impacts to the significance of the heritage assets in the vicinity are considered in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 - Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9]** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.1 - Cultural Heritage Technical Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**	N
519		Statement that heritage should be preserved/Statement that the surrounding and landscape around heritage assets should be preserved	Potential impacts to the significance of the heritage assets in the vicinity, via changes to their setting are considered in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 - Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9]** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.1 - Cultural Heritage Technical Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**	N
520		Concern regarding construction impact on heritage	Construction impacts are considered in **ES Volume 2, Chapter 9 - Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9]**	N
521		Statement that there is a lack of detail and consideration of on impacts to heritage assets	Potential impacts to the significance of the heritage assets in the vicinity are considered in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 - Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9]** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.1 - Cultural Heritage Technical Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**	N
522		Concern regarding impact on people's appreciation of heritage and heritage assets	The ability to appreciate and understand heritage assets is a key factor in the assessment of impacts or changes, as outlined in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 - Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9].** Potential impacts to the significance of heritage assets in the vicinity are also considered in detail in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.1,**	N

			Cultural Heritage Technical Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]	
523		Question regarding how many heritage assets are in the area	Heritage assets in the Order Limits and vicinity are clearly outlined in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 - Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9]** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.1 - Cultural Heritage Technical Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9].** With regard to designated heritage assets, the following are identified within the 3km study area: • Six Scheduled Monuments; • Nine Grade I Listed Buildings • Eight Grade II* Listed Building; • 123 Grade II Listed Buildings; and • Two Conservation Areas.	N
524		Concern regarding the impact on the medieval village at West Burton	The medieval settlement site at West Burton is a Scheduled Monument (NHLE ref. 1017741). The asset and potential impacts to its significance are considered in detail in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 - Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9]** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.1 - Cultural Heritage Technical Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**	N

525		Statement that there is no consideration of local cultural sites	It is unclear whether there are any specific local cultural heritage sites they are referring to. However, local heritage, as identified by the Nottinghamshire Historic Environment Record as well as the historic development of the Order Limits are discussed in detail in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.1, Cultural Heritage Technical Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9].** In the baseline assessment the Site and wider surrounds are considered in terms of the known archaeology, and potential, with these discussed in the relevant chronological periods in Section 5 of the document. The Section includes an assessment of the historic development of the Site, including local elements of heritage (e.g. extant ridge and furrow).	N
526		Concern regarding impact on listed buildings/Concern regarding impact on listed buildings in Sturton	Potential impacts to the significance of the heritage assets in the vicinity, including Listed buildings within Sturton, are considered in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 - Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9], and ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.1. Cultural Heritage Technical Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9].** All designated heritage assets are outlined in Appendix 1 of the Cultural Heritage Technical Baseline, although certain assets have been taken forward for more detailed assessment within the baseline and ES Chapter, in line with Historic England Guidance, as outlined in the accompanying methodologies.	N

527	S47	Concern regarding impact on Roman road in Area D	No development will take place in Area D, so any remains relating to the Roman road in this area will not be impacted.	N
528	S47	Concern that heritage will be lost	Potential impacts to the significance of the heritage assets are considered in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 - Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9], and ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.1, Cultural Heritage Technical Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9].** There will be no direct impacts in relation to designated heritage assets, so none of these assets will be lost. However, potential impacts to setting are also considered as part of the baseline and ES chapter referenced above. The archaeological potential of the Site has also been assessed in detail in the above documents and development has been offset from the greatest areas of potential. Further phases of evaluative works are proposed pre-determination **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.4, Outline Written Scheme of Investigation for Pre-Determination Trial Trenching [EN010163/APP/6.3.9],** and post-determination **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.5, Outline Written Scheme of Investigation for Post-Consent Archaeological Works [EN010163/APP/6.3.9].** The inherently flexible nature of the Proposed Development allows for a range of mitigation measures to be considered with regard to other areas where	N

			archaeological remains are identified within the Order Limits. See **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.5, Outline Written Scheme of Investigation for Post-Consent Archaeological Works [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**	
529	S47	Statement that solar power does not have heritage	The Applicant notes these comments	N
530	S47	Concern regarding impact on St Helen's church in Area H (scheduled ancient monument and Grade 1 listed)	Potential impacts to the significance of the Church of St Helen have been considered - see **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.1, Cultural Heritage Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**. St Helen's Church was considered as part of the initial assessment, but was not taken forward for further assessment, in line with Historic England Guidance (as outlined in the methodology). It is however discussed in Appendix 1 of the Cultural Heritage Technical Baseline.	N
531	S47	Concern regarding impact on Grade 2 listed house on Station Road	Potential impacts to the significance of the Grade II Listed Crow Tree Farm (the Listed former farmhouse on Station Road) have been considered as part of the assessment - see **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.1, Cultural Heritage Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**. On review it was considered that the significance of the asset would not be harmed by the Proposed Development, so it was not taken forward for further assessment, in line with Historic England guidance, as outlined in the baseline's methodology.	N

532	S47	Concern that Grade 2 listed house on Station Road (Oak Barn) has not been recognised in report	A review of the planning history for the former range of agricultural buildings (comprising Oak Barn, Pond House, and Millers Barn) demonstrates that the Local Authority have previously identified these structures to be Curtilage Listed in association with Grade II Listed Crow Tree Farm, under Section 1(5) of the 1990 Act. This results from the date of the former agricultural buildings and their historic associative connection with Crow Tree Farm. This legal classification does not, however, result in the buildings being statutorily designated in their own right, nor of being of equal significance to Crow Tree Farm. Furthermore, when considering potential impacts on the Curtilage Listed structures, the consideration should be whether such change (be that physical or via a change in 'setting') alters the contribution which they make to the designation as a whole. In this context, the rationale behind the designation is the architectural and historic interest of the physical fabric of Crow Tree Farm. The former range of buildings were converted into residential dwellings c.2000 and are no longer ancillary to Crow Tree Farm in regard to their use, nor are they within the same ownership. The new residential dwellings each have their own clearly demarcated domestic demise, and the grouping reads separately to that of Crow Tree Farm, which is also situated within its own defined demise.	N

			Accordingly, the legible connection between Crow Tree Farm and the former buildings can be considered to have diminished. Collectively, the range of former farm buildings are recorded as modern house by the Nottinghamshire Historic Environment Record (HER) and this is referenced (ref. MNT24869) in the relevant table in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.1, Cultural Heritage Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]** The Grade II Listed Crow Tree Farm (and by extension, Oak Barn) is included within Appendix 1 of the Cultural Heritage Technical Baseline and was considered as part of the assessment.	
533	S47	Concern regarding impact on listed house on Church St	The Applicant is unclear which specific Listed building this refers to, however Listed buildings on Church Street, Sturton have been considered as part of the assessment - see **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.1, Cultural Heritage Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**	N
534	S47	Concern regarding changes to landscape surrounding listed house on Church St	The Applicant is unclear which specific Listed building this refers to, however Listed buildings on Church Street, Sturton have been considered as part of the assessment - see **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.1, Cultural Heritage Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**	N

535	S47	Statement that archaeological factors should be considered	Archaeological factors have been considered as part of the assessment and are included in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 - Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9] and ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.1, Cultural Heritage Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**	N
536	S47	Statement that the area has heritage and archaeological importance	Built heritage and archaeology are both covered as part of the assessment and are included in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 - Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9] and ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.1, Cultural Heritage Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**	N
537	S47	Concern regarding Area C covering an ancient Roman road (running west from Littleborough)	Where elements of a Roman road have been identified in association with Segelocum, or by more recent works e.g., the geophysical survey in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.2, Magnitude Surveys Geophysical Survey Report [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**, such areas have been avoided.	N
538	S47	Mentions of and concerns regarding impact on Viking heritage	All periods are considered as part of the assessment and are included in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 - Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9] and ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.1, Cultural Heritage Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**	N
539	S47	Mentions of and concerns regarding impact on Norman heritage	All periods are considered as part of the assessment and are included in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 - Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9] and ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.1, Cultural Heritage Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**	N

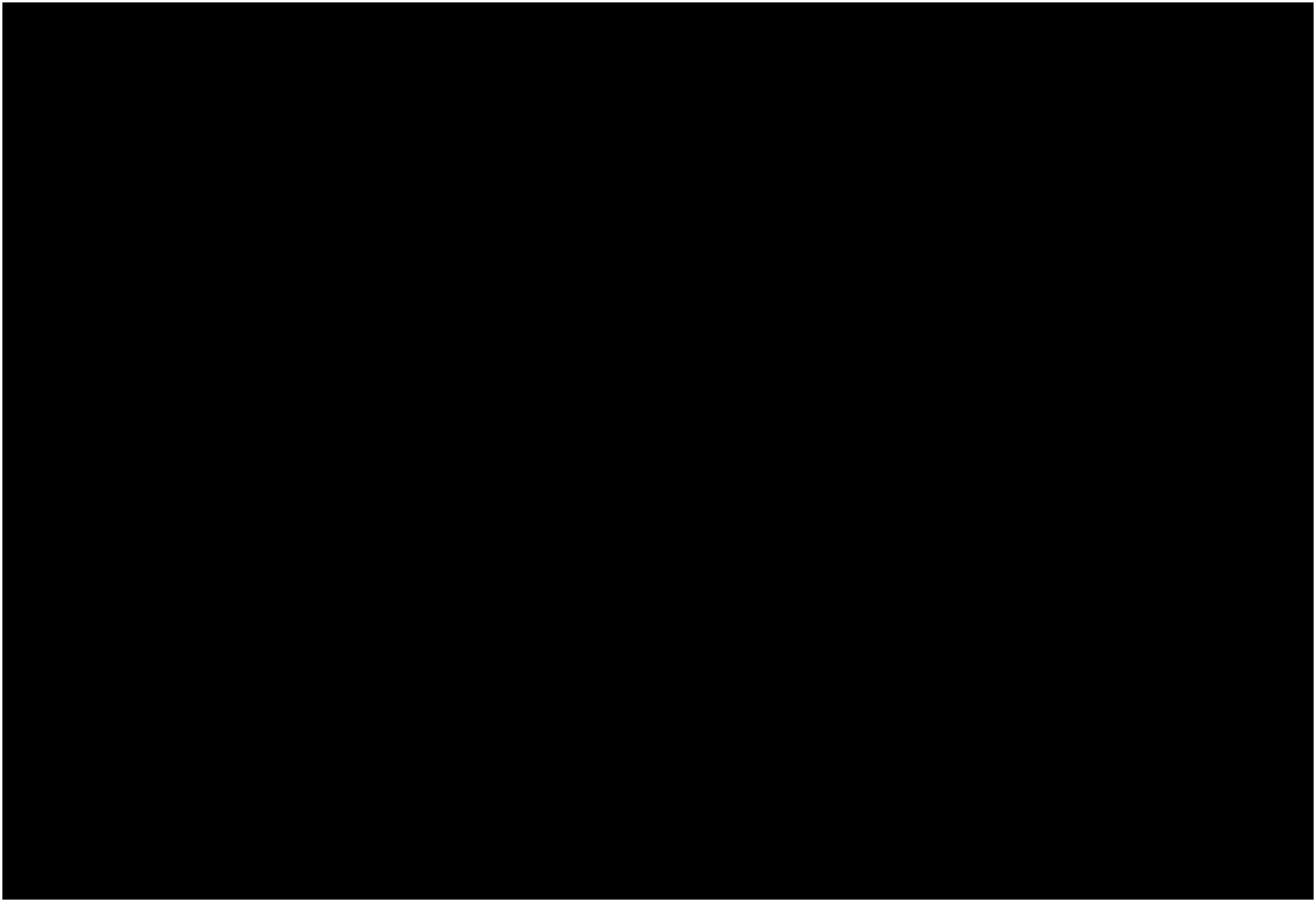
540	S47	Concern regarding impact on Viking settlement at Littleborough	Several shreds of medieval pottery were recovered during excavations at Segelocum (Littleborough), but the settlement is Roman. Segelocum has been considered as part of the assessment and are included **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 - Cultural Heritage (EN010163/APP/6.2.9) and ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.1, Cultural Heritage Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**	N
541	S47	Concern regarding impact on Roman site at Littleborough	The Roman site at Littleborough (Segelocum) has been considered as part of the assessment and are included in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 - Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9] and ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.1, Cultural Heritage Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**	N
542	S47	Concern regarding impact on Segelocum	Segelocum has been considered as part of the assessment and are included in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 - Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9] and ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.1, Cultural Heritage Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**	N
543	S47	Mentions of and concerns regarding impact on "Pilgrim" heritage	Relevant elements of heritage, e.g. the Grade II* Listed Church of St Peter and St Paul in Sturton le Steeple are considered and are included in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 - Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9] and ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.1, Cultural Heritage Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**	N

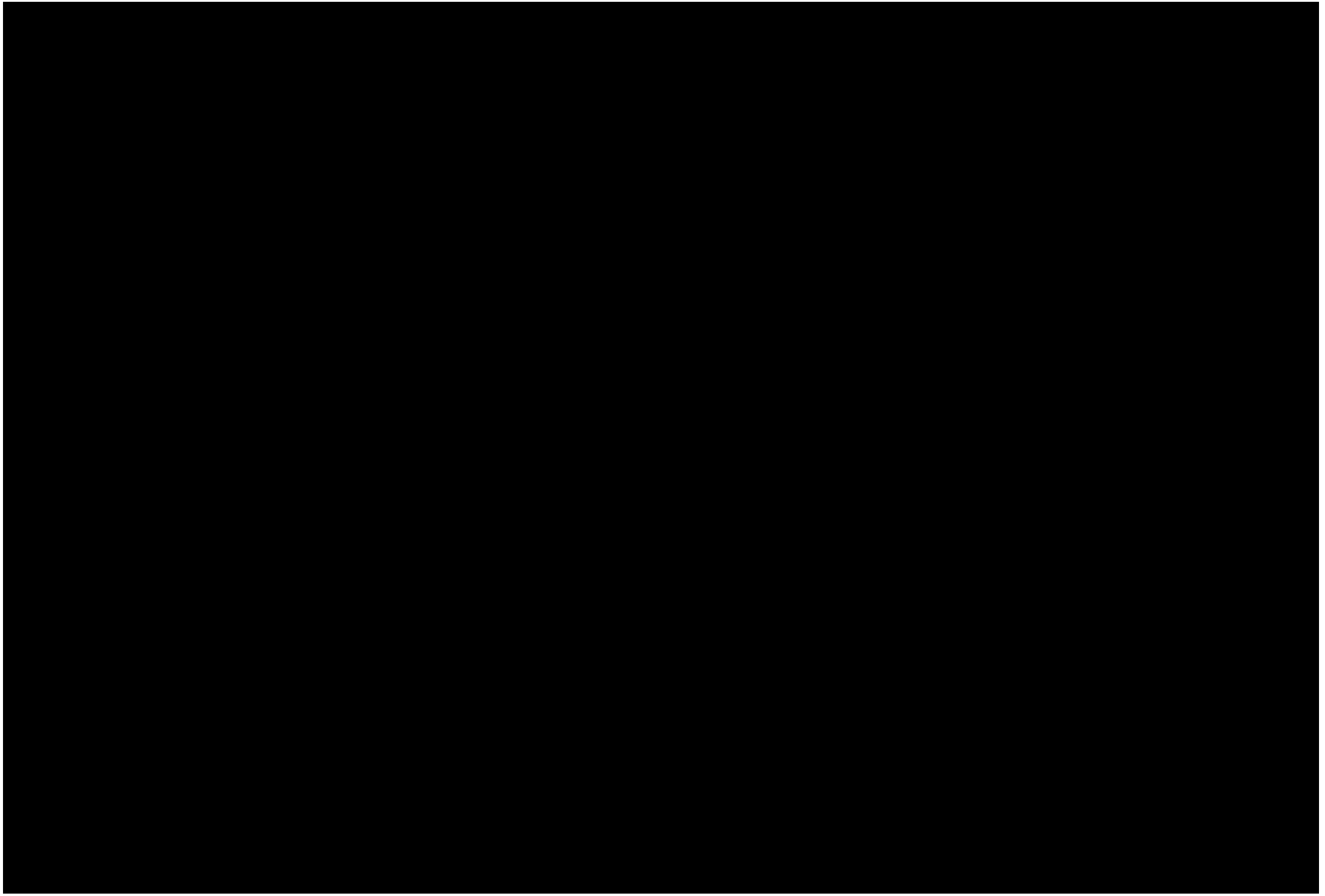
544	S47	Concern regarding lack of consideration and protection of the church and historical values as place of pilgrimage	Relevant elements of heritage, e.g. the Grade II* Listed Church of St Peter and St Paul in Sturton le Steeple are considered and are included in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 - Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9] and ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.1, Cultural Heritage Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**	N
545	S47	Concern regarding impact on Manor House in Area E	The Grade II Listed North Leverton Manor lies south of Area E. This has been considered within **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.1, Cultural Heritage Technical Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**	N
546	S47	Concern regarding impact on medieval manor house at Little Holland Lane	The Applicant has assumed this relates to the possible moated site identified north of Low Holland Lane (ref. MNT28258). This lies outside the Order Limits and is discussed in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.1, Cultural Heritage Technical Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**	N
547	S47	Statement that there are a number of sites of interest	The Applicant notes these comments. Heritage and archaeology are both covered as part of the assessment and are included in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 - Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9] and ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.1, Cultural Heritage Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**	N
548	S47	Statement that heritage is irrelevant	The Applicant notes these comments	N

549	S47	Statement that there is not a plan showing the extent of non-designated heritage assets	Non-designated heritage assets are considered as part of the assessment and are included **in ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 - Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9] and ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.1, Cultural Heritage Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9].** Figures of HER records and historic hedgerows are provided in **ES Volume 3, Figures 9.3-9.8 [EN010163/APP/6.4.9],** and archaeological features as identified by the geophysical survey, and discussed within the ES and Baseline, are identified on plans associated with **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.2, Magnitude Surveys Geophysical Survey Report [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**	N
550	S47	Statement that Figure 9.2 Heritage Assets in Study Area is of poor quality and not representative	Better quality figures are provided **ES Volume 3, Figure 9.1 - Heritage Assets Considered [EN010163/APP/6.4.9], and ES Volume 3, Figure 9.2 - Designated Heritage Assets within relevant study area [EN010163/APP/6.4.9]**. It is unclear as to why they are not representative, all recorded designated heritage assets are represented on Figure 9.2, with specific assets on Figure 9.1.	N
551	S47	Statement that there is no concern by developer/landowner on heritage	Built heritage and archaeology are both covered as part of the assessment and are included in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 - Cultural Heritage (EN010163/APP/6.2.9), and ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.1, Cultural Heritage Technical Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**	N

552	S47	Statement that mitigation for impact on heritage is insufficient	Further details with regard to mitigation are outlined in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 - Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9] and associated appendices, e.g. ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.3, Archaeological Mitigation Statement [EN010163/APP/6.3.9] and ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.5, Outline Written Scheme of Investigation for Post-Consent Archaeological Works [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**	N
553	S47	Concern regarding heritage assessments being misleading	No clarity as to which parts of the assessment are misleading and no examples and or rationale has been provided with regard to this comment. Built heritage and archaeology are both covered as part of the assessment and are included **in ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 - Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9],** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.1, Cultural Heritage Technical Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**	N
554	S47	Statement that research and consideration of heritage has occurred	Built heritage and archaeology are both covered as part of the assessment and are included in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 - Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9]**, and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.1, Cultural Heritage Technical Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]**	N
555	S47	Concern regarding historical preservation	The Applicant is unclear what historical preservation this refers to, however built heritage and archaeology are both covered as part of the assessment and are included in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 - Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9], and ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.1,**	N

			Cultural Heritage Technical Baseline [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]	
Manufacturing				
556	S47	Concern regarding the carbon footprint of the solar panels	Carbon payback refers to the amount of time it takes for a project—typically involving renewable energy, afforestation, or construction—to "repay" the carbon emissions that were generated during its creation or implementation. The carbon payback period of the Proposed Development has been calculated, which enables the number of years' worth of Greenhouse Gas (GHG) savings from the Proposed Development to be calculated. This is included in the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12 - Climate Change [EN010163/APP/6.2.12]**	N
557	S47	Statement that figures of total embodied carbon have not been presented	The total GHG emissions anticipated through the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Proposed Development is 461,300 tCO2e. This is included in the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12 - Climate Change [EN010163/APP/6.2.12]**	N





565	S47	Concern regarding use of Coal Power Stations in countries that manufacture panels	The carbon payback period of the Proposed Development has been calculated, which enables the number of years' worth of Greenhouse Gas (GHG) savings from the Proposed Development to be calculated emitted during construction has been calculated and is set out in the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12 - Climate Change [EN010163/APP/6.2.12]**	N
566	S47	Statement that panels should be produced in the UK	It is assumed that solar PV modules and PV framework will be sourced from China, which currently produces the majority of the solar modules worldwide. The Applicant will look to source the rest of the material more locally, as far as possible.	N
Noise and vibration				
567	S47	General concern regarding noise pollution	The Applicant acknowledges that some sound and vibration could be generated during the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Proposed Development via the use of certain construction plant, the operation of various ancillary electrical equipment and the additional traffic generated by the Proposed Development in isolative and cumulative terms. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11 – Noise and Vibration [EN010163/APP/6.2.11]** addresses all relevant potential sound and vibratory effects from the introduction of the Proposed Development, concluding that sound and vibration generated during the temporary construction,	N

			operation and decommissioning of the site is considered not significant in the context of normal planning requirements, provided that typical mitigation measures are implemented and that best practice is followed.	
568	S47	Concern regarding noise produced by extra traffic	The Applicant acknowledges that small increases in the average sound pressure levels from vehicles using local roads may occur during the construction and operation of the Proposed Development. However, the change in overall average levels will be small with perceived impacts relating to the sporadic additional vehicle movements during each phase of construction (inc. decommissioning) and operation. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11 – Noise and Vibration [EN010163/APP/6.2.11]** addresses noise associated with increased traffic during construction, operation and decommissioning of the Proposed Development.	N
569	S47	Concern regarding the impact of vibrations on nearby house foundations	The Applicant acknowledges that some ground borne vibration may be generated by the introduction of the Proposed Development particularly during the use of impactful construction plant. However, whilst the levels could be perceptible under some specific circumstances, they will be below threshold for which damage (cosmetic or otherwise) would be expected. Furthermore, the construction process will be managed via a Construction	N

			and Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) which will seek to mitigate or minimise potential impacts relating to noise and vibration. No perceptible vibratory effects are expected at neighbouring properties during the operation of the Proposed Development. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11 – Noise and Vibration [EN010163/APP/6.2.11]** addresses the potential vibratory effects relating to the introduction of the Proposed Development.	
570	S47	Concern regarding the noise of fans required to cool inverters	The Applicant acknowledges that noise associated with the operation of fans to cool the electrical equipment to be installed as part of the Proposed Development may be present. However, the site has been designed to incorporate appropriate setback distances from neighbouring dwellings and public rights of way (PROWs) such that levels of noise will be low and within planning requirements in this regard. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11 – Noise and Vibration [EN010163/APP/6.2.11]** addresses the potential impacts resulting from operational noise associated with the introduction of the Proposed Development.	N

571	S47	General concern regarding noise	The Applicant acknowledges that some sound and vibration could be generated during the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Proposed Development via the use of certain construction plant, the operation of various ancillary electrical equipment and the additional traffic generated by the Proposed Development in isolative and cumulative terms. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11 – Noise and Vibration [EN010163/APP/6.2.11]** addresses all relevant potential sound and vibratory effects from the introduction of the Proposed Development, concluding that sound and vibration generated during the temporary construction, operation and decommissioning of the site is considered not significant in the context of normal planning requirements, provided that typical mitigation measures are implemented and that best practice is followed.	N
Maintenance				
572	S47	Statement that the maintenance of solar sites is carbon intensive	The Applicant notes the comment. Maintenance of the solar site will take place during all phases of development but is one of the main activities undertaken in the operational phase. After the 24 month construction period the site will be remotely operated with activity reduced to maintenance and operational requirements. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.1, Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** sets out what	N

			these activities are for example cleaning panels, managing soft landscape and grazing livestock. It is not carbon intensive.	
573	S47	General concern regarding the longevity of the panels	The Applicant notes the comment. Whilst the final PV solar panel details are still to be decided these are secured by a requirement to the DCO and will require the approval of the local planning authority. The Applicant will seek to use the most efficient modern PV solar panels available designed for the 40-year lifetime of the proposed development. The panels will be maintained on a regular basis to assist their longevity.	N
574	S47	Concern regarding the longevity of panels due to weather damage	The Applicant notes the comment. Whilst the final PV solar panel details are still to be decided these are secured by a requirement to the DCO and will require the approval of the local planning authority. The Applicant will seek to use the most efficient modern PV solar panels available designed for the 40-year lifetime of the proposed development suitable for the climate and weather conditions experienced at the site's location. The panels will be maintained on a regular basis to assist their longevity.	N

575	S47	Concern regarding the longevity of panels due to issues with materials and construction	The Applicant notes the comment. Whilst the final PV solar panel details are still to be decided these can be secured by a requirement to the DCO should consent be granted and agreed by the Local Planning Authority. The Applicant will seek to use the most efficient modern PV solar panels available designed for the 40-year lifetime of the proposed development suitable for the climate and weather conditions experienced at the site's location. The panels will be maintained on a regular basis to assist their longevity.	N
576	S47	Concern regarding impact of embodied carbon production in maintenance	The Applicant notes the comment. Maintenance of the solar site will take place during all phases of development but will mainly be undertaken in the operational phase. After the 24-month construction period the site will be remotely operated with activity reduced to maintenance and operational requirements. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.4, Outline Operational Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** sets out what these activities are for example cleaning panels, managing soft landscape and grazing livestock. It's not carbon intensive. The total GHG emissions anticipated through the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Proposed Development is 461,300 tCO2e. This is included in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12 - Climate Change [EN010163/APP/6.2.12].**	N

Socioeconomic				
577	S47	Statement that benefits will be limited to the construction phase	The Applicant has considered economic benefits and these are outlined in the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10 - Socio Economics [EN010163/APP/6.2.10]**. There are a range of benefits which can be expected during the construction phase, operational phase and decommissioning phase.	N
578	S47	Statement that job creation will be limited to the construction phase	The Applicant has considered job creation and these effects are outlined in the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10 - Socio Economics [EN010163/APP/6.2.10].** Jobs are expected to be created during the construction phase and the decommissioning phase.	N
579	S47	Support for job creation as a result of the PD	The Applicant welcomes this comment and has considered job creation and these effects are outlined in the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10 - Socio Economics [EN010163/APP/6.2.10].** Jobs are expected to be created during the construction phase and the decommissioning phase.	N
580	S47	Statement the Proposed Development will be of little benefit to the community	The Applicant has considered economic benefits and these are outlined in the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10 - Socio Economics [EN010163/APP/6.2.10]** There are a range of benefits which can be expected during the construction phase, operational phase and decommissioning phase. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 10.1, Outline Supply Chain, Employment and Skills Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.10]** has been produced by the Applicant which highlights how	N

			opportunities can be accessed by local people. The Applicant is also committed to delivering meaningful, long-term economic, social, and environmental benefits that align with the priorities of the community. During the early informal consultation in 2023, the Applicant invited feedback on the types of projects and initiatives the community would like to see supported as part of a tailored community benefits package if the Proposed Development was consented. However, limited suggestions were received. As a result, the Applicant decided to present more detailed proposals for LEDS during the statutory consultation while continuing to encourage the community to share ideas on how best to utilise the community benefit funding once the Proposed Development becomes operational. The Applicant has committed to deliver a tailored community benefits package of £320,000 a year, equating to approximately £13 million over the Proposed Development's 40-year lifetime.	

581		Concern that the Proposed Development will not create jobs/Statement that the Proposed Development will generate few jobs	The Applicant has considered job creation and these effects are outlined in the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10 – Socio Economics [EN010163/APP/6.2.10],** the Proposed Development could support 382 direct and indirect temporary jobs during the construction phase and 191 temporary jobs during the decommissioning phase.	N
582		Statement that it is unlikely all construction workers will be employed from the local area	The Applicant has considered how benefits can be maximised locally, as highlighted in the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10 – Socio Economics [EN010163/APP/6.2.10]**. The Applicant will look to maximise opportunities for local people and use local labour where possible.	N
583		Statement that there is no detail given on how construction will support local businesses	The Applicant has considered how benefits can be maximised locally, as highlighted in the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10 – Socio Economics [EN010163/APP/6.2.10]**. The plan includes detail on the construction phase.	N
584		Statement that job creation will be short term	The Applicant has considered how long-term benefits can be generated. The **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10 – Socio Economics [EN010163/APP/6.2.10]** highlights a wide range of benefits which could generate long term improvements for members of the workforce, such as upskilling.	N

585		Enquiry about long term jobs	The Applicant has considered how long-term benefits can be generated. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10 – Socio Economics [EN010163/APP/6.2.10]** highlights a wide range of benefits which could generate long term improvements for members of the workforce, such as upskilling.	N
Traffic and Transport				
586	S47	Statement that local roads are not suitable for HGV access	The potential routing options to and from the site were assessed prior to the proposed construction traffic routing was put in place. The proposed routing uses A-roads as far as possible from the Strategic Road Network (SRN) rather than local roads. The proposed routing has been agreed with relevant highway authorities as set out in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 - Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]**.	
587	S47	Statement that the roads are not suitable for large equipment	The potential routing options to and from the site were assessed prior to the proposed construction traffic routing was put in place. The proposed routing uses A-roads as far as possible from the SRN rather than local roads. The proposed routing has been agreed with relevant highway authorities as set out in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 - Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13].**	

588	S47	Statement that access points will reduce the capacity of essential routes	Construction access points and routing will be managed through mitigation set out in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** to ensure minimal impacts. This will include for example managing deliveries so that HGVs exiting the site are held within the site, so that incoming vehicles can enter the site without the need to wait on the local highway network.	
589	S47	Concern that the proposed site entrance on Main Road is unsuitable	The Applicant is not proposing the Main Road to be used as construction site entrance.	
590	S47	Concern that the proposed site entrance on Main Road is used by school children	The Applicant is not proposing the Main Road to be used as construction site entrance.	
591	S47	Statement that roads already cannot cope with extra traffic/Concern that local roads can not support additional traffic	Construction access points, routing and traffic flows will be managed through mitigation set out in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** to ensure minimal impacts. The deliveries will be spread throughout the construction phase and throughout the day when the highway network tends to be less busy when compared to the busiest peak hours. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 -**	

			Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13] confirms that as a result of appropriate mitigation there will be no significant residual effects.	
592	S47	Statement that local roads are often closed fully	The contractor will liaise with local highway authorities to ensure that in the event that a road should have to close during the construction period, that the relevant management procedures are put in place for vehicles.	
593	S47	Concern regarding traffic in construction and operation	Suitable management and mitigation for the proposals has been carefully considered so as to minimise the impact of construction traffic during the construction phase and the mitigation phase. This is considered in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 - Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]**, which includes **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.1, Transport Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** as supporting documents. Traffic during the operational period will be minimal as it will be limited to around seven staff trips associated with maintenance/monitoring on a regular basis and the occasional equipment replacement by larger vehicle as needed.	

594	S47	Concern regarding traffic accidents on the A631	Existing accident data has been obtained from Nottinghamshire County Council for the A631 and has been analysed in This is considered in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 - Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]**, which includes **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.1, Transport Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** as supporting documents. The assessment concludes that there is no existing safety concern on the local highway network in the vicinity of the site, including the A631, with no fatal accidents recorded within the study area for the most recent five-year data available. The traffic associated with the construction period is not anticipated to have a material impact on highway safety based on the review of the existing accident data.	
595	S47	Statement that access through Sturton and Leverton is unsuitable	The proposals include a restricted construction routing from the SRN to the site from the north, agreed with relevant highway authorities as set out in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 - Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]**.	

596	S47	Statement that North Leverton already has problems with traffic	The proposals include a restricted construction routing from the SRN to the site from the north, agreed with relevant highway authorities as set out in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 - Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]**.	
597	S47	Concern regarding increased traffic on local roads	The proposals include a restricted construction routing from the SRN to the site from the north, agreed with relevant highway authorities as set out in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 - Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]**. Traffic flows have been considered in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 - Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]**, **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** and the **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.1, Transport Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.13].**	
598	S47	Concern regarding traffic delays as a result of the PD	The proposals include a restricted construction routing from the SRN to the site from the north, agreed with relevant highway authorities as set out in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 - Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]**. Traffic flows have been considered in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 - Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]**, **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** and the **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.1, Transport Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.13].**	

599	S47	General concern regarding traffic	The proposals include a restricted construction routing from the SRN to the site from the north, agreed with relevant highway authorities as set out in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 - Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]**. Traffic flows have been considered in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 - Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]**, **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** and the **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.1, Transport Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.13].**	
600	S47	Statement that unclassified roads will become unusable if not maintained	Routes and access point will be subject to a Condition Survey pre and post construction. This survey will ensure that the roads impacted by vehicles during the construction period will be returned to the pre-construction (or better) condition post-construction, in liaison with the local highway authority.	
601	S47	Statement that the road through the village should not be used as a thoroughfare between the sites	The proposals include a restricted construction routing from the SRN to the site from the north, agreed with relevant highway authorities as set out in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 – Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]**. Traffic flows have been considered in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 – Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]**, **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** and the **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.1, Transport Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]**.	

602	S47	Statement that the local road network is mostly narrow lanes/Statement that traffic on narrow country roads will be a problem	The proposals include a restricted construction routing from the SRN to the site from the north, agreed with relevant highway authorities as set out in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 - Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]**. Traffic flows have been considered in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 - Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]**, **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** and the **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.1, Transport Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.13].**	
603	S47	Statement that construction routes have not been considered	The proposals include a restricted construction routing from the SRN to the site from the north, agreed with relevant highway authorities as set out in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 - Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]**. Traffic flows have been considered in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 - Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]**, **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** and the **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.1, Transport Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.13].**	
604	S47	Statement that timed deliveries would help prevent congestion	Deliveries associated with the construction phase will arrive to / depart from the site outside of network peak hours where possible. Vehicles will operate on a 'Call Ahead' management system and if needed vehicles will be advised to wait at the existing HGV waiting area at the Blyth Services located off A1(M) Junction 24, until after the	

			peak hour traffic has eased and will then progress to use the local road network to access the site. Further consideration of managing vehicle movements is outlined in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 - Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]**, which includes **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.1, Transport Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** as supporting documents.	
605	S47	Concern regarding impact on local roads	The traffic impact on local road is considered in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 - Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]**, which includes **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.1, Transport Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** as supporting documents. These outline that during the construction phase the number of vehicles will fluctuate throughout the construction phase with management in place to minimise the impact. During the operational phase the traffic numbers will be limited.	
606	S47	Statement that roads are already overwhelmed	Baseline traffic surveys have been undertaken in order to understand the existing network conditions and the traffic impact of the proposals. Deliveries will be scheduled where possible when the network is quieter to assist in mitigating the traffic impact on the local roads. This is considered further in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13:**	N

			Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13], which includes the **which includes the ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13] and ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.1, Transport Assessment** [EN010163/APP/6.3.13] as supporting documents.	
607	S47	Statement that local roads are damaged already	Roads in the vicinity of the site will be subject to a Condition Survey pre and post construction. This survey will ensure that the roads impacted by vehicles during the construction period will be returned to the pre-construction (or better) condition post-construction, in liaison with the local highway authority.	N
608	S47	Concern that the proposed site entrance on Main Road is unsafe	Main Road is not proposed to be construction site entrance.	N
609	S47	Concern regarding increased traffic movement at night	Core working hours are currently anticipated to be between the hours of 0800 to 1800 Monday to Friday with shorter working hours on a Saturday. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13: Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]**, which includes the **which includes the ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13] and ES Volume 2, Appendix**	N

			13.1, Transport Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.13] as supporting documents outline this further.	
610	S47	Concern regarding the impact of increased traffic on properties	Baseline traffic surveys have been undertaken in order to understand the existing network conditions and the traffic impact of the proposals. Deliveries will be scheduled where possible when the network is quieter to assist in mitigating the traffic impact on the local roads. This is considered further in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13: Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]**, which includes the **which includes the ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13] and ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.1, Transport Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** as supporting documents.	N
611	S47	Statement that routes will be inaccessible during certain hours	The proposals include a restricted construction routing from the SRN to the site from the north, agreed with relevant highway authorities as set out in the ES Chapter. Traffic flows have been considered in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13: Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]**, which includes the **which includes the ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13] and ES Volume 2, Appendix**	N

			13.1, Transport Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.13] as supporting documents.	
612	S47	Statement that "rat runs" will develop if non-approved traffic routes are taken	The proposals include a restricted construction routing from the SRN to the site from the north, agreed with relevant highway authorities as set out in the ES Chapter and will be secured by DCO requirement. Traffic flows have been considered in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13: Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]**, which includes the **which includes the ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13] and ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.1, Transport Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** as supporting documents.	N
613	S47	Statement that access to the land is not fit for the amount of traffic needed	The proposals include a restricted construction routing from the SRN to the site from the north, agreed with relevant highway authorities as set out in the ES Chapter. Traffic flows have been considered in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13: Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]**, which includes the **which includes the ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13] and ES Volume 2, Appendix**	N

			13.1, Transport Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.13] as supporting documents.	
614	S47	Statement that access should be via routes away from the village where possible	Early appraisals of the route were undertaken to consider the options available. As a result of this, the proposals include a restricted construction routing from the SRN to the site from the north, agreed with relevant highway authorities as set out in the ES Chapter which avoids the villages to the south of the site and avoids construction traffic travelling through Sturton le Steeple. Traffic flows have been considered in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13: Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]**, which includes the **which includes the ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13] and ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.1, Transport Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** as supporting documents.	N
615	S47	Statement that access to the site should be via specified routes	The proposals include a restricted construction routing from the SRN to the site from the north, agreed with relevant highway authorities as set out in the ES Chapter. Traffic flows have been considered in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13: Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]**, which includes the **which includes the ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline**	N

			Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13] and ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.1, Transport Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.13] as supporting documents.	
616	S47	Statement that access routes should not block village lanes	The proposals include a restricted construction routing from the SRN to the site from the north, agreed with relevant highway authorities as set out in the ES Chapter. Traffic flows have been considered in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13: Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]**, which includes the **which includes the ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13] and ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.1, Transport Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** as supporting documents. As outlined in the CTMP, vehicles will not be permitted to park on the local highway, including roadside verges, so will not block village lanes with parked vehicles. The CTMP will be secured by DCO requirement.	N
617	S47	Statement that it is not clear where access to the site would be	There are 20 site accesses located throughout the western and eastern land parcels. These serve the primary compounds, secondary compounds and individual fields. These are outlined in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13: Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]**, which includes the **which includes the ES Volume 2, Appendix**	N

			13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13] and ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.1, Transport Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.13] as supporting documents.	
618	S47	Concern regarding the impact of increased traffic on local people	Considered in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13: Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]**, which includes the **which includes the ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13] and ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.1, Transport Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** as supporting documents. These documents outline the traffic impact during the construction phase and confirms that the traffic during the operational phase is minimal. The documents provide a package of measures which will be implemented throughout the construction phase to mitigate the traffic impact on the local communities.	N
619	S47	Concern regarding pollution due to extra traffic	There is a commitment to measures to reduce dust and dirt during construction and for engines to be switched off when not in use throughout the site. This is considered further in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13: Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]**, which includes the **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.1, Transport Assess**ment [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]. as supporting documents.	N

620	S47	Statement that access via the road network will cause damage to roads	Roads in the vicinity of the site will be subject to a Condition Survey pre and post construction. This survey will ensure that the roads impacted by vehicles during the construction period will be returned to the pre-construction (or better) condition post-construction, in liaison with the local highway authority.	N
621	S47	Statement that the Proposed Development would not improve public transport	The scheme does not proposed improvements to public transport. Active travel is considered by ensuring PRoWs remain open during construction and operational phases of the development. Two permissive paths are also being proposed for the operational phases.	N
622	S47	Concern about access through villages	The proposals include a restricted construction routing from the SRN to the site from the north, agreed with relevant highway authorities as set out in the ES Chapter. Traffic flows have been considered in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13: Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]**, **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.1, Transport Assess**ment [EN010163/APP/6.3.13].	N
623	S47	Statement that access routes run directly past their home (Manor Grove)	The proposals include a restricted construction routing from the SRN to the site from the north, agreed with relevant highway authorities as set out in the ES Chapter. Traffic flows have been considered in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13: Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]**, **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2,**	N

			Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13] and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.1, Transport Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.13].**	
624	S47	Statement that Sturton Primary School will be vulnerable to HGV traffic	The proposals include a restricted construction routing from the SRN to the site from the north, agreed with relevant highway authorities as set out in the ES Chapter. The restricted routes means that construction traffic will not pass by Sturton Primary School and therefore it will not be vulnerable to HGV construction traffic. Traffic flows have been considered in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13: Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]**, **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.1, Transport Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.13].**	N
625	S47	Statement that roads are not suitable for large scale construction	The proposals include a restricted construction routing from the SRN to the site from the north, agreed with relevant highway authorities as set out in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13: Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]**, **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.1, Transport Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.13].**	N

626	S47	Statement that local roads are already damaged	Roads in the vicinity of the site will be subject to a Condition Survey pre and post construction. This survey will ensure that the roads impacted by vehicles during the construction period will be returned to the pre-construction (or better) condition post-construction, in liaison with the local highway authority.	N
627	S47	Statement that local roads are not suitable for the increase in traffic	The proposals include a restricted construction routing from the SRN to the site from the north, agreed with relevant highway authorities as set out in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13: Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]**, **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.1, Transport Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.13].** The ES has assessed the key highway links and with mitigation it is concluded that there are no significant effects.	N
628	S47	Statement that large vehicles should avoid coming through the village	The proposals include a restricted construction routing from the SRN to the site from the north, agreed with relevant highway authorities as set out in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13: Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]**, **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.1, Transport Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.13].**	N

629	S47	Concern regarding the increase of heavy vehicles	The proposals include a restricted construction routing from the SRN to the site from the north, agreed with relevant highway authorities as set out in the ES. Traffic flows have been considered in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13: Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]**, **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.1, Transport Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.13].**	N
630	S47	Statement that village access will be blocked	The access to Sturton le Steeple will not be blocked because the proposals include a restricted construction routing from the SRN to the site from the north, agreed with relevant highway authorities as set out in the ES Chapter. This avoids routing through Sturton le Steeple. Traffic flows have been considered in Chapter 13: Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13] of the ES, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13] and the Transport Statement [EN010163/APP/6.3.13].	N
631	S47	Suggestion to invest in local road infrastructure	The impact of the proposed development in terms of required off-site road infrastructure has been considered in the TA and CTMP and based on the assessments undertaken to date, there has been no need for additional off-site improvements for road infrastructure. Roads in the vicinity of the site will be subject to a Condition Survey pre and post construction. This survey will ensure that the	N

			roads impacted by vehicles during the construction period will be returned to the pre-construction (or better) condition post-construction, in liaison with the local highway authority.	
632	S47	Concern regarding the impact of extra traffic in relation to size of the village	The proposals include a restricted construction routing from the SRN to the site from the north, agreed with relevant highway authorities as set out in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13: Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]**. The restricted routes means that construction traffic will not pass through Sturton le Steeple village and therefore it will not be subject to HGV construction traffic travelling through the village. Traffic flows have been considered in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13: Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]**, **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.1, Transport Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.13].**	N
633	S47	Statement that little consideration has been given to transport and access	Transport and Access has been considered. See **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13: Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13], ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.1, Transport Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** for full details.	N

634	S47	Concern regarding access to family graves	With further information provided about where the graves mentioned are located, access to graves can be considered so that disruption is minimised during construction where necessary.	N
635	S47	Concern regarding access to farms and settlements surrounding Segelocum	Segelocum is located off Littleborough Road, which is accessed off Low Holland Lane. Appropriate traffic management will be put in place to ensure safe and suitable access continues to be provided for all users of Low Holland Lane and Littleborough Road through the construction period.	N
636	S47	Statement that materials contain insufficient information regarding transport and access	To ensure the community were properly informed of the proposals the Applicant produced a suite of documents for the statutory consultation. This included the consultation newsletter, project navigation document and consultation brochure. These documents provided and overview of the Proposed Development and the various environmental and technical assessments including information about transport and access. More detailed information on the transport and access was available in the PEIR NTS which was available to view from the launch of statutory consultation. The **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13: Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]** contains detailed information on	N

			how transport and access has been considered as part of the plans for the Proposed Development. **The ES includes ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2 Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan and Transport** and **Appendix 13.1 Transport Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** for full details.	
Design				
637	S47	Statement that the Proposed Development will encompass the village	The Applicant notes the comment. The **Design and Access Statement [EN010163163/APP/7.3]** sets out the Proposed Development has been subject to a design evolution process. This includes information regarding the context of the Proposed Developments location, planning policy and stakeholder engagement. Fundamental principles of good design are set out within the Design and Access Statement and have been embedded in the Scheme. ES **Volume 1, Chapter 3**: Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3] and the Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3] set out proximity to residential properties was considered as part of the site selection criteria and sufficient offsets can be achieved along with retention of existing and provision of new soft landscaping provisions to screen the proposed development. To reduce the impact to Sturton le Steeple and local residents' infrastructure has been removed from	N

			a 40-55m corridor on the eastern edge of the western parcel to reduce visual impact on the edge of Sturton le Steeple. Furthermore, the Scheme can be accommodated into the local landscape due to a maximum upper solar panel height of 3 metres and sighting larger elements including the substation and Battery Energy Storage System near West Burton Power Station. Mitigation measures against direct impacts by enhancing local landscape features through planting and landscape improvements as set out in ES Volume 2, Appendix 7.14, Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.7]. Measures include planting improvements and management; woodland and shelterbelt planting and management, scattered trees and native shrub planting.	
638	S47	Statement that circular shape of the Proposed Development is too impactful	The Applicant notes the comment. The **Design and Access Statement [EN010163163/APP/7.3]** sets out the Proposed Development has been subject to a design evolution process. This includes information regarding the context of the Proposed Developments location, planning policy and stakeholder engagement. Fundamental principles of good design are set out within the Design and Access Statement and have been embedded in the Scheme. ES **Volume 1, Chapter 3: Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** and	Y

			the **Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3]** set out how proximity to residential properties was considered as part of the site selection criteria and sufficient offsets can be achieved along with retention of existing and provision of new soft landscaping provisions to screen the proposed development. To reduce the impact to Sturton le Steeple and local residents' infrastructure has been removed from a 40-55m corridor on the eastern edge of the western parcel to reduce visual impact on the edge of Sturton le Steeple. Furthermore, the Scheme can be accommodated into the local landscape due to a maximum upper solar panel height of 3 metres and sighting larger elements including the substation and Battery Energy Storage System near West Burton Power Station. Mitigation measures against direct impacts by enhancing local landscape features through planting and landscape improvements as set out in ES Volume 2, Appendix 7.14, Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.7]. Measures include planting improvements and management; woodland and shelterbelt planting and management, scattered trees and native shrub planting	
Land Areas				

639	S47	Suggestion to scale back Area A	Area A will allow for the connection of the Proposed Development to the West Burton substation within the former West Burton Power Station site. The 400kV West Burton substation already exists and any land included around this building has been keep to a minimum.	Y
640	S47	Suggestion to scale back Area B	Area B is a highly constrained area with overhead lines, underground pipelines, watercourses, PRoW etc. It is proposed that the project substation and BESS are located in this area as it minimises interconnection impacts and costs. Furthermore, it is not proposed to utilise the whole of this area for infrastructure with areas of landscaping and undeveloped areas to the south and east of the area.	Y
641	S47	Suggestion to scale back Area C	Area C has a number of significant constraints the restrict were solar arrays can be located. It is proposed to utilise standoff/buffer areas for the introduction of a new north/south permissive path.	Y
642	S47	Suggestion that scaling back land areas would make residents more harmonious	The parameters presented at statutory consultation and assessed in the Environmental Impact Assessment, as presented in the Environmental Statement, are a worst case scenario with more land being sought and assessed than is required for the construction of the Proposed Development.	Y

643	S47	Suggestion to move areas D and G closer to villages	The Applicant recognises the benefit of moving habitat enhancement areas closer to villages. The Applicant highlights the fact that landscaping and ecological mitigation works will be carried out across the site and not solely within areas D and G.	Y
644	S47	Suggestion to adjust the shape to create buffers for recreation	The Applicant recognises the benefit of buffers for recreational purposes. Two permissive paths are proposed along with a number of buffer areas along existing PRoW.	Y
645	S47	Statement that the land to the South of Keepers Cottage in Area E is considered as Class 1 land	The Agricultural Land Classification report that is submitted as part of this application, confirms that the land around Keepers Cottage, and for the vast majority of Area E, is Grade 3a.	N
Area A				
646	S47	Statement that area to the East less visible	The Proposed Development is essentially equally split to the east and west of the village of Sturton le Steeple. The visual impact of the Proposed Development is fully assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6 – Landscape and Visual Impact and Residential Amenity [EN010163/APP/6.2.6**].	Y

647	S47	Statement that area to the east is less frequented by walkers	The Applicant acknowledges that the site, as a whole, has PRoW crossing it. The levels of usage of the PRoW, whilst interesting, is not a determining factor in the location of infrastructure, all PRoW are treated equally when designing the Proposed Development.	N
648	S47	Statement that Area A is necessary for hours of darkness	The Applicant recognises the importance of the national grid and the role the West Burton 400kV substation plays in accessing the national grid. The Proposed Development will not remove or detrimentally impact this facility.	N
649	S47	Statement that Area A has been used for power generation for decades	The Applicant welcomes these comments. The Applicant recognises the importance of the national grid and the role the West Burton 400kV substation plays in accessing the national grid. The Proposed Development will continue the area's tradition of power generation into the future.	N
650	S47	Statement that there is unlikely to be significant wildlife in Area A	The baseline habitat and the impact of the Proposed Development is evidenced within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 - Ecology & Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.3.7]**.	N

651	S47	Statement that Area A is ripe for industrial use	The Applicant acknowledges that Area A, visually, is a built-up area, consisting mainly of the West Burton 400kV substation. The continued use of this area as a substation on the national grid will be maintained as part of the Proposed Development.	N
652	S47	Suggestion that solar should be located on roofs	The Applicant acknowledges that all forms of solar generation, both roof top and ground mounted, are needed if we are to meet the net zero targets by 2030.	N
653	S47	Mentions of and concerns regarding food security	The Proposed Development can still be used for grazing and can support continued food production. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's food security. Indeed, the reverse is true: the solar industry is working closely with Britain's farmers to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground underneath to recover, while providing income for the farming business. Solar farms also help regenerate soil quality and so are helping to ensure the continued availability of high-quality agricultural acreage for future generations	N

654	S47	Statement that putting solar panels in other locations will be at the detriment to nature	The Applicant acknowledges that the Site supports biodiversity and a range of flora and fauna. Detailed surveys and studies have been completed by independent ecological consultants to establish the pre-development ecological baseline and these have informed the design process, the scope of which was agreed with consultees. The Proposed Development retains, protects and enhances the majority of the habitats with increased biodiversity value such as hedgerows, arable field margins, woodlands, trees, watercourses, and ponds. Significant areas of new habitats are proposed including wetlands, woodland, hedgerows and meadow grassland. An assessment of the biodiversity value, as assessed via the Statutory Biodiversity Metric Tool, has been undertaken to evaluate the habitats on Site (**ES Volume 2, Appendix 7.12, Biodiversity Net Gain [EN010163/APP/6.3.7])**; this has identified that there would be a biodiversity net gain of habitat units 54.93%, hedgerow units 35.53% and watercourse units 14.68%. An Ecological Impact Assessment has also been undertaken to evaluate the ecologically important features on the Site and how they may be affected by the Proposed Development (**ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 - Ecology & Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.2.7] and**	N

			Appendices associated with Chapter 7 – Ecology & Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.3.7]). With mitigation in place, no significant adverse effects on designated nature conservation sites or important habitats are likely. Most species-impacts are scoped out, or are likely to be neutral, not significant, or slightly beneficial in the long-term. Effects on skylark are assessed as adverse (locally significant).	
Area B				
655	S47	Concern regarding loss of agricultural land	The Applicant understands that there are concerns regarding the loss of agricultural land locally and nationwide, however only 0.06% of land in the UK is currently taken up by solar and even if the UK had a 70GW solar output this would only take up 0.4% of land nationally. Solar farms are specifically designed to be dual purpose and allow for the generation of clean electricity alongside agricultural purposes such as sheep grazing. Typically, a solar farm uses approximately just 5% of the total ground area of a site, meaning a significant proportion of land is left available for uses such as sheep grazing and habitat re-wilding. The impact on agricultural land use as a result of the Proposed Development is fully assessed in **ES**	N

			Volume 1, Chapter 15 - Land Use and Agriculture [EN010163/APP/6.2.15].	
656	S47	Statement that Area B is out of the way of the village	The Applicant welcomes these comments. The decommissioning of West Burton Power Station presents a valuable opportunity to make use of the existing grid infrastructure and capacity at West Burton Substation. This approach will help to minimise the impact of the Proposed Development on the surrounding community. By utilising Area B for the installation of photovoltaic panels and associated infrastructure, the Applicant can efficiently repurpose existing assets while reducing the development's footprint and potential effects on local residents.	N
657	S47	Statement that area to the East less visible	The Proposed Development is essentially equally split to the east and west of the village of Sturton le Steeple. The visual impact of the Proposed Development is fully assessed in the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6 - Landscape and Visual Impact and Residential Amenity [EN010163/APP/6.2.6].** To reduce effects on visual amenity, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views.	N

658	S47	Statement that area to the east is less frequented by walkers	All public rights of way within the site boundary with be retained as part of the proposals. The levels of usage of the PRoW, whilst interesting, is not a determining factor in the location of infrastructure, all PRoW are treated equally when designing the Proposed Development. New permitted paths will also be introduced as part of the Proposed Development to improve connectivity within the local area. As assessment of the impact of access is provided within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 - Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13].**	N
659	S47	Concern that Area B will be used for access to the fusion plant	The Proposed Development does not include any link to the proposed STEP fusion plant to the north.	N
660	S47	Statement that Area B is prone to flooding	The Applicant acknowledges that flooding within Area B is an important issue. Flood risk, both surface water and fluvial, have been fully assessed as part of this application. A Flood Risk Assessment [**EN010163/APP5.3]** has been undertaken with essential infrastructure located outside areas of flood risk. Furthermore, two attenuation ponds hare located to the west of Sturton le Steeple to help control surface water run-off and minimise flood risk within the village.	N

661	S47	Statement that there is no mention of how flooding of River Trent will be managed	The Applicant acknowledges that flooding is an important issue. A **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010163/APP/5.3]** has been prepared to support the application, assessing the risk to the development from all forms of flooding and identifying any potential impacts of flooding resulting from the Proposed Development. Appropriate mitigation measures have been identified, where required, to ensure there is no increased risk of flooding off-site as a result of the Proposed Development. A Surface Water Drainage Strategy has been prepared and demonstrates how runoff from the Proposed Development will be managed to ensure there is no increase in runoff leaving the Site. Flood risk, both surface water and fluvial, have been fully assessed as part of this application. A **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010163/APP/5.3]** has been undertaken with essential infrastructure located outside areas of flood risk from the River Trent.	N
662	S47	Opposition to use of greenfield site	The Applicant acknowledges that all forms of solar generation, both brownfield and greenfield, are needed to achieve the UK's energy needs. However, brownfield and rooftop solar is not enough by themselves to meet the net zero targets by 2030. The Applicant understands that there are concerns	N

			regarding the loss of agricultural land locally and nationwide, however only 0.06% of land in the UK is currently taken up by solar and even if the UK had a 70GW solar output this would only take up 0.4% of land nationally. Solar farms are specifically designed to be dual purpose and allow for the generation of clean electricity alongside agricultural purposes such as sheep grazing. Typically, a solar farm uses approximately just 5% of the total ground area of a site, meaning a significant proportion of land is left available for uses such as sheep grazing and habitat re-wilding. The impact on agricultural land use as a result of the Proposed Development is fully assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 15 – Land Use and Agriculture [EN010163/APP/6.2.15].**	
663	S47	Concern that the village will become surrounded	The Applicant notes the comment. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3 : Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3] and the Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3]** set out proximity to residential properties was considered as part of the site selection criteria and sufficient offsets can be achieved along with retention of existing and provision of new soft landscaping provisions to screen the proposed development. Solar panels will not be placed right up to	N

			the boundary with residential properties nor fully surrounded.	
664	S47	Concern regarding impact on North Leverton Windmill	The Applicant acknowledges the importance of heritage assets. The Proposed Development is anticipated to have a minor adverse effect on the North Leverton Windmill, which is not significant. A full assessment of the impacts on North Leverton Windmill and other local heritage assets is presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 – Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9].**	N
665	S47	Concern regarding impact on Clarborough Tunnel SSSI	Clarborough Tunnel SSSI is adjacent to the Site's southern boundary and the part of the Site adjoining the SSSI has been identified for enhancement to species-rich grassland as part of the designed-in measures. The nearest area of development is over 750 m from the SSSI. Due to the nature of the Proposed Development and the separating distance from any areas of development within the Site, no direct or indirect impacts on the interest of Clarborough Tunnel SSSI are anticipated. A full assessment of the impacts on ecologically designated sites is presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 - Ecology and Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.2.7].**	N
666	S47	Mentions of and concerns regarding food security	The Proposed Development can still be used for grazing and can support continued food production. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's food security. Indeed, the reverse is true: the solar	N

			industry is working closely with Britain's farmers to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground underneath to recover, while providing income for the farming business. Solar farms also help regenerate soil quality and so are helping to ensure the continued availability of high-quality agricultural acreage for future generations	
667	S47	Concern regarding loss of employment	The Proposed development will result in 382 direct and indirect jobs during the construction phase of the development. An assessment of the impact on jobs is available in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10 – Socio Economics [EN010163/APP/6.2.10]**	N
668	S47	Statement that the use of Area B makes sense due to proximity to power station	The Applicant welcomes these comments. The decommissioning of West Burton Power Station has unlocked an opportunity to utilise the existing grid infrastructure and grid capacity at West Burton Substation. This will also help to reduce the impact of the solar project on the surrounding area, limiting the amount of new infrastructure that would otherwise be required to access the grid. The proximity of the Proposed Development site to West Burton Power Station also offers a suitable location to develop the proposed Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) which can assist in	N

			balancing grid capacity during peaks of energy production.	
669	S47	Concern regarding loss of businesses/livelihoods	The Proposed Development can still be used for grazing and can support continued food production. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's food security. Indeed, the reverse is true: the solar industry is working closely with Britain's farmers to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground underneath to recover, while providing income for the farming business. Solar farms also help regenerate soil quality and so are helping to ensure the continued availability of high-quality agricultural acreage for future generations	N
670	S47	Concern regarding loss of access to countryside for recreation/Concern regarding loss of open countryside	All public rights of way within the site boundary within Area E will be retained as part of the proposals. New permitted paths will also be introduced as part of the Proposed Development to improve connectivity within the local area. As assessment of the impact of access is provided within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 – Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13].**	N

671	S47	Concern regarding impact on farmers' livelihoods	The Proposed Development can still be used for grazing and can support continued food production. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's food security. Indeed, the reverse is true: the solar industry is working closely with Britain's farmers to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground underneath to recover, while providing income for the farming business. Solar farms also help regenerate soil quality and so are helping to ensure the continued availability of high-quality agricultural acreage for future generations	N
672	S47	Statement that alternative locations should be considered	The Applicant notes the comments. **The Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3]** explains the Scheme's design evolution including site location. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3: Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** provides more information regarding site selection. The location has been chosen for a number of reasons including connection agreement, proximity of grid connection, good access, screening provisions and offsets to sensitive receptors/ physical constraints can be achieved. Alternative sites have been considered but were	N

			discounted for numerous reasons such as proximity to heritage assets, ecological designations etc.	
673	S47	General concern regarding noise	The Applicant acknowledges that some sound and vibration could be generated during the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Proposed Development and Area B specifically. This could be via the use of certain construction plant, the operation of various ancillary electrical equipment and the additional traffic generated by the Proposed Development in isolative and cumulative terms. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11 – Noise and Vibration [EN010163/APP/6.2.11]** addresses all relevant potential sound and vibratory effects from the introduction of the Proposed Development, concluding that sound and vibration generated during the temporary construction, operation and decommissioning of the site is considered not significant in the context of normal planning requirements, provided that typical mitigation measures are implemented and that best practice is followed.	N
674	S47	Concern regarding visual impact	The Applicant acknowledges the range of views. To reduce effects on visual amenity within Area B, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views.	N

675	S47	Concern regarding fragmentation of ecosystems	To reduce the potential impacts of habitat fragmentation to mammals due to the installation of security fencing, small gaps in the fencing will be created to allow continued movement throughout the Proposed Development. Gaps of approximately 35 cm x 35 cm at ground level would allow for continued use by species such as badger, brown hare and hedgehog. Access gaps will be strategically sited where existing mammal paths are present, and periodically elsewhere. Larger mammals such as deer would not be able to access beyond security fencing into solar array areas, however they would be able to travel across the landscape along green infrastructure corridors along hedgerows, watercourses and into retained areas of woodland. The proposed Biodiversity Mitigation Areas would not be security fenced and therefore accessible to deer and other mammals.	N
676	S47	Concern regarding impact on property prices	The Applicant acknowledges the concerns raised in relation to changes in property values as a result of the Proposed Development. It is not considered that the Proposed Development would impact property value. Furthermore, property values are not a material planning consideration.	N

677	S47	Concern regarding loss of food production	The Proposed Development can still be used for grazing and can support continued food production. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's food security. Indeed, the reverse is true: the solar industry is working closely with Britain's farmers to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground underneath to recover, while providing income for the farming business. Solar farms also help regenerate soil quality and so are helping to ensure the continued availability of high-quality agricultural acreage for future generations	N
678	S47	Concern regarding impact on ecology/Concern regarding loss of habitat/Concern regarding impact on wildlife	The Applicant acknowledges that Area B supports biodiversity and a range of flora and fauna. Detailed surveys and studies have been completed by independent ecological consultants to establish the pre-development ecological baseline, and these have informed the design process, the scope of which was agreed with consultees. The Proposed Development retains, protects and enhances the majority of the habitats with increased biodiversity value such as hedgerows, arable field margins, woodlands, trees, watercourses, and ponds. Significant areas of new habitats are proposed including wetlands, woodland, hedgerows and meadow grassland.	N

			An assessment of the biodiversity value, as assessed via the Statutory Biodiversity Metric Tool, has been undertaken to evaluate the habitats on Site (**ES Volume 2, Appendix 7.12, Biodiversity Net Gain [EN010163/APP/6.3.7]);** this has identified that there would be a biodiversity net gain of habitat units 54.93%, hedgerow units 35.53% and watercourse units 14.68%. An Ecological Impact Assessment has also been undertaken to evaluate the ecologically important features on the Site and how they may be affected by the Proposed Development **(ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 - Ecology & Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.2.7] and Appendices associated with Chapter 7 – Ecology & Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.3.7].)** With mitigation in place, no significant adverse effects on designated nature conservation sites or important habitats are likely. Most species-impacts are scoped out, or are likely to be neutral, not significant, or slightly beneficial in the long-term. Effects on skylark are assessed as adverse (locally significant).	
679	S47	Concern regarding impact on landscape	The Applicant acknowledges that some adverse effects on landscape character within Area B would arise from the Proposed Development. However, the effects would be localised and limited in nature, particularly noting the additional mitigation planting which is included.	N

			As part of the DCO process the Applicant carried out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to assess the likely significant effects (both positive and negative) the Proposed Development could have on the environment and local area. **ES Volume 1, Chapters 6-16 [EN010163/APP/6.2.0-6.2.19]** provide details of a wide range of topics and the respective findings.	
680	S47	Concern regarding the loss of existing footpaths	The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW and the addition of two significant permissive routes within the Proposed Development.	N
681	S47	Concern regarding the loss of bridleways	The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW and the addition of two significant permissive routes within the Proposed Development.	N
682	S47	Concern regarding the loss of existing byways	The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW and the addition of two significant permissive routes within the Proposed Development.	N
683	S47	Concern that the Fusion site will also be located in Area B/Concern regarding cumulative impact with STEP Fusion	The proposed STEP fusion site will not be located in Area B, it will be located to the north within Area A. Cumulative impact assessment with projects in the vicinity of the Proposed Development is presented within the **ES Volume 1, Chapters 6-16 [EN010163/APP/6.2.0-6.2.19]**. As STEP does not have a design as yet, this project cannot be assessed in the cumulative assessment. At the EIA stage of the STEP DCO application, which will then have a	N

			detailed design, the potential effects in conjunction with the Proposed Development will be assessed.	
684	S47	Concern regarding extra traffic associated with construction vehicles	Construction traffic would be managed appropriately to minimise impacts on the local road network. Details can be found in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13],** which has been prepared for submission in support of the DCO Application.	N
Area C				
685	S47	Concern regarding loss of agricultural land	The UK has a legally binding commitment to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050. As one of the cheapest and most rapidly deployable forms of renewable energy, solar will play an important role in achieving this commitment. The Energy Security Strategy (April 2022) set an ambition of 70 GW of solar by 2035. The current Labour government made major commitments to the delivery of clean energy in its election manifesto, including to achieve “Clean Power by 2030”, including tripling solar power by 2030. This cannot be achieved through rooftop and brownfield solar installations alone, as they have considerable practical barriers of their own. Many domestic and industrial buildings either do not have roofs made of	N

			suitable material to support a solar system, do not have the infrastructure to export electricity to the gird, or simply present as an unaffordable solution, with initial costs of installation too high for some. As a result, ground mounted solar, on agricultural land in a necessity to deliver the quantum of solar power needed.	
686	S47	General support for use of Area C	The Applicant welcomes the comments in Area C.	N
687	S47	Statement that area to the is East less visible	The Applicant welcomes the comments in Area C.	N
688	S47	General opposition to the Proposed Development location	The Applicant acknowledges that there have been a range of views expressed with some in general opposition to the Proposed Development in Area C.	N
689	S47	Suggestion to reduce the size of the PD	The Applicant notes the comment; however, the Proposed Development needs to be large in scale to produce enough clean energy to be economically and technically viable. However, great care has been taken in its design to minimise environmental and visual impacts wherever possible. A **Statement of Need [EN010163/APP/7.6]** has been submitted as part of the application, explaining the reasons for the Proposed Development being large scale solar generation, and setting out the context, requirement and contribution of the Proposed Development to securing and decarbonising UK energy	Y

			supply. The Applicant is committed to the opportunity to repower the region with clean, green and affordable energy and replace the energy produced by the West Burton A power Station. Additionally, as part of the DCO process the Applicant carried out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to assess the likely significant effects (both positive and negative) the Proposed Development could have on the environment and local area. **ES Volume 1, Chapters 6-16 [EN010163/APP/6.2.0-6.2.19],** provide details of a wide range of topics and the respective findings.	
690	S47	Opposition to use of greenfield site	The UK has a legally binding commitment to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050. As one of the cheapest and most rapidly deployable forms of renewable energy, solar will play an important role in achieving this commitment. The Energy Security Strategy (April 2022) set an ambition of 70 GW of solar by 2035. The current Labour government made major commitments to the delivery of clean energy in its election manifesto, including to achieve “Clean Power by 2030”, including tripling solar power by 2030. This cannot be achieved through rooftop and brownfield solar installations alone, as they have considerable practical barriers of their own. Many domestic and industrial buildings either do not have roofs made of suitable material to support a solar system, do not have	N

			the infrastructure to export electricity to the gird, or simply present as an unaffordable solution, with initial costs of installation too high for some. As a result, ground mounted solar, on agricultural land in a necessity to deliver the quantum of solar power needed.	
691	S47	Statement that there is no mention of how flooding of River Trent will be managed	The Applicant acknowledges that flooding is an important issue in Area C. Flood risk, both surface water and fluvial, have been fully assessed as part of this application. **A Flood Risk Assessment [EN010163/APP/5.3],** has been undertaken with essential infrastructure located outside areas of flood risk from the River Trent.	N
692	S47	Concern regarding impact on Clarborough Tunnel SSSI	Clarborough Tunnel SSSI is adjacent to the Site's southern boundary and the part of the Site adjoining the SSSI has been identified for enhancement to species-rich grassland as part of the designed-in measures. The nearest area of development is over 750 m from the SSSI. Due to the nature of the Proposed Development and the separating distance from any areas of development within the Site, no direct or indirect impacts on the interest of Clarborough Tunnel SSSI are anticipated. A full assessment of the impacts on ecologically designated sites is presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 - Ecology and Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.2.7].**	N

693	S47	Concern regarding impact on landscape	The Applicant acknowledges that some adverse effects on landscape character would arise from the Proposed Development in Area C. However, the effects would be localised and limited in nature, particularly noting the additional mitigation planting which is included. As part of the DCO process the Applicant carried out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to assess the likely significant effects (both positive and negative) the Proposed Development could have on the environment and local area. **ES Volume 1, Chapters 6-16 [EN010163/APP/6.2.0-6.2.19],** provide details of a wide range of topics and the respective findings.	N
694	S47	Concern regarding impact on farmers' livelihoods/Concern regarding impact on farmers	In Area C, the Proposed Development can still be used for grazing and can support continued food production. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's food security. Indeed, the reverse is true: the solar industry is working closely with Britain's farmers to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground underneath to recover, while providing income for the farming business. Solar farms also help regenerate soil quality and so are helping to ensure the continued	N

			availability of high-quality agricultural acreage for future generations	
695	S47	Concern that the village will become surrounded	The Applicant notes the comment in Area C. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3 - Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3] and the Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3]** set out proximity to residential properties was considered as part of the site selection criteria and sufficient offsets can be achieved along with retention of existing and provision of new soft landscaping provisions to screen the proposed development. Solar panels will not be placed right up to the boundary with residential properties nor fully surrounded.	N
696	S47	General concern regarding noise	In Area C, the Applicant acknowledges that some sound and vibration could be generated during the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Proposed Development via the use of certain construction plant, the operation of various ancillary electrical equipment and the additional traffic generated by the Proposed Development in isolative and cumulative terms. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11 - Noise and Vibration [EN010163/APP/6.2.1]** addresses all relevant potential	N

			sound and vibratory effects from the introduction of the Proposed Development, concluding that sound and vibration generated during the temporary construction, operation and decommissioning of the site is considered not significant in the context of normal planning requirements, provided that typical mitigation measures are implemented and that best practice is followed.	
697	S47	Concern regarding visual impact/Concern regarding the visual impact for nearby residents	The Applicant acknowledges that some visual effects would arise as a result of the fencing included with the Proposed Development in Area C. However, these would be localised and further reduced following implementation of the mitigation planting included with the Proposed Development. In many views the fences would not be visible due to screening by existing or proposed planting.	N
698	S47	Concern regarding fragmentation of ecosystems	To reduce the potential impacts of habitat fragmentation to mammals due to the installation of security fencing, small gaps in the fencing will be created to allow continued movement throughout the Proposed Development. Gaps of approximately 35 cm x 35 cm at ground level would allow for continued use by species such as badger, brown hare and hedgehog. Access gaps will be strategically sited where existing mammal paths are present, and periodically elsewhere. Larger mammals such as deer would not be able to access beyond security fencing into solar array areas, however	N

			they would be able to travel across the landscape along green infrastructure corridors along hedgerows, watercourses and into retained areas of woodland. The proposed Biodiversity Mitigation Areas would not be security fenced and therefore accessible to deer and other mammals. As part of the DCO process the Applicant carried out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to assess the likely significant effects (both positive and negative) the Proposed Development could have on the environment and local area. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 – Ecology and Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.2.7]** provides details of the potential impacts on ecology and biodiversity.	
699	S47	Statement that bridleways/footpaths are well used	In Area C, the Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW and the addition of two significant permissive routes within the Proposed Development.	N
700	S47	Concern regarding the impact on bridleways	In Area C, the Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW and the addition of two significant permissive routes within the Proposed Development.	N

701	S47	Concern that the Proposed Development would dominate views of the countryside	To reduce effects on visual amenity within Area C, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views.	N
702	S47	Mentions of and concerns regarding food security/Concern regarding loss of food production	The Proposed Development can still be used for grazing and can support continued food production. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's food security. Indeed, the reverse is true: the solar industry is working closely with Britain's farmers to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground underneath to recover, while providing income for the farming business. Solar farms also help regenerate soil quality and so are helping to ensure the continued availability of high-quality agricultural acreage for future generations.	N
703	S47	Concern regarding loss of businesses/ livelihoods	The Proposed Development can still be used for grazing and can support continued food production. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's food security. Indeed, the reverse is true: the solar industry is working closely with Britain's farmers to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their	N

			operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground underneath to recover, while providing income for the farming business. Solar farms also help regenerate soil quality and so are helping to ensure the continued availability of high-quality agricultural acreage for future generations.	
704	S47	Concern regarding loss of land for food production	The Proposed Development can still be used for grazing and can support continued food production. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's food security. Indeed, the reverse is true: the solar industry is working closely with Britain's farmers to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground underneath to recover, while providing income for the farming business. Solar farms also help regenerate soil quality and so are helping to ensure the continued availability of high-quality agricultural acreage for future generations	N
705	S47	Concern regarding impact on ecology/Concern regarding loss of habitat/Concern regarding impact on wildlife	The Applicant acknowledges that the Site supports biodiversity and a range of flora and fauna within Area C. Detailed surveys and studies have been completed by independent ecological consultants to establish the pre-development ecological baseline and these have informed	N

			the design process, the scope of which was agreed with consultees. The Proposed Development retains, protects and enhances the majority of the habitats with increased biodiversity value such as hedgerows, arable field margins, woodlands, trees, watercourses, and ponds. Significant areas of new habitats are proposed including wetlands, woodland, hedgerows and meadow grassland. An assessment of the biodiversity value, as assessed via the Statutory Biodiversity Metric Tool, has been undertaken to evaluate the habitats on Site (**ES Volume 2, Appendix 7.12, Biodiversity Net Gain [EN010163/APP/6.3.7]**); this has identified that there would be a biodiversity net gain of habitat units 54.93%, hedgerow units 35.53% and watercourse units 14.68%. An Ecological Impact Assessment has also been undertaken to evaluate the ecologically important features on the Site and how they may be affected by the Proposed Development. See **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 - Ecology & Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.2.7]** and **Appendices associated with Chapter 7 – Ecology & Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.3.7]** With mitigation in place, no significant adverse effects on	

			designated nature conservation sites or important habitats are likely. Most species-impacts are scoped out, or are likely to be neutral, not significant, or slightly beneficial in the long-term. Effects on skylark are assessed as adverse (locally significant).	
706	S47	Concern regarding the loss of existing byways	The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW and will be facilitating the addition of two significant permissive routes within the Proposed Development.	N
707	S47	Concern regarding impacts on mental health	The Applicant has considered impacts on mental health, both direct and indirect, as a result of the Proposed Development within each of the six determinants of health through the WHIASU approach. See Table 7.1 and Table 7.2 in Section 7 of the **Health Impact Assessment [EN010163/APP/7.2]**: Impacts of the Proposed Development for further information regarding the potential impacts on relevant Target Groups. Relevant information from wider application documentation is used to inform the assessment and referenced as necessary in **Section 7 of the HIA [EN010163/APP/7.2].**	N
708	S47	Concern regarding impact on quality of life	The Applicant has considered impacts on mental health, both direct and indirect, as a result of the Proposed Development within each of the six determinants of health through the WHIASU approach. See Table 7.1 and Table 7.2 in Section 7 of the **Health Impact Assessment [EN010163/APP/7.2]**: Impacts of the Proposed Development for further information regarding the	N

			potential impacts on relevant Target Groups. Relevant information from wider application documentation is used to inform the assessment and referenced as necessary in **Section 7 of the HIA [EN010163/APP/7.2].**	
709	S47	Concern regarding the impact on their listed property ([redacted])	**ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 - Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9]** identifies the likely significant effects the Proposed Development may have on the local historic environment, including identified and potential archaeology and cultural heritage features such as listed buildings, scheduled monuments and conservation areas. Where impacts have been identified, mitigation measures have been proposed as part of the Proposed Development.	N
710	S47	Concern regarding properties being surrounded/ Concern that their property will become surrounded by panels	The Applicant notes the comment. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3 - Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process (EN010163/APP/6.2.3) and the Design and Access Statement (EN010163/APP/7.3**) set out proximity to residential properties in Area C was considered as part of the site selection criteria and sufficient offsets can be achieved along with retention of existing and provision of new soft landscaping provisions to screen the proposed development and provide buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages. Solar panels will not be placed right up to the boundary with residential properties nor fully surrounded.	N

711	S47	Concern regarding the proximity of the Proposed Development to villages	The Applicant acknowledges the range of views. To reduce effects on visual amenity in Area C, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views. The minimum distance from any properties to panels in Area C is approximately 130m.	N
712	S47	Concern regarding the scale of the PD	The Applicant notes the comment, however the Proposed Development needs to be large in scale to produce enough clean energy to be economically and technically viable. However, great care has been taken in its design to minimise environmental and visual impacts wherever possible. As part of the DCO process the Applicant carried out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to assess the likely significant effects (both positive and negative) the Proposed Development could have on the environment and local area. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6 through to Chapter 16 [EN010163/APP/6.2.6 - 6.2.16]** provide details of a wide range of topics and the respective findings.	N

713	S47	Concern regarding loss of access to countryside for recreation/Concern regarding loss of open countryside	The site used for the Proposed Development can continue to contribute to local agriculture. Over 95% of the solar panel areas can be made available for sheep grazing, retaining an agricultural use and allowing topsoil to recover, by increasing soil organic matter and improving the soil structure. The leases the Applicant has agreed on the solar land grant the landowners the right to graze sheep over the life of the Proposed Development.	N
714	S47	Concern regarding the impact on the character of the area	As part of the DCO process the Applicant carried out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to assess the likely significant effects (both positive and negative) the Proposed Development could have on the environment and local area. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6 through to Chapter 16 [EN010163/APP/6.2.6 - 6.2.16],** provide details of a wide range of topics and the respective findings.	N
715	S47	Suggestion that the start of the panels is moved away from nearby properties	The Applicant acknowledges the range of views. To reduce effects on visual amenity in Area C, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views.	N
716	S47	Concern regarding impact on lifestyles	A dedicated assessment on Human Health has not been scoped into the DCO Application for the Proposed Development. However, potential impacts on Human Health are assessed in the **Health Impact Assessment [EN010163/APP/7.2],** at the request of NCC	N

717	S47	Concern regarding impact on local people	A dedicated assessment on Human Health has not been scoped into the DCO Application for the Proposed Development. However, potential impacts on Human Health are assessed in **Health Impact Assessment [EN010163/APP/7.2]** at the request of NCC.	N
718	S47	Statement that area to the east is less frequented by walkers	The Applicant notes the comment. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3 - Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** and the **Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3**] set out proximity to residential properties in Area C was considered.	N
719	S47	Concern regarding impact on North Leverton Windmill	The Applicant acknowledges the importance of heritage assets. The Proposed Development is anticipated to have a minor adverse effect on the North Leverton Windmill, which is not significant. A full assessment of the impacts on North Leverton Windmill and other local heritage assets is presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 – Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9].**	N
720	S47	Statement that Area C covers an Ancient Roman Road	**ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 - Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9],** identifies the likely significant effects the Proposed Development may have on the local historic environment, including identified and potential archaeology and cultural heritage features such as listed buildings, scheduled monuments and conservation areas. Where impacts have been identified, mitigation measures have been proposed as part of the Proposed Development.	N

			Where elements of a Roman road within Area C have been identified in association with Segelocum, or by more recent works e.g., the geophysical survey **(ES Volume 2, Appendix 9.2, Magnitude Surveys Geophysical Survey Report [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]),** such areas have been avoided.	
721	S47	Statement that a full archaeology survey should be completed	**ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 - Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9]** identifies the likely significant effects the Proposed Development may have on the local historic environment, including identified and potential archaeology and cultural heritage features such as listed buildings, scheduled monuments and conservation areas. Where impacts have been identified, mitigation measures have been proposed as part of the Proposed Development.	N
722	S47	Statement that Area C is prone to flooding	The Applicant acknowledges that flooding is an important issue. Flood risk within Area C, both surface water and fluvial, have been fully assessed as part of this application. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.1, Flood Risk Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]** has been undertaken with essential infrastructure located outside areas of flood risk. Furthermore, two attenuation ponds hare located to the west of Sturton le Steeple to help control surface water run off and minimise flood risk within the village.	N

723	S47	Statement that alternative locations should be proposed	The site selection for a solar farm is led by availability of capacity on the National Grid and the availability of land through agreement. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3 - Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3],** provides a detailed account of the site selection process and the viability of land to be provided through voluntary agreement for the Proposed Development.	Y
724	S47	Concern regarding visual impact of pylons	The Proposed Development does not contain any pylons or new overhead lines.	N
725	S47	Concern regarding visual impact of panels	The Applicant acknowledges the range of views. To reduce effects on visual amenity, within Area C opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views.	N
726	S47	Concern regarding the loss of existing footpaths/Concern regarding the impact on footpaths	The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW and the addition of two significant permissive routes within the Proposed Development.	N
727	S47	Statement that the use of Area C makes sense due to proximity to power station	The Applicant notes the comment	N

728	S47	Concern regarding impact on property prices	The Applicant acknowledges the concerns raised in relation to changes in property values as a result of the Proposed Development. It is not considered that the Proposed Development would impact property value. Furthermore, property values are not a material planning consideration.	N
729	S47	Concern regarding the loss of bridleways	The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW and the addition of two significant permissive routes within the Proposed Development.	N
730	S47	Suggestion to remove Area C/Statement that Area C could be removed to use solar when it works best	The Applicant notes the comment, however the Proposed Development would not be viable if the totality of area C were to be removed. The Applicant acknowledges the range of views. opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views.	N
731	S47	Suggestion to remove Area C and install wind to complement the PD	The Applicant notes the comment, however the Proposed Development would not be viable if the totality of area C were to be removed.	N
Area D				

732	S47	Concern regarding loss of employment	The Proposed development will result in could support 382 direct and indirect temporary jobs during the construction phase and 191 temporary jobs during the decommissioning phase of the development. An assessment of the impact on jobs is available in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10 – Socio Economics [EN010163/APP/6.2.10].**	N
733	S47	Concern regarding the scale of the PD	The Applicant acknowledges that there have been a range of views expressed with some in general opposition to the Proposed Development in Area D.	N
734	S47	Concern regarding impact on farmers	In Area D, the Proposed Development can still be used for grazing and can support continued food production. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's food security. Indeed, the reverse is true: the solar industry is working closely with Britain's farmers to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground underneath to recover, while providing income for the farming business. Solar farms also help regenerate soil quality and so are helping to ensure the continued availability of high quality agricultural acreage for future generations	N

735	S47	Concern regarding impact on lifestyles/ Concern regarding impact on local people	A dedicated assessment on Human Health has not been scoped into the DCO Application for the Proposed Development. However, potential impacts on Human Health in Area E are assessed in the **Human Impact Assessment [EN010163/APP/7.2]** at the request of NCC.	N
736	S47	Concern regarding the loss of habitats	The Applicant acknowledges that the Site supports biodiversity and a range of flora and fauna in Area D. Detailed surveys and studies have been completed by independent ecological consultants to establish the pre-development ecological baseline and these have informed the design process, the scope of which was agreed with consultees. The Proposed Development retains, protects and enhances the majority of the habitats with increased biodiversity value such as hedgerows, arable field margins, woodlands, trees, watercourses, and ponds. Significant areas of new habitats are proposed including wetlands, woodland, hedgerows and meadow grassland. An assessment of the biodiversity value, as assessed via the Statutory Biodiversity Metric Tool, has been undertaken to evaluate the habitats on Site (**ES Volume 2, Appendix 7.12, Biodiversity Net Gain [EN010163/APP/6.3.7]);** this has identified that there would be a biodiversity net gain of habitat units 54.93%, hedgerow units 35.53% and watercourse units 14.68%.	N

			An Ecological Impact Assessment has also been undertaken to evaluate the ecologically important features on the Site and how they may be affected by the Proposed Development **(ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 - Ecology & Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.2.7] and Appendices associated with Chapter 7 – Ecology & Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.3.7])** With mitigation in place, no significant adverse effects on designated nature conservation sites or important habitats are likely. Most species-impacts are scoped out, or are likely to be neutral, not significant, or slightly beneficial in the long-term. Effects on skylark are assessed as adverse (locally significant).	
737	S47	Concern that the village will become surrounded	In Area D, The Applicant notes the comment. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3 - Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process (EN010163/APP/6.2.3) and the Design and Access Statement (EN010163/APP/7.3**) set out proximity to residential properties was considered as part of the site selection criteria and sufficient offsets can be achieved along with retention of existing and provision of new soft landscaping provisions to screen the proposed development and provide buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages. Solar	N

			panels will not be placed right up to the boundary with residential properties nor fully surrounded.	
738	S47	Statement that area to the East less visible	In Area D, The Applicant acknowledges the range of views. To reduce effects on visual amenity, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views.	N
739	S47	Statement that area to the east is less frequented by walkers	In Area D, The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW and the addition of two significant permissive routes within the Proposed Development.	N
740	S47	Statement that Area D is prone to flooding	In Area D, The Applicant acknowledges that flooding is an important issue. Flood risk, both surface water and fluvial, have been fully assessed as part of this application. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.3, Flood Risk Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]** has been undertaken with essential infrastructure located outside areas of flood risk. Furthermore, two attenuation ponds hare located to the west of Sturton le Steeple to help control surface water run off and minimise flood risk within the village.	N
741	S47	Mentions of and concerns regarding food security	In Area D, the Proposed Development can still be used for grazing and can support continued food production. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's food security. Indeed, the reverse is true: the solar industry is working closely with Britain's farmers to reduce	N

			their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground underneath to recover, while providing income for the farming business. Solar farms also help regenerate soil quality and so are helping to ensure the continued availability of high quality agricultural acreage for future generations	
742	S47	Statement that there is no mention of how flooding of River Trent will be managed	In Area D, The Applicant acknowledges that flooding is an important issue. Flood risk, both surface water and fluvial, have been fully assessed as part of this application. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 8.3, Flood Risk Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.3.8]** has been undertaken with essential infrastructure located outside areas of flood risk from the River Trent.	N
743	S47	Suggestion to bring nature areas closer to the village	The Proposed Development is providing areas of publicly accessible green space closer to Sturton-Le-Steeple, Fenton and North Leverton which will be integrated with public footpaths for ease of access for local residents. The Biodiversity Mitigation Areas will have Public Rights of Way and permissive paths to allow access for local residents to pass through these areas in the same manner that they are currently used.	N

744	S47	Statement that nature areas are set too far from public access	The Proposed Development is providing areas of publicly accessible green space closer to Sturton-Le-Steeple, Fenton and North Leverton which will be integrated with public footpaths for ease of access for local residents. The Biodiversity Mitigation Areas will have Public Rights of Way and permissive paths to allow access for local residents to pass through these areas in the same manner that they are currently used.	N
745	S47	Concern regarding loss of businesses/ livelihoods	In Area D, the Proposed Development can still be used for grazing and can support continued food production. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's food security. Indeed, the reverse is true: the solar industry is working closely with Britain's farmers to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground underneath to recover, while providing income for the farming business. Solar farms also help regenerate soil quality and so are helping to ensure the continued availability of high quality agricultural acreage for future generations	N

746	S47	Concern regarding loss of agricultural land	In Area D, the Proposed Development can still be used for grazing and can support continued food production. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's food security. Indeed, the reverse is true: the solar industry is working closely with Britain's farmers to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground underneath to recover, while providing income for the farming business. Solar farms also help regenerate soil quality and so are helping to ensure the continued availability of high quality agricultural acreage for future generations.	N
747	S47	Statement that Area D should remain as farmland	In Area, D the Proposed Development can still be used for grazing and can support continued food production. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's food security. Indeed, the reverse is true: the solar industry is working closely with Britain's farmers to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground underneath to recover, while providing income for the farming business. Solar farms also help regenerate soil quality and so are helping to ensure the continued	Y

			availability of high quality agricultural acreage for future generations	
748	S47	Statement that Area D is the most palatable	The Applicant notes the comment in Area D.	N
749	S47	Statement that Area D is out of the way	The Applicant notes the comment in Area D.	N
750	S47	Suggestion that Area D should be used alone	The Applicant notes the comment, however the Proposed Development would not be viable if only Area D were to be used.	Y
751	S47	Opposition to use of greenfield site	The UK has a legally binding commitment to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050. As one of the cheapest and most rapidly deployable forms of renewable energy, solar will play an important role in achieving this commitment. The Energy Security Strategy (April 2022) set an ambition of 70 GW of solar by 2035. The current Labour government made major commitments to the delivery of clean energy in its election manifesto, including to achieve “Clean Power by 2030”, including tripling solar power by 2030. This cannot be achieved through rooftop and brownfield solar installations alone, as they have considerable practical barriers of their own. Many domestic and industrial buildings either do not have roofs made of suitable material to support a solar system, do not have the infrastructure to export electricity to the gird, or	N

			simply present as an unaffordable solution, with initial costs of installation too high for some. As a result, ground mounted solar, on agricultural land in a necessity to deliver the quantum of solar power needed.	
752	S47	Concern regarding loss of access to the countryside	In Area D, The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW and the addition of two significant permissive routes within the Proposed Development.	N
753	S47	Suggestion to move panels further away from homes to reduce their impact	The Applicant acknowledges the range of views in Area D. To reduce effects on visual amenity, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views.	Y
754	S47	Concern regarding impact on North Leverton Windmill	The Applicant acknowledges the importance of heritage assets. The Proposed Development is anticipated to have a minor adverse effect on the North Leverton Windmill, which is not significant. A full assessment of the impacts on North Leverton Windmill and other local heritage assets is presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9, Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9]**.	N

755	S47	Concern regarding impact on Clarborough Tunnel SSS1	Clarborough Tunnel SSSI is adjacent to the Site's southern boundary and the part of the Site adjoining the SSSI has been identified for enhancement to species-rich grassland as part of the designed-in measures. The nearest area of development is over 750 m from the SSSI. Due to the nature of the Proposed Development and the separating distance from any areas of development within the Site, no direct or indirect impacts on the interest of Clarborough Tunnel SSSI are anticipated. A full assessment of the impacts on ecologically designated sites is presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 15 – Land Use and Agriculture [EN010163/APP/6.2.15].**	N
756	S47	Suggestion to create improved access to river banks	The Applicant notes the comment and where possible will look to incorporate improved access to river banks in Area D within the Landscape and Ecological Management Plans (LEMP) to be submitted post consent.	N
757	S47	Suggestion to create car parking near the river	The Applicant notes the comment but would not want to encourage vehicular traffic to Littleborough.	N
Area E				
758	S47	Concern regarding loss of agricultural land	The Applicant understands that there are concerns regarding the loss of agricultural land locally and nationwide, however only 0.06% of land in the UK is currently taken up by solar and even if the UK had a 70GW	N

			solar output this would only take up 0.4% of land nationally. Solar farms are specifically designed to be dual purpose and allow for the generation of clean electricity alongside agricultural purposes such as sheep grazing. Typically, a solar farm uses approximately just 5% of the total ground area of a site, meaning a significant proportion of land is left available for uses such as sheep grazing and habitat re-wilding. The impact on agricultural land use as a result of the Proposed Development is fully assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 15 – Land Use and Agriculture [EN010163/APP/6.2.15].**	
759	S47	Concern that the village will become surrounded	The Applicant notes the comment in Area E. **ES Chapter 3 - Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3] and the Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3]** set out proximity to residential properties was considered as part of the site selection criteria and sufficient offsets can be achieved along with retention of existing and provision of new soft landscaping provisions to screen the proposed development. Solar panels will not be placed right up to the boundary with residential properties nor fully surrounded.	N

760	S47	Statement that alternative locations should be proposed	The Applicant notes the comments in Area E. **The Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3] explains the Scheme's design evolution including site location. ES Chapter 3 - Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** provides more information regarding site selection. The location has been chosen for a number of reasons including connection agreement, proximity of grid connection, good access, screening provisions and offsets to sensitive receptors/ physical constraints can be achieved. Alternative sites have been considered but were discounted for numerous reasons such as proximity to heritage assets, ecological designations etc.	Y
761	S47	Opposition to use of greenfield site	The Applicant notes the comment in Area E. Renewable energy development on greenfield land is not prevented by National Policy Statements EN-1, EN-3 or EN-5. In addition **ES Chapter 3 : Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3] and the Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3]** set out their is not sufficient brownfield land or roof space to accommodate the scale of solar development proposed.	N

762	S47	Concern regarding impact on North Leverton Windmill	The Applicant acknowledges the importance of heritage assets. The Proposed Development is anticipated to have a minor adverse effect on the North Leverton Windmill, which is not significant. A full assessment of the impacts on North Leverton Windmill and other local heritage assets is presented in **Chapter 9 of the ES [EN010163/APP/6.2.9].**	N
763	S47	Concern regarding the proximity of the Proposed Development to villages	The Applicant notes the comment. ES Chapter 3 : Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [**EN010163/APP/6.2.3**] and the Design and Access Statement [**EN010163/APP/7.3**] set out proximity to villages was considered as part of the site selection criteria and sufficient offsets can be achieved along with retention of existing and provision of new soft landscaping provisions to screen the proposed development.	N
764	S47	Concern regarding loss of access to countryside for recreation	All public rights of way within the site boundary with be retained as part of the proposals. New permitted paths will also be introduced as part of the Proposed Development to improve connectivity within the local area. As assessment of the impact of access is provided within **Chapter 13 of the ES – Transport and Access (EN010163/APP/6.2.13)**	N

765	S47	Concern regarding loss of open countryside	In Area E, the site used for the Proposed Development can continue to contribute to local agriculture. Over 95% of the solar panel areas can be made available for sheep grazing, retaining an agricultural use and allowing topsoil to recover, by increasing soil organic matter and improving the soil structure. The leases the Applicant has agreed on the solar land grant the landowners the right to graze sheep over the life of the Proposed Development.	N
766	S47	Concern regarding impacts on mental health	The Applicant has considered impacts on mental health, both direct and indirect, as a result of the Proposed Development within each of the six determinants of health through the WHIASU approach. See Table 7.1 and Table 7.2 in Section 7 of the **Health Impact Assessment: Impacts of the Proposed** Development for further information regarding the potential impacts on relevant Target Groups. Relevant information from wider application documentation is used to inform the assessment and referenced as necessary in **Section 7 of the Health Impact Assessment [EN010163/APP/7.2].**	N
767	S47	Concern regarding impact on quality of life	The Applicant has considered impacts on quality of life, both direct and indirect, as a result of the Proposed Development within each of the six determinants of health through the WHIASU approach. See Table 7.1 and Table 7.2 in Section 7 of the HIA: Impacts of the Proposed Development for further information regarding the potential impacts on relevant Target Groups. Relevant	N

			information from wider application documentation is used to inform the assessment and referenced as necessary in **Section 7 of the HIA [EN010163/APP/7.2].**	
768	S47	Suggestion to reduce the size of the PD/Concern regarding scale of the PD	The Applicant notes the comment; however the Proposed Development needs to be large in scale to produce enough clean energy to be economically and technically viable. However, great care has been taken in its design to minimise environmental and visual impacts wherever possible. A Statement of Need [EN010163/APP/7.6] has been submitted as part of the application, explaining the reasons for the Proposed Development being large scale solar generation, and setting out the context, requirement and contribution of the Proposed Development to securing and decarbonising UK energy supply. The Applicant is committed to the opportunity to repower the region with clean, green and affordable energy and replace the energy produced by the West Burton A power Station. Additionally, as part of the DCO process the Applicant carried out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to assess the likely significant effects (both positive and negative) the Proposed Development could have on the environment and local area. ES Volume 1, Chapters 6-16	N

			provide details of a wide range of topics and the respective findings.	
769	S47	Concern that the Proposed Development would dominate views of the countryside	The Applicant acknowledges the range of views in Area E. To reduce effects on visual amenity, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views.	N
770	S47	Concern regarding impact on Clarborough Tunnel SSSI	Clarborough Tunnel SSSI is adjacent to the Site's southern boundary and the part of the Site adjoining the SSSI has been identified for enhancement to species-rich grassland as part of the designed-in measures. The nearest area of development is over 750 m from the SSSI. Due to the nature of the Proposed Development and the separating distance from any areas of development within the Site, no direct or indirect impacts on the interest of Clarborough Tunnel SSSI are anticipated. A full assessment of the impacts on ecologically designated sites is presented in **Chapter 7 of the ES – Ecology and Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.2.7].**	N
771	S47	Statement that bridleways/footpaths are well used	In Area E, The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW and the addition of two significant permissive routes within the Proposed Development.	N

772	S47	Statement that Area E is too large	The Applicant acknowledges the comment; however the Proposed Development needs to be large in scale to produce enough clean energy to be economically and technically viable. However, great care has been taken in its design to minimise environmental and visual impacts wherever possible. In response to consultation feedback and technical assessments, Area E has been designed to limit impacts where possible. An access route which was proposed to the south of Area E has been removed, reducing impacts on residents of North Leverton with Habblesthorpe. Additionally, a setback of 50m from the edge of the Order Limits to the built development has been included in the eastern extent of Area E which will reduce impacts on Sturton le Steeple. As part of the DCO process the Applicant carried out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to assess the likely significant effects (both positive and negative) the Proposed Development could have on the environment and local area. **ES Volume 1, Chapters 6-16 [EN010163/APP/6.2.0-6.2.19]** provide details of a wide range of topics and the respective findings.	N
773	S47	Concern that their property will be surrounded (Leverton Road)	The Applicant notes the comment in Area E. **ES Chapter 3 : Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3] and the Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3]** set out proximity to residential properties was considered as part of the site selection criteria and sufficient offsets can be achieved	N

			along with retention of existing and provision of new soft landscaping provisions to screen the proposed development. Solar panels will not be placed right up to the boundary with residential properties nor fully surrounded.	
774	S47	Concern that biodiversity areas have not been highlighted on the map	The biodiversity mitigation areas in Area E are identified on the **Site Layout plan [EN010163/APP/2.6]**	N
775	S47	Concern that the developer only cares about profit	Whilst the Applicant is a commercial entity, the Proposed Development has a range of benefits to the community and the UK as a whole. If consented the Proposed Development would generate approximately 450MW of clean, green, electricity; enough energy to power approximately 180,000 homes every year.	N
776	S47	Statement that the Proposed Development is located too close their property (Leverton Road)	The Applicant notes the comment in Area E. **ES Chapter 3 : Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process (EN010163/APP/6.2.3) and the Design and Access Statement (EN010163/APP/7.3**) set out proximity to residential properties was considered as part of the site selection criteria and sufficient offsets can be achieved along with retention of existing and provision of new soft landscaping provisions to screen the proposed development. Solar panels will not be placed right up to the boundary with residential properties nor fully surrounded.	N

777	S47	Concern regarding the impact on their property [redacted] Statement that the Proposed Development is located too close their property [redacted])	The Applicant notes the comment in Area E. **ES Chapter 3 : Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process (EN010163/APP/6.2.3) and the Design and Access Statement (EN010163/APP/7.3**) set out proximity to residential properties was considered as part of the site selection criteria and sufficient offsets can be achieved along with retention of existing and provision of new soft landscaping provisions to screen the proposed development. Solar panels will not be placed right up to the boundary with residential properties nor fully surrounded.	N
778	S47	Statement that their home is of timber frame construction and more susceptible to damage	The Applicant notes the comment in Area E. **ES Chapter 11 Noise [EN010163/APP/6.2.11]** has been prepared which includes an assessment of the potential impact on nearby residential properties and concludes there will be no significant impact on residential dwellings.	N
779	S47	Concern regarding the impact of vibration on properties	The Applicant notes the comment in Area E. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11 – Noise and Vibration [EN010163/APP/6.2.11]** has been prepared which includes an assessment of the potential impact on nearby residential properties and concludes there will be no significant impact on residential dwellings.	N

780	S47	Concern regarding the impact on properties of vibrations from extra traffic	The Applicant notes the comment in Area E. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11 – Noise and Vibration [EN010163/APP/6.2.11]** has been prepared which includes an assessment of the potential impact on nearby residential properties as a result of increased traffic flows during the construction phase and concludes there will be no significant impact on residential dwellings.	N
781	S47	Concern regarding impact on communities	As part of the DCO process the Applicant has carried out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to assess the likely significant effects (both positive and negative) the Proposed Development could have on the environment and local communities in Area E. **ES Volume 1, chapters 6-16 [EN01013/APP/6.2.0-6.2.19]** provide details on a wide range of topics such as landscape and visual, biodiversity, cultural heritage, flood risk, traffic, noise and other considerations.	N
782	S47	Concern regarding impact on the countryside	In Area E, the site used for the Proposed Development can continue to contribute to local agriculture. Over 95% of the solar panel areas can be made available for sheep grazing, retaining an agricultural use and allowing topsoil to recover, by increasing soil organic matter and improving the soil structure. The leases the Applicant has agreed on the solar land grant the landowners the right to graze sheep over the life of the Proposed Development.	N

783	S47	Concern that the Proposed Development will industrialise the local area	The Applicant acknowledges the range of views in Area E. To reduce effects on visual amenity, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views.	N
784	S47	General opposition to the Proposed Development location	The Applicant notes the comments in Area E. **The Design and Access Statement (EN010163/APP/7.3)** explains the Scheme's design evolution including site location. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3 - Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** provides more information regarding site selection. The location has been chosen for a number of reasons including connection agreement, proximity of grid connection, good access, screening provisions and offsets to sensitive receptors/ physical constraints can be achieved.	N
785	S47	Concern regarding proximity of the Proposed Development to North Leverton	The Applicant notes the comment**. ES Volume 1, Chapter 3 - Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]) and the Design and Access Statement (EN010163/APP/7.3)** set out proximity to residential properties was considered as part of the site selection criteria and sufficient offsets can be achieved along with retention of existing and provision of new soft landscaping provisions to screen the proposed development. Solar panels will not be placed right up to	N

			the boundary with residential properties nor fully surrounded.	
786	S47	Concern regarding disruption to residents	As part of the DCO process the Applicant carried out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to assess the likely significant effects (both positive and negative) the Proposed Development could have on the environment and local area in Area E. . **ES Volume 1, chapters 6-16 [EN01013/APP/6.2.0-6.2.19]** provide details of a wide range of topics and the respective findings.	N
787	S47	Concern regarding disruption associated with BESS	The design and siting of the BESS facility has now been fixed, and the BESS will not be located within Area E.	N
788	S47	Statement that local roads are already damaged	Routes and access points in Area E will be subject to a Condition Survey pre and post construction.	N
789	S47	Concern regarding impact on local roads	In Area E, construction traffic would be managed appropriately to minimise impacts on the local road network. Details can be found in the **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2 Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13],**which has been prepared for submission in support of the DCO Application.	N

790	S47	Concern regarding extra traffic	In Area E, construction traffic would be managed appropriately to minimise impacts on the local road network. Details can be found in the **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2 Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13],**which has been prepared for submission in support of the DCO Application.	N
791	S47	Statement that the village cannot cope with extra traffic	In Area E, construction traffic would be managed appropriately to minimise impacts on the local road network. Details can be found in the **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2 Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13],** which has been prepared for submission in support of the DCO Application.	N
792	S47	Concern regarding the impact on North Leverton Windmill	The Applicant acknowledges the importance of heritage assets in Area E. The Proposed Development is anticipated to have a minor adverse effect on the North Leverton Windmill, which is not significant. A full assessment of the impacts on North Leverton Windmill and other local heritage assets is presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 – Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9].**	N
793	S47	Concern regarding the impact on owls, birds, foxes, hares,	To reduce the potential impacts of habitat fragmentation to mammals due to the installation of security fencing, small gaps in the fencing will be created to allow continued movement throughout the Proposed Development. Gaps of approximately 35 cm x 35 cm at	N

			ground level would allow for continued use by species such as badger, brown hare and hedgehog. Access gaps will be strategically sited where existing mammal paths are present, and periodically elsewhere. Larger mammals such as deer would not be able to access beyond security fencing into solar array areas, however they would be able to travel across the landscape along green infrastructure corridors along hedgerows, watercourses and into retained areas of woodland. The proposed Biodiversity Mitigation Areas would not be security fenced and therefore accessible to deer and other mammals. As part of the DCO process the Applicant carried out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to assess the likely significant effects (both positive and negative) the Proposed Development could have on the environment and local area. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 - Ecology and Biodiversity (EN010163/APP/6.2.7),** provides details of the potential impacts on ecology and biodiversity. As part of the DCO process the Applicant carried out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to assess the likely significant effects (both positive and negative) the Proposed Development could have on the environment and local area. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 - Ecology and**	

			Biodiversity (EN010163/APP/6.2.7), provides details of the potential impacts on ecology and biodiversity.	
794	S47	Concern regarding the impact on wildlife/Concern regarding impact on ecology/Concern regarding loss of habitat	The Applicant acknowledges that the Site supports biodiversity and a range of flora and fauna. Detailed surveys and studies have been completed by independent ecological consultants to establish the pre-development ecological baseline, and these have informed the design process, the scope of which was agreed with consultees. In [redacted] The Proposed Development retains, protects and enhances the majority of the habitats with increased biodiversity value such as hedgerows, arable field margins, woodlands, trees, watercourses, and ponds. Significant areas of new habitats are proposed including wetlands, woodland, hedgerows and meadow grassland. An assessment of the biodiversity value, as assessed via the Statutory Biodiversity Metric Tool, has been undertaken to evaluate the habitats on Site (**ES Volume 2, Appendix 7.12, Biodiversity Net Gain [EN010163/APP/6.3.7]);** this has identified that there would be a biodiversity net gain of habitat units 54.93%, hedgerow units 35.53% and watercourse units 14.68%.	N

			An Ecological Impact Assessment has also been undertaken to evaluate the ecologically important features on the Site and how they may be affected by the Proposed Development **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 - Ecology & Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.2.7] and Appendices associated with Chapter 7 – Ecology & Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.3.7]** With mitigation in place, no significant adverse effects on designated nature conservation sites or important habitats are likely. Most species-impacts are scoped out, or are likely to be neutral, not significant, or slightly beneficial in the long-term. Effects on skylark are assessed as adverse (locally significant).	
795	S47	Statement that a smaller scale project would be acceptable	The Applicant notes the comment; however, the Proposed Development needs to be large in scale to produce enough clean energy to be economically and technically viable. However, great care has been taken in its design to minimise environmental and visual impacts wherever possible. As part of the DCO process the Applicant carried out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to assess the likely significant effects (both positive and negative) the Proposed Development could have on the environment	Y

			and local area. ES Volume 1, Chapters 6-16 provide details of a wide range of topics and the respective findings.	
796	S47	Statement that land between South Wheatley and Sturton should be protected from development	The Applicant acknowledges the range of views. To reduce effects on visual amenity in Area E, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views.	N
797	S47	Statement that their property is adjacent to access to Area E (Greenbank)	The Applicant acknowledges the range of views. To reduce effects on visual amenity in Area E, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views.	N
798	S47	Concern regarding how construction access will be policed	In Area E, construction traffic would be managed appropriately to minimise impacts on the local road network. Details can be found in the **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2 Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13],** which has been prepared for submission in support of the DCO Application.	N

799	S47	Statement that the boundary of Area E is directly adjacent to their property (Main Street)	The Applicant acknowledges the range of views. To reduce effects on visual amenity in Area E, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views.	N
800	S47	Statement that Area E directly impacts their family property (The Old Stables, Springs Lane)	The Applicant acknowledges the range of views. To reduce effects on visual amenity in Area E, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views.	N
801	S47	Concern regarding impact on house prices	The Applicant acknowledges the concerns raised in relation to changes in property values in Area E as a result of the Proposed Development. It is not considered that the Proposed Development would impact property value. Furthermore, property values are not a material planning consideration.	N
802	S47	Statement that local roads must be maintained to allow unrestricted access to local villages	In Area E, construction traffic would be managed appropriately to minimise impacts on the local road network. Details can be found in the **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2 Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13],** which has been prepared for submission in support of the DCO Application.	N

803	S47	Concern regarding loss of access to amenities	In Area E, The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW and the addition of two significant permissive routes within the Proposed Development.	N
804	S47	Statement that location to the West of the village preferrable for development	The Applicant notes the comment, however the Proposed Development needs areas both east and west of the village in order to produce the required amount of clean solar energy. However, great care has been taken in its design to minimise environmental and visual impacts wherever possible. As part of the DCO process the Applicant carried out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to assess the likely significant effects (both positive and negative) the Proposed Development could have on the environment and local area. **ES Volume 1, chapters 6-16 [EN010163/APP/6.2.0-6.2.19]** details of a wide range of topics and the respective findings.	N
805	S47	Concern regarding proximity of Area E to houses	The Applicant acknowledges the range of views. To reduce effects on visual amenity in Area E, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views.	N

806	S47	Concern regarding proximity of section of Proposed Development to houses on Mill Close	The Applicant acknowledges the range of views. To reduce effects on visual amenity in Area E, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views.	N
807	S47	Suggestion to locate the Proposed Development as far away from houses as possible	The Applicant acknowledges the range of views. To reduce effects on visual amenity in Area E, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views.	N
808	S47	Suggestion to remove Area E	The Applicant notes the comment; however, the Proposed Development would not be viable if the totality of Area E were to be removed.	Y
809	S47	Statement that removal of Area E would balance objections	The Applicant notes the comment; however, the Proposed Development would not be viable if the totality of Area E were to be removed.	Y
810	S47	General concern regarding the impact of the Proposed Development on the local area	**ES Volume 1, Chapter 6 Landscape and Visual Impact and Residential Amenity [EN010163/APP/6.2.6]** considers the landscape character of the site and its relationship with nearby communities to identify the potential effects on the local landscape and visual amenity in Area E. The maximum height of the solar panels is 3 metres, which is the equivalent of a well-maintained hedgerow. By distributing Steeple Renewables Project across several separate land areas,	N

			rather than one large site, we can more effectively minimise the landscape and visual impact of the Proposed Development.	
811	S47	Statement that compromises in Area E would appease the 2 largest villages	The Applicant acknowledges the range of views. To reduce effects on visual amenity in Area E, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views.	Y
812	S47	Statement that compromise in Area E would enable the most efficient delivery of solar power	The Applicant notes the comment; however, the Proposed Development would not be viable if the totality of Area E were to be removed.	Y
813	S47	Statement that Area E is also impacted by the National Grid Pylon installation	The Applicant notes the comment. The route of the North Humber to High Marnham proposals is considered within the cumulative assessments in the ES chapters 6-16. No cumulative significant effects are anticipated	N
814	S47	Statement that Area E is also impacted by quarry at Sturton	The Applicant notes the comment. The quarry proposal is considered within the cumulative assessments in the ES chapters 6-16. No cumulative significant effects are anticipated	N

815	S47	Statement that Area E is also impacted by other solar projects	In Area E, The Applicant notes the comment. The consented solar projects in the area are considered within the cumulative assessments in the ES chapters 6-16. No cumulative significant effects are anticipated	N
816	S47	Concern regarding fragmentation of ecosystems	To reduce the potential impacts of habitat fragmentation to mammals due to the installation of security fencing, small gaps in the fencing will be created to allow continued movement throughout the Proposed Development. Gaps of approximately 35 cm x 35 cm at ground level would allow for continued use by species such as badger, brown hare and hedgehog. Access gaps will be strategically sited where existing mammal paths are present, and periodically elsewhere. Larger mammals such as deer would not be able to access beyond security fencing into solar array areas, however they would be able to travel across the landscape along green infrastructure corridors along hedgerows, watercourses and into retained areas of woodland. The proposed Biodiversity Mitigation Areas would not be security fenced and therefore accessible to deer and other mammals. As part of the DCO process the Applicant carried out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to assess the likely significant effects (both positive and negative) the Proposed Development could have on the environment	N

			and local area in Area E. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 - Ecology and Biodiversity (EN010163/APP/6.2.7),** provides details of the potential impacts on ecology and biodiversity.	
817	S47	Statement that Area E already supports biodiversity	As part of the DCO process the Applicant carried out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to assess the likely significant effects (both positive and negative) the Proposed Development could have on the environment and local area in Area E**. ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 - Ecology and Biodiversity (EN010163/APP/6.2.7),** provides details of the potential impacts on ecology and biodiversity.	N
818	S47	Statement that land in Area E is protected under UK law	The Applicant is not sure what this comment is referring to. There are no statutory designations within Area E.	N
819	S47	Concern that the bridleway through Area E has not been considered	In Area E, The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW and the addition of two significant permissive routes within the Proposed Development.	N
820	S47	Concern regarding lack of glint and glare assessments for residences in North Leverton and Sturton	The Applicant acknowledges concerns regarding glint and glare impacts upon residents in Area E. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16 – Glint and Glare Assessment [EN010163/APP/6.2.16] and ES Volume 2, Appendix 16.1 Solar Photovoltaic Glint and Glare Study [EN010163/APP/6.3.16]** has considered impacts upon the residential amenity of dwellings within 1km of the	N

			Proposed Development. The assessment has considered the baseline conditions of the surrounding environment and the proposed landscape mitigation strategy to determine the impact and has concluded that no significant impacts are predicted.	
821	S47	Concern regarding visual impact of pylons	The Applicant notes the comment. The EIA for the proposed North Humber to High Marnham pylon route will assess the potential impacts of the pylons on local residents.	N
822	S47	Concern regarding impact on farmers' livelihoods	In Area E, The Proposed Development can still be used for grazing and can support continued food production. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's food security. Indeed, the reverse is true: the solar industry is working closely with Britain's farmers to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground underneath to recover, while providing income for the farming business. Solar farms also help regenerate soil quality and so are helping to ensure the continued availability of high-quality agricultural acreage for future generations	N

823	S47	General concern regarding noise	In Area E, The Applicant acknowledges that some sound and vibration could be generated during the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Proposed Development via the use of certain construction plant, the operation of various ancillary electrical equipment and the additional traffic generated by the Proposed Development in isolative and cumulative terms. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11 – Noise and Vibration [EN010163/APP/6.2.11]** addresses all relevant potential sound and vibratory effects from the introduction of the Proposed Development, concluding that sound and vibration generated during the temporary construction, operation and decommissioning of the site is considered not significant in the context of normal planning requirements, provided that typical mitigation measures are implemented and that best practice is followed.	N
824	S47	Concern regarding visual impact/Concern regarding the visual impact for nearby residents/Concern regarding visual impact of panels	In Area E, The Applicant acknowledges the range of views. To reduce effects on visual amenity, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views.	N

825	S47	Mentions of and concerns regarding food security	In Area E, the Proposed Development can still be used for grazing and can support continued food production. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's food security.	N
826	S47	Concern regarding access to Area E	In Area E, construction traffic would be managed appropriately to minimise impacts on the local road network. Details can be found in the **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2 Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13],**which has been prepared for submission in support of the DCO Application.	N
827	S47	Statement that site access is in a poor location	In Area E, The Applicant acknowledges the comment. Detailed assessment has been undertaken in the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 - Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]** including the potential impacts as a result of workforce trips which will access the Site via the primary accesses. No significant impacts are anticipated.	N
828	S47	Concern regarding disruption due to central access	In Area E, construction traffic would be managed appropriately to minimise impacts on the local road network. Details can be found in the **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2 Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13],** which has been prepared for submission in support of the DCO Application.	

829	S47	Statement that extra traffic in North Leverton will have a detrimental effect	Construction traffic would be managed appropriately to minimise impacts on the local road network. Details can be found in the **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2 Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13],** which has been prepared for submission in support of the DCO Application. In addition to this, the access from North Leverton to Area E has been removed from the PD.	
830	S47	Statement that access to Area E is a narrow and busy road	Construction traffic would be managed appropriately to minimise impacts on the local road network. Details can be found in the **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2 Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13],** which has been prepared for submission in support of the DCO Application. In addition to this, the access from North Leverton to Area E has been removed from the PD.	N
831	S47	Concern regarding obstructed views for pedestrians at Area E access off Main Street	In Area E, The Applicant acknowledges the comment. Detailed assessment has been undertaken in the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 - Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]** including the potential impacts on pedestrians. no significant impacts are anticipated. Furthermore, no construction traffic will be routed via Main Street.	N

832	S47	Concern regarding loss of employment	In Area E, the Proposed Development can still be used for grazing and can support continued food production. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's food security. Indeed, the reverse is true: the solar industry is working closely with Britain's farmers to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground underneath to recover, while providing income for the farming business. Solar farms also help regenerate soil quality and so are helping to ensure the continued availability of high-quality agricultural acreage for future generations	N
833	S47	Concern regarding loss of businesses/ livelihoods	In Area E, the Proposed Development can still be used for grazing and can support continued food production. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's food security. Indeed, the reverse is true: the solar industry is working closely with Britain's farmers to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground underneath to recover, while providing income for the farming business. Solar farms also help regenerate soil quality and so are helping to ensure the continued	N

			availability of high-quality agricultural acreage for future generations.	
834	S47	Concern regarding impact on property prices	Queries are often raised in relation to the potential of solar farms to impact upon the value of house prices as there can be a perception that there must be a negative effect on house prices. Property value is subjective and can be affected by a range of factors. There is no firm evidence on whether solar farms do or do not affect house prices. There are residents close to other renewable energy projects, who enjoy having renewable energy projects close by and believe that they add value to their community. The Applicant acknowledges the concerns raised in relation to changes in property values in Area E as a result of the Proposed Development. It is not considered that the Proposed Development would impact property value.	N
835	S47	Concern regarding loss of food production	In Area E. the Proposed Development can still be used for grazing and can support continued food production. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's food security. Indeed, the reverse is true: the solar industry is working closely with Britain's farmers to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their	N

			operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground underneath to recover, while providing income for the farming business. Solar farms also help regenerate soil quality and so are helping to ensure the continued availability of high-quality agricultural acreage for future generations	
836	S47	Concern regarding impact on landscape	The Applicant acknowledges that some adverse effects on landscape character would arise from the Proposed Development in Area E. However, the effects would be localised and limited in nature, particularly noting the additional mitigation planting which is included. As part of the DCO process the Applicant carried out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to assess the likely significant effects (both positive and negative) the Proposed Development could have on the environment and local area. **ES Volume 1, Chapters 6-16 (EN010163/APP/6.2.0-6.2.19)** provide details of a wide range of topics and the respective findings.	N
837	S47	Concern regarding the loss of existing footpaths/Concern regarding the impact on footpaths	In Area E, The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW and the addition of two significant permissive routes within the Proposed Development.	N

838	S47	Suggestion to blend panels in contours of land	In Area E. The Applicant acknowledges the range of views. To reduce effects on visual amenity, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views.	N
839	S47	Concern regarding the loss of bridleways/Concern regarding the loss of existing byways	In Area E, The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW and the addition of two significant permissive routes within the Proposed Development.	N
840	S47	General opposition to the PD	The Applicant acknowledges that there have been a range of views expressed with some in general opposition to the Proposed Development in Area E.	N
841	S47	Opposition to use of Leverton Road in construction	In Area E, The Applicant has removed the access from Leverton Road from the PD.	N
842	S47	Concern regarding impact on farmers	In Area E, the Proposed Development can still be used for grazing and can support continued food production. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's food security. Indeed, the reverse is true: the solar industry is working closely with Britain's farmers to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground	N

			underneath to recover, while providing income for the farming business. Solar farms also help regenerate soil quality and so are helping to ensure the continued availability of high-quality agricultural acreage for future generations	
843	S47	Concern regarding impact on lifestyles	A dedicated assessment on Human Health has not been scoped into the DCO Application for the Proposed Development. However, potential impacts on Human Health in Area E are assessed **in Health Impact Assessment [EN010163/APP/7.2]** at the request of NCC.	N
844	S47	Concern regarding impact on local people	A dedicated assessment on Human Health has not been scoped into the DCO Application for the Proposed Development. However, potential impacts on Human Health in Area E are assessed in the **Health Impact Assessment [EN010163/APP/7.2]** at the request of NCC.	N
Area F				
845	S47	Concern regarding loss of agricultural land	In Area F, The Applicant understands that there are concerns regarding the loss of agricultural land locally and nationwide, however only 0.06% of land in the UK is currently taken up by solar and even if the UK had a 70GW solar output this would only take up 0.4% of land nationally. Solar farms are specifically designed to be dual purpose	N

			and allow for the generation of clean electricity alongside agricultural purposes such as sheep grazing. Typically, a solar farm uses approximately just 5% of the total ground area of a site, meaning a significant proportion of land is left available for uses such as sheep grazing and habitat re-wilding. The impact on agricultural land use as a result of the Proposed Development is fully assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 15 – Land Use and Agriculture [EN010163/APP/6.2.15].**	
846	S47	Concern that their property will be surrounded (Leverton Road)	In Area F, The Applicant notes the comment. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3 - Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3] and the Design and Access Statement (EN010163/APP/7.3)** set out proximity to residential properties was considered as part of the site selection criteria and sufficient offsets can be achieved along with retention of existing and provision of new soft landscaping provisions to screen the proposed development. Solar panels will not be placed right up to the boundary with residential properties nor fully surrounded.	N
847	S47	Concern that biodiversity areas have not been highlighted on the map	The Parameters Plan, that was used as the basis for the Statutory Consultation, clearly indicated areas for biodiversity and habitat improvements in Area F.	N

848	S47	Concern that the developer only cares about profit	Whilst the Applicant is a commercial entity, the Proposed Development has a range of benefits to the community in Area F and the UK as a whole. If consented the Proposed Development would generate approximately 450MW of clean, green, electricity; enough energy to power approximately 180,000 homes every year.	N
849	S47	Concern regarding impact on the countryside	In Area F, the site used for the Proposed Development can continue to contribute to local agriculture. Over 95% of the solar panel areas can be made available for sheep grazing, retaining an agricultural use and allowing topsoil to recover, by increasing soil organic matter and improving the soil structure. The leases the Applicant has agreed on the solar land grant the landowners the right to graze sheep over the life of the Proposed Development.	N
850	S47	Concern that the Proposed Development would dominate views of the countryside	In Area F, The Applicant acknowledges the range of views. To reduce effects on visual amenity, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views.	N
851	S47	Statement that alternative locations should be considered	In Area F, The Applicant notes the comments. **The Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3]** explains the Scheme's design evolution including site location. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3 - Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** provides more information regarding site selection. The location has been chosen for a number of reasons	Y

			including connection agreement, proximity of grid connection, good access, screening provisions and offsets to sensitive receptors/ physical constraints can be achieved. Alternative sites have been considered but were discounted for numerous reasons such as proximity to heritage assets, ecological designations etc.	
852	S47	Suggestion to remove Area F	The Applicant notes the comment; however, the Proposed Development would not be viable if the totality of Area F were to be removed.	N
853	S47	Statement that removal of Area F would balance objections	The Applicant notes the comment; however, the Proposed Development would not be viable if the totality of Area F were to be removed.	Y
854	S47	Statement that Area F is situated too close to existing SSSI	Clarborough Tunnel SSSI is adjacent to the Area F, this part of the Site adjoining the SSSI has been identified for enhancement to species-rich grassland as part of the designed-in measures. The nearest area of development is over 750 m from the SSSI. Due to the nature of the Proposed Development and the separating distance from any areas of development within the Site, no direct or indirect impacts on the interest of Clarborough Tunnel SSSI are anticipated. A full assessment of the impacts on ecologically designated sites is presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 - Ecology and Biodiversity (EN010163/APP/6.2.7).**	N

855	S47	Concern regarding loss of habitats/Concern regarding impact on wildlife/Concern regarding impact on ecology	The Applicant acknowledges that the Site supports biodiversity and a range of flora and fauna in Area F. Detailed surveys and studies have been completed by independent ecological consultants to establish the pre-development ecological baseline and these have informed the design process, the scope of which was agreed with consultees. The Proposed Development retains, protects and enhances the majority of the habitats with increased biodiversity value such as hedgerows, arable field margins, woodlands, trees, watercourses, and ponds. Significant areas of new habitats are proposed including wetlands, woodland, hedgerows and meadow grassland. An assessment of the biodiversity value, as assessed via the Statutory Biodiversity Metric Tool, has been undertaken to evaluate the habitats on Site (**ES Volume 2, Appendix 7.12, Biodiversity Net Gain [EN010163/APP/6.3.7]);** this has identified that there would be a biodiversity net gain of habitat units 54.93%, hedgerow units 35.53% and watercourse units 14.68%. An Ecological Impact Assessment has also been undertaken to evaluate the ecologically important features on the Site and how they may be affected by the Proposed Development **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 -**	N

			Ecology & Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.2.7] and Appendices associated with Chapter 7 – Ecology & Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.3.7] With mitigation in place, no significant adverse effects on designated nature conservation sites or important habitats are likely. Most species-impacts are scoped out, or are likely to be neutral, not significant, or slightly beneficial in the long-term. Effects on skylark are assessed as adverse (locally significant).	
856	S47	Opposition to use of greenfield site	The Applicant understands that there are concerns regarding the loss of agricultural land locally and nationwide, however only 0.06% of land in the UK is currently taken up by solar and even if the UK had a 70GW solar output this would only take up 0.4% of land nationally. Solar farms are specifically designed to be dual purpose and allow for the generation of clean electricity alongside agricultural purposes such as sheep grazing. Typically, a solar farm uses approximately just 5% of the total ground area of a site, meaning a significant proportion of land is left available for uses such as sheep grazing and habitat re-wilding. The impact on agricultural land use as a result of the Proposed Development in Area F is fully assessed in	N

			ES Volume 1, Chapter 15 – Land Use and Agriculture [EN010163/APP/6.2.15].	
857	S47	Statement that Area F already supports biodiversity	The Applicant acknowledges the comment. From an ecological perspective, the arable fields are of limited biodiversity value. Features and habitats that support greater biodiversity, such the hedgerows, ditches, trees, ponds, woodland, and field margins, will be largely retained and managed for wildlife. Within Area F, there will be an ecological mitigation area which will incorporate features such as species rich grassland and woodland/copse planting which will be managed to provide greater benefit to the biodiversity. As part of the DCO process the Applicant carried out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to assess the likely significant effects (both positive and negative) the Proposed Development could have on the environment and local area in Area F. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 - Ecology and Biodiversity (EN010163/APP/6.2.7)** provides details of the potential impacts on ecology and biodiversity.	N
858	S47	Statement that land in Area F is protected under UK law	The Applicant is not sure what this comment is referring too. There are no statutory designations within Area F.	N

859	S47	Concern regarding impact on North Leverton Windmill	The Applicant acknowledges the importance of heritage assets. The Proposed Development is anticipated to have a minor adverse effect on the North Leverton Windmill, which is not significant. A full assessment of the impacts on North Leverton Windmill and other local heritage assets is presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 – Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9].**	N
860	S47	Concern regarding impact on Clarborough Tunnel SSSI	Clarborough Tunnel SSSI is adjacent to the Site's southern boundary and the part of the Site adjoining the SSSI has been identified for enhancement to species-rich grassland as part of the designed-in measures. The nearest area of development is over 750 m from the SSSI. Due to the nature of the Proposed Development and the separating distance from any areas of development within the Site, no direct or indirect impacts on the interest of Clarborough Tunnel SSSI are anticipated. A full assessment of the impacts on ecologically designated sites is presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 - Ecology and Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.2.7].**	N
861	S47	Concern that the Proposed Development will industrialise the local area	In Area F, The Applicant acknowledges the range of views. To reduce effects on visual amenity, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views.	N

862	S47	General opposition to the project location	The Applicant acknowledges that there have been a range of views expressed with some in general opposition to the Proposed Development in Area F.	N
863	S47	Statement that compromises in Area F would appease the 2 largest villages	In Area F, The Applicant acknowledges the range of views. To reduce effects on visual amenity, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views.	Y
864	S47	Concern regarding impact on farmers	In Area F, the Proposed Development can still be used for grazing and can support continued food production. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's food security. Indeed, the reverse is true: the solar industry is working closely with Britain's farmers to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground underneath to recover, while providing income for the farming business. Solar farms also help regenerate soil quality and so are helping to ensure the continued availability of high-quality agricultural acreage for future generations	N

865	S47	Concern regarding impact on lifestyles	A dedicated assessment on Human Health has not been scoped into the DCO Application for the Proposed Development. However, potential impacts on Human Health in Area F are assessed in the **Health Impact Assessment [EN010163/APP/7.2]** at the request of NCC	N
866	S47	Concern regarding impact on local people	A dedicated assessment on Human Health has not been scoped into the DCO Application for the Proposed Development. However, potential impacts on **Health Impact Assessment [EN010163/APP/7.2]** at the request of NCC.	N
867	S47	Statement that removal of Area F would balance objections/Suggestion to remove Area F	The Applicant notes the comment; however, the Proposed Development would not be viable if the totality of Area F were to be removed.	N
868	S47	Statement that compromises in Area F would enable the most efficient delivery of solar power	In Area F, The Applicant acknowledges the range of views. To reduce effects on visual amenity, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views.	Y
869	S47	Statement that Area F is also impacted by National Grid Pylon installation	The Applicant has, and will continue to, engage with National Grid regarding their proposed North Humber to High Marnham project.	N

870	S47	Statement that Area F is also impacted by quarry at Sturton	The location of the quarry to the east of Sturton-le-Steeple is not located on any part of the Order Limits. Area F is some distance from the quarry location.	N
871	S47	Statement that Area F is also impacted by other solar projects	There are no other solar projects located in Area F or any of the Order Limits for this project.	N
872	S47	Statement that land between South Wheatley and Sturton should be protected from development	In Area F, The Applicant acknowledges the range of views. To reduce effects on visual amenity, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views.	N
873	S47	Statement that location to the West of the village preferrable for development	The Applicant notes the comment, however the Proposed Development needs areas both east and west of the village in order to produce the required amount of clean solar energy. However, great care has been taken in its design to minimise environmental and visual impacts wherever possible. As part of the DCO process the Applicant carried out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to assess the likely significant effects (both positive and negative) the Proposed Development could have on the environment and local area. **ES Volume 1, Chapters 6-16 [EN010163/APP/6.2.0-6.2.19]** provide details of a wide range of topics and the respective findings.	N

874	S47	General concern regarding the impact of the Proposed Development on the local area	In Area F, The Applicant acknowledges the range of views. To reduce effects on visual amenity, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views.	N
875	S47	Concern regarding fragmentation of ecosystems	To reduce the potential impacts of habitat fragmentation to mammals due to the installation of security fencing, small gaps in the fencing will be created to allow continued movement throughout the Proposed Development. Gaps of approximately 35 cm x 35 cm at ground level would allow for continued use by species such as badger, brown hare and hedgehog. Access gaps will be strategically sited where existing mammal paths are present, and periodically elsewhere. Larger mammals such as deer would not be able to access beyond security fencing into solar array areas, however they would be able to travel across the landscape along green infrastructure corridors along hedgerows, watercourses and into retained areas of woodland. The proposed Biodiversity Mitigation Areas would not be security fenced and therefore accessible to deer and other mammals. As part of the DCO process the Applicant carried out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to assess the likely significant effects (both positive and negative) the Proposed Development could have on the environment	N

			and local area in Area F. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 - Ecology and Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.2.7]** provides details of the potential impacts on ecology and biodiversity.	
876	S47	Concern regarding impact on communities	A dedicated assessment on Human Health has not been scoped into the DCO Application for the Proposed Development. However, potential impacts on Human Health in Area F are assessed in the **Health Impact Assessment [EN010163/APP/7.2]** at the request of NCC	N
877	S47	Concern regarding impact on farmers' livelihoods	In Area F, The Proposed Development can still be used for grazing and can support continued food production. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's food security. Indeed, the reverse is true: the solar industry is working closely with Britain's farmers to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground underneath to recover, while providing income for the farming business. Solar farms also help regenerate soil quality and so are helping to ensure the continued availability of high-quality agricultural acreage for future generations.	N

878	S47	Concern that the village will become surrounded	In Area F, The Applicant notes the comment. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3 - Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3] and the Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3]** set out proximity to residential properties was considered as part of the site selection criteria and sufficient offsets can be achieved along with retention of existing and provision of new soft landscaping provisions to screen the proposed development. Solar panels will not be placed right up to the boundary with residential properties nor fully surrounded.	N
879	S47	General concern regarding noise	In Area F, The Applicant acknowledges that some sound and vibration could be generated during the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Proposed Development via the use of certain construction plant, the operation of various ancillary electrical equipment and the additional traffic generated by the Proposed Development in isolative and cumulative terms. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11 – Noise and Vibration [EN010163/APP/6.2.11]** addresses all relevant potential sound and vibratory effects from the introduction of the Proposed Development, concluding that sound and vibration generated during the temporary construction, operation and decommissioning of the site is considered not significant in the context of normal planning	N

			requirements, provided that typical mitigation measures are implemented and that best practice is followed.	
880	S47	Concern regarding visual impact	In Area F, The Applicant acknowledges the range of views. To reduce effects on visual amenity, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views.	N
881	S47	Mentions of and concerns regarding food security	In Area F, the Proposed Development can still be used for grazing and can support continued food production. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's food security. Indeed, the reverse is true: the solar industry is working closely with Britain's farmers to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground underneath to recover, while providing income for the farming business. Solar farms also help regenerate soil quality and so are helping to ensure the continued availability of high-quality agricultural acreage for future generations	N

882	S47	Concern regarding loss of employment	The Proposed development will result in could support 382 direct and indirect temporary jobs during the construction phase and 191 temporary jobs during the decommissioning phase of the development. An assessment of the impact on jobs is available in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10 Socio Economics [EN010163/APP/6.2.10].**	
883	S47	Concern regarding impact on property prices	In Area F, The Applicant acknowledges the concerns raised in relation to changes in property values as a result of the Proposed Development. It is not considered that the Proposed Development would impact property value. Furthermore, property values are not a material planning consideration.	N
884	S47	Concern regarding loss of food production	In Area F, the Proposed Development can still be used for grazing and can support continued food production. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's food security. Indeed, the reverse is true: the solar industry is working closely with Britain's farmers to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground underneath to recover, while providing income for the farming business. Solar farms also help regenerate soil quality and so are helping to ensure the continued	N

			availability of high-quality agricultural acreage for future generations	
885	S47	Concern regarding impact on landscape	The Applicant acknowledges that some adverse effects on landscape character would arise from the Proposed Development in Area F. However, the effects would be localised and limited in nature, particularly noting the additional mitigation planting which is included. As part of the DCO process the Applicant carried out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to assess the likely significant effects (both positive and negative) the Proposed Development could have on the environment and local area. **ES Volume 1, Chapters 6-16 [EN010163/APP/6.2.0-6.2.19]** provide details of a wide range of topics and the respective findings.	N
886	S47	Concern regarding impact on footpaths	In Area F, The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW and the addition of two significant permissive routes is included within the Proposed Development.	N

887	S47	Concern regarding impact on bridleways	In Area F, The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW and the addition of two significant permissive routes is included within the Proposed Development.	N
888	S47	Statement that footpaths/bridleways are well used	In Area F, The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW and the addition of two significant permissive routes is included within the Proposed Development.	N
889	S47	Concern regarding the loss of existing footpaths	In Area F, The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW and the addition of two significant permissive routes is included within the Proposed Development.	N
890	S47	Concern regarding the loss of bridleways	In Area F, The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW and the addition of two significant permissive routes is included within the Proposed Development.	N
891	S47	Concern regarding the loss of existing byways	In Area F, The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW and the addition of two significant permissive routes is included within the Proposed Development.	N
Area G				

892	S47	Concern regarding loss of agricultural land	The Applicant understands that there are concerns regarding the loss of agricultural land locally and nationwide, however only 0.06% of land in the UK is currently taken up by solar and even if the UK had a 70GW solar output this would only take up 0.4% of land nationally. Solar farms are specifically designed to be dual purpose and allow for the generation of clean electricity alongside agricultural purposes such as sheep grazing. Typically, a solar farm uses approximately just 5% of the total ground area of a site, meaning a significant proportion of land is left available for uses such as sheep grazing and habitat re-wilding. The impact on agricultural land use as a result of the Proposed Development is fully assessed in **ES Volume 1 , Chapter 15 – Land Use and Agriculture [EN010163/APP/6.2.15].** Area G of the Proposed Development is outlined for the biodiversity mitigation area. As noted in the **ES Volume 2, Appendix 7.14, Outline Landscape and Environmental Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.7],** this is proposed to be arable land which will be managed for farmland birds, such as skylark. As such Area G will continue to be used for arable farming.	N

893	S47	Statement that site access is in a poor location	The Applicant acknowledges the comment. No site accesses are proposed on Area G	N
894	S47	Concern regarding lack of illustrations of the PD	The Applicant acknowledges the comment. A full set of plans of the Proposed Development can be found in **Volume 2 of the DCO [EN010163/APP/2.1 - 2.35].**	N
895	S47	Assumption that the Proposed Development is already approved	The Applicant acknowledges the comment. The DCO application has been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate and will go through examination before a recommendation and subsequent decision is made.	N
896	S47	Concern regarding the intended use of Wheatley Road	In Area G, Construction traffic would be managed appropriately to minimise impacts on the local road network. Details can be found in the **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2 Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13],** which has been prepared for submission in support of the DCO Application.	N
897	S47	Concern regarding disruption due to central access	In Area G, Construction traffic would be managed appropriately to minimise impacts on the local road network. Details can be found in the **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2 Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13],** which has been prepared for submission in support of the DCO Application.	N

898	S47	Concern regarding impact on footpaths	The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW and the addition of two significant permissive routes are included within the Proposed Development. No existing footpaths are located in Area G.	N
899	S47	Concern regarding impact on bridleways/Concern regarding the loss of existing byways	The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW and the addition of two significant permissive routes are included within the Proposed Development. No existing footpaths or bridleways are located in Area G.	N
900	S47	Statement that alternative locations should be considered	The Applicant notes the comments. **The Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3]** explains the Scheme's design evolution including site location. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3 - Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** provides more information regarding site selection. The location has been chosen for a number of reasons including connection agreement, proximity of grid connection, good access, screening provisions and offsets to sensitive receptors/ physical constraints can be achieved. Alternative sites have been considered but were discounted for numerous reasons such as proximity to heritage assets, ecological designations etc.	Y

901	S47	Statement that footpaths/bridleways are well used	The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW and the addition of two significant permissive routes are included within the Proposed Development. No existing footpaths or bridleways are located in Area G.	N
902	S47	Concern that the Proposed Development would dominate views of the countryside	In Area G, The Applicant acknowledges the range of views. To reduce effects on visual amenity, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views.	N
903	S47	Concern regarding impact on farmers	In Area G, the Proposed Development can still be used for grazing and can support continued food production. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's food security. Indeed, the reverse is true: the solar industry is working closely with Britain's farmers to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground underneath to recover, while providing income for the farming business. Solar farms also help regenerate soil quality and so are helping to ensure the continued availability of high-quality agricultural acreage for future generations.	N

904	S47	Concern regarding impact on lifestyles	In Area G, a dedicated assessment on Human Health has not been scoped into the DCO Application for the Proposed Development. However, potential impacts on **Human Health are assessed in the Health Impact Assessment [EN010163/APP/7.2]** at the request of NCC	N
905	S47	Concern regarding impact on local people	In Area G, a dedicated assessment on Human Health has not been scoped into the DCO Application for the Proposed Development. However, potential impacts on Human Health are assessed in **Health Impact Assessment [EN010163/APP/7.2]** at the request of NCC	N
906	S47	Concern regarding impact on the countryside	In Area G, The Applicant acknowledges the range of views. To reduce effects on visual amenity, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views.	N
907	S47	Concern regarding the cumulative impact with Wood Lane Solar Farm	In Area G, The Applicant acknowledges the comment. As part of the EIA, a cumulative impact assessment has been undertaken and is presented in each of the technical **ES Volume 1, Chapters 6-16 [EN010163/APP/6.2.0-6.2.19].** This includes the cumulative effects associated with Wood Lane Solar Farm.	N

908	S47	Concern land at Wood Lane Solar Farm will become "solar locked" and unrentable	In Area G, The Applicant notes the comments. The Proposed Development has been designed to not conflict with the operational potential of Wood Lane Solar Farm.	N
909	S47	Opposition to use of greenfield site	The Applicant understands that there are concerns regarding the loss of agricultural land locally and nationwide, however only 0.06% of land in the UK is currently taken up by solar and even if the UK had a 70GW solar output this would only take up 0.4% of land nationally. Solar farms are specifically designed to be dual purpose and allow for the generation of clean electricity alongside agricultural purposes such as sheep grazing. Typically, a solar farm uses approximately just 5% of the total ground area of a site, meaning a significant proportion of land is left available for uses such as sheep grazing and habitat re-wilding. The impact on agricultural land use as a result of the Proposed Development is fully assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 15 – Land Use and Agriculture [EN010163/APP/6.2.15].** Furthermore, in relation to Area G, this land is proposed to continue being used for arable farmland.	N

910	S47	Concern regarding impact on North Leverton Windmill	The Applicant acknowledges the importance of heritage assets in Area G. The Proposed Development is anticipated to have a minor adverse effect on the North Leverton Windmill, which is not significant. A full assessment of the impacts on North Leverton Windmill and other local heritage assets is presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 – Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9].**	N
911	S47	Concern regarding impact on Clarborough Tunnel SSS1	Clarborough Tunnel SSSI is adjacent to the Site's southern boundary and the part of the Site adjoining the SSSI has been identified for enhancement to species-rich grassland as part of the designed-in measures. The nearest area of development is over 750 m from the SSSI. Due to the nature of the Proposed Development and the separating distance from any areas of development within the Site, no direct or indirect impacts on the interest of Clarborough Tunnel SSSI are anticipated. A full assessment of the impacts on ecologically designated sites in Area G is presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 - Ecology and Biodiversity (EN010163/APP/6.2.7).**	N
912	S47	Concern that the Proposed Development will industrialise the local area	In Area G, The Applicant acknowledges the range of views. To reduce effects on visual amenity, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views.	N

913	S47	General opposition to the project location	In Area G, The Applicant notes the comments. **The Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3]** explains the Scheme's design evolution including site location. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3- Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** provides more information regarding site selection. The location has been chosen for a number of reasons including connection agreement, proximity of grid connection, good access, screening provisions and offsets to sensitive receptors/ physical constraints can be achieved.	N
914	S47	Statement that land between South Wheatley and Sturton should be protected from development	In Area G, The Applicant acknowledges the range of views. To reduce effects on visual amenity, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views.	Y
915	S47	Statement that location to the West of the village preferrable for development	As part of the DCO process the Applicant carried out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to assess the likely significant effects (both positive and negative) the Proposed Development could have on the environment and local area in Area G. **ES Volume 1, Chapters 6-16 [EN010163/APP/6.2.0-6.2.19**] provide details of a wide range of topics and the respective findings.	N

916	S47	General concern regarding the impact of the Proposed Development on the local area	In Area G, The Applicant acknowledges the range of views. To reduce effects on visual amenity, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views.	N
917	S47	Concern regarding fragmentation of ecosystems	In Area G, to reduce the potential impacts of habitat fragmentation to mammals due to the installation of security fencing, small gaps in the fencing will be created to allow continued movement throughout the Proposed Development. Gaps of approximately 35 cm x 35 cm at ground level would allow for continued use by species such as badger, brown hare and hedgehog. Access gaps will be strategically sited where existing mammal paths are present, and periodically elsewhere. Larger mammals such as deer would not be able to access beyond security fencing into solar array areas, however they would be able to travel across the landscape along green infrastructure corridors along hedgerows, watercourses and into retained areas of woodland. The proposed Biodiversity Mitigation Areas would not be security fenced and therefore accessible to deer and other mammals. As part of the DCO process the Applicant carried out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to assess the likely significant effects (both positive and negative) the Proposed Development could have on the environment	N

			and local area. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 - Ecology and Biodiversity (EN010163/APP/6.2.7).** provides details of the potential impacts on ecology and biodiversity.	
918	S47	Concern regarding impact on farmers' livelihoods/Concern regarding loss of businesses/ livelihoods	In Area G, the Proposed Development can still be used for grazing and can support continued food production. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's food security. Indeed, the reverse is true: the solar industry is working closely with Britain's farmers to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground underneath to recover, while providing income for the farming business. Solar farms also help regenerate soil quality and so are helping to ensure the continued availability of high-quality agricultural acreage for future generations	
919	S47	Concern that the village will become surrounded	In Area G. The Applicant notes the comment. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3- Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3] and the Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3]** set out proximity to residential properties was considered as part of the site selection criteria and sufficient offsets can be achieved along with retention of existing and provision	N

			of new soft landscaping provisions to screen the proposed development. Solar panels will not be placed right up to the boundary with residential properties nor fully surrounded.	
920	S47	Concern regarding cumulative impact with quarry at Sturton	In Area G, the cumulative impacts of the Proposed Development alongside other developments in close proximity to the Site (including the proposed quarry works) have been fully assessed across all technical chapters (where relevant) scoped into the ES. Refer **to ES Volume 1, Chapter 6 through to Chapter 17 [EN010163/APP/6.2.6 - 6.2.17]** for full details of the cumulative effects assessment.	N
921	S47	Concern regarding extra traffic associated with construction	In Area G, construction traffic would be managed appropriately to minimise impacts on the local road network. Details can be found in the **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2 Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13],** which has been prepared for submission in support of the DCO Application.	N
922	S47	General concern regarding noise	In Area G, The Applicant acknowledges that some sound and vibration could be generated during the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Proposed Development via the use of certain construction plant, the operation of various ancillary electrical equipment and the additional traffic generated by the Proposed	N

			Development in isolative and cumulative terms. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11 – Noise and Vibration [EN010163/APP/6.2.11]** addresses all relevant potential sound and vibratory effects from the introduction of the Proposed Development, concluding that sound and vibration generated during the temporary construction, operation and decommissioning of the site is considered not significant in the context of normal planning requirements, provided that typical mitigation measures are implemented and that best practice is followed.	
923	S47	Concern regarding visual impact	The Applicant acknowledges the range of views. To reduce effects on visual amenity in Area G, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views.	N
924	S47	Mentions of and concerns regarding food security	In Area G, The Proposed Development can still be used for grazing and can support continued food production. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's food security. Indeed, the reverse is true: the solar industry is working closely with Britain's farmers to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground underneath to recover, while providing income for the	N

			farming business. Solar farms also help regenerate soil quality and so are helping to ensure the continued availability of high-quality agricultural acreage for future generations	
925	S47	Concern regarding loss of employment	In Area G, the Proposed development will result in could support 382 direct and indirect temporary jobs during the construction phase and 191 temporary jobs during the decommissioning phase of the development. An assessment of the impact on jobs is available in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10- Socio Economics [EN010163/APP/6.2.10].**	N
926	S47	Concern regarding impact on property prices	The Applicant acknowledges the concerns raised in relation to changes in property values in Area G as a result of the Proposed Development. It is not considered that the Proposed Development would impact property value. Furthermore, property values are not a material planning consideration.	N
927	S47	Concern regarding loss of food production	In Area g, The Proposed Development can still be used for grazing and can support continued food production. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's food security. Indeed, the reverse is true: the solar industry is working closely with Britain's farmers to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land	N

			which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground underneath to recover, while providing income for the farming business. Solar farms also help regenerate soil quality and so are helping to ensure the continued availability of high-quality agricultural acreage for future generations.	
928	S47	Concern regarding impact on ecology/Concern regarding impact on wildlife/Concern regarding loss of habitat	The Applicant acknowledges that the Site supports biodiversity and a range of flora and fauna in Area G. Detailed surveys and studies have been completed by independent ecological consultants to establish the pre-development ecological baseline and these have informed the design process, the scope of which was agreed with consultees. The Proposed Development retains, protects and enhances the majority of the habitats with increased biodiversity value such as hedgerows, arable field margins, woodlands, trees, watercourses, and ponds. Significant areas of new habitats are proposed including wetlands, woodland, hedgerows and meadow grassland. An assessment of the biodiversity value, as assessed via the Statutory Biodiversity Metric Tool, has been undertaken to evaluate the habitats on Site (**ES Volume 2, Appendix 7.12, Biodiversity Net Gain [EN010163/APP/6.3.7];** this has identified that there would be a biodiversity net gain of habitat units 54.93%,	N

			hedgerow units 35.53% and watercourse units 14.68%. An Ecological Impact Assessment has also been undertaken to evaluate the ecologically important features on the Site and how they may be affected by the Proposed Development **[ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 - Ecology & Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.2.7] and Appendices associated with Chapter 7 – Ecology & Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.3.7].** With mitigation in place, no significant adverse effects on designated nature conservation sites or important habitats are likely. Most species-impacts are scoped out, or are likely to be neutral, not significant, or slightly beneficial in the long-term. Effects on skylark are assessed as adverse (locally significant).	
929	S47	Concern regarding impact on landscape	The Applicant acknowledges that some adverse effects on landscape character in Area G would arise from the Proposed Development. However, the effects would be localised and limited in nature, particularly noting the additional mitigation planting which is included. As part of the DCO process the Applicant carried out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to assess the likely significant effects (both positive and negative) the Proposed Development could have on the environment and local area. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6 through to**	N

			Chapter 16 [EN010163/APP/6.2.6 - 6.2.16] provide details of a wide range of topics and the respective findings.	
930	S47	Suggestion to blend panels in contours of land	The Applicant acknowledges the range of views. To reduce effects on visual amenity, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views. No panels are proposed in Area G	N
Area H				
931	S47	Concern regarding loss of agricultural land	In Area H, the Applicant understands that there are concerns regarding the loss of agricultural land locally and nationwide, however only 0.06% of land in the UK is currently taken up by solar and even if the UK had a 70GW solar output this would only take up 0.4% of land nationally. Solar farms are specifically designed to be dual purpose and allow for the generation of clean electricity alongside agricultural purposes such as sheep grazing. Typically, a solar farm uses approximately just 5% of the total ground area of a site, meaning a significant proportion of land is	N

			left available for uses such as sheep grazing and habitat re-wilding. The impact on agricultural land use as a result of the Proposed Development is fully assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 15 – Land Use and Agriculture [EN010163/APP/6.2.15].**	
932	S47	Concern regarding the intended use of Wheatley Road	In Area H, construction traffic would be managed appropriately to minimise impacts on the local road network. Details can be found in the **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2 Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13],** which has been prepared for submission in support of the DCO Application. Detailed assessment has been undertaken in the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 - Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]**) which concludes that there will be no significant impact on the local highway network, including Wheatley Road which will be used to access the Primary Construction Compound in Area H.	N
933	S47	Concern regarding impact on farmers	In Area H, the Proposed Development can still be used for grazing and can support continued food production. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's food security. Indeed, the reverse is true: the solar industry is working closely with Britain's farmers to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their	N

			operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground underneath to recover, while providing income for the farming business. Solar farms also help regenerate soil quality and so are helping to ensure the continued availability of high-quality agricultural acreage for future generations.	
934	S47	Concern regarding impact on lifestyles	In Area H, a dedicated assessment on Human Health has not been scoped into the DCO Application for the Proposed Development. However, potential impacts on Human Health are assessed in **Health Impact Assessment [EN010163/APP/7.2]** at the request of NCC.	N
935	S47	Concern regarding impact on local people	In Area H, a dedicated assessment on Human Health has not been scoped into the DCO Application for the Proposed Development. However, potential impacts on Human Health are assessed in the **Health Impact Assessment [EN010163/APP/7.2]** at the request of NCC.	N
936	S47	Concern regarding lack of illustrations of the PD	In Area H, the Applicant acknowledges the comment. A full set of plans of the Proposed Development can be found in **Volume 2 of the DCO [EN010163/APP/2.1 - 2.35].**	N

937	S47	Assumption that the Proposed Development is already approved	The Applicant acknowledges the comment. The DCO application has been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate and will go through examination before a recommendation and subsequent decision is made.	N
938	S47	Statement that site access is in a poor location	In Area H, the Applicant acknowledges the comment. Detailed assessment has been undertaken in the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 - Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]** including the potential impacts as a result of workforce trips which will access the site via the primary accesses. No significant impacts are anticipated.	N
939	S47	Concern regarding disruption due to central access	In Area H, construction traffic would be managed appropriately to minimise impacts on the local road network. Details can be found in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.2 Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13],** which has been prepared for submission in support of the DCO Application.	N
940	S47	Concern regarding impact on footpaths	In Area H, The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW and the addition of two significant permissive routes is included within the Proposed Development.	N

941	S47	Concern regarding impact on bridleways	In Area H, The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW and the addition of two significant permissive routes is included within the Proposed Development.	N
942	S47	Statement that alternative locations should be considered	In Area H, The Applicant notes the comments. **The Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3] explains the Scheme's design evolution including site location. ES Volume 1, Chapter 3 - Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** provides more information regarding site selection. The location has been chosen for a number of reasons including connection agreement, proximity of grid connection, good access, screening provisions and offsets to sensitive receptors/ physical constraints can be achieved. Alternative sites have been considered but were discounted for numerous reasons such as proximity to heritage assets, ecological designations etc.	N
943	S47	Statement that footpaths/bridleways are well used	In Area H, The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW and the addition of two significant permissive routes is included within the Proposed Development.	N

944	S47	Concern that the Proposed Development would dominate views of the countryside	In Area H, The Applicant acknowledges the range of views. To reduce effects on visual amenity, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views.	N
945	S47	Concern regarding impact on the countryside	In Area H, The Applicant acknowledges the range of views. To reduce effects on visual amenity, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views.	N
946	S47	Concern regarding the cumulative impact with Wood Lane Solar Farm	In Area H, the cumulative impacts of the Proposed Development alongside other developments in close proximity to the Site (including the Wood Lane proposals) have been fully assessed across all technical chapters (where relevant) scoped into the ES**. Refer to Chapter 6 through to Chapter 17 of the ES for full details [EN010163/APP/6.2.6 - 6.2.17]** of the cumulative effects assessment.	N
947	S47	Concern land at Wood Lane Solar Farm will become "solar locked" and unrentable	In Area H, The Applicant notes the comments. The Proposed Development has been designed so that it does not conflict with the operational potential of Wood Lane Solar Farm.	N

948	S47	Opposition to use of greenfield site	In Area H, The Applicant acknowledges that all forms of solar generation, both brownfield and greenfield, are needed to achieve the UK's energy needs. However, brownfield and rooftop solar is not enough by themselves to meet the net zero targets by 2030. The Applicant understands that there are concerns regarding the loss of agricultural land locally and nationwide, however only 0.06% of land in the UK is currently taken up by solar and even if the UK had a 70GW solar output this would only take up 0.4% of land nationally. Solar farms are specifically designed to be dual purpose and allow for the generation of clean electricity alongside agricultural purposes such as sheep grazing. Typically, a solar farm uses approximately just 5% of the total ground area of a site, meaning a significant proportion of land is left available for uses such as sheep grazing and habitat re-wilding. The impact on agricultural land use as a result of the Proposed Development is fully assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 15 – Land Use and Agriculture [EN010163/APP/6.2.15].** Furthermore, in relation to Area G, this land is proposed to continue being used for arable farmland.	N

949	S47	Concern regarding impact on North Leverton Windmill	In Area H, The Applicant acknowledges the importance of heritage assets. The Proposed Development is anticipated to have a minor adverse effect on the North Leverton Windmill, which is not significant. A full assessment of the impacts on North Leverton Windmill and other local heritage assets is presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 – Cultural Heritage [EN010163/APP/6.2.9].**	N
950	S47	Concern regarding impact on Clarborough Tunnel SSSI	Clarborough Tunnel SSSI is adjacent to the Site's southern boundary and the part of the Site adjoining the SSSI has been identified for enhancement to species-rich grassland as part of the designed-in measures. The nearest area of development is over 750 m from the SSSI. Due to the nature of the Proposed Development and the separating distance from any areas of development within the Site, no direct or indirect impacts on the interest of Clarborough Tunnel SSSI are anticipated. In Area H, a full assessment of the impacts on ecologically designated sites is presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 - Ecology and Biodiversity (EN010163/APP/6.2.7).**	N
951	S47	Concern that the Proposed Development will industrialise the local area	In Area H, The Applicant acknowledges the range of views. To reduce effects on visual amenity, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views.	N

952	S47	General opposition to the project location	In Area H, The Applicant notes the comments. **The Design and Access Statement [EN010163/APP/7.3]** explains the Scheme's design evolution including site location. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3 - Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** provides more information regarding site selection. The location has been chosen for a number of reasons including connection agreement, proximity of grid connection, good access, screening provisions and offsets to sensitive receptors/ physical constraints can be achieved.	N
953	S47	Statement that compromise in Area H would appease the 2 largest villages	In Area H, The Applicant acknowledges the range of views. To reduce effects on visual amenity, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views.	N
954	S47	Statement that compromise in Area H would enable the most efficient delivery of solar power	In Area H, The Applicant acknowledges the range of views. To reduce effects on visual amenity, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views.	N

955	S47	Statement that Area H is also impacted by National Grid Pylon installation	In Area H, The Applicant notes the comment. The route of the North Humber to High Marnham proposals is considered within the cumulative assessments in the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6 through to Chapter 17 [EN010163/APP/6.2.6 - 6.2.17]**. No cumulative significant effects are anticipated.	N
956	S47	Statement that Area H is also impacted by the quarry at Sturton/Concern regarding cumulative impact with the quarry at Sturton	The cumulative impacts of the Proposed Development alongside other developments in close proximity to the Site In Area H (including the proposed quarry works) have been fully assessed across all technical chapters (where relevant) scoped into the ES**. Refer to ES Chapter 6 through to Chapter 17 for full details [EN010163/APP/6.2.6 - 6.2.17]** of the cumulative effects assessment.	N
957	S47	Statement that Area H is also impacted by other solar projects	The cumulative impacts of the Proposed Development alongside other developments in close proximity to the Site In Area H (including the nearby solar projects) have been fully assessed across all technical chapters (where relevant) scoped into the ES. Refer to **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6 through to Chapter 17 [EN010163/APP/6.2.6 - 6.2.17]** for full details of the cumulative effects assessment.	N
958	S47	Statement that Area H is too large	The Applicant considers that notwithstanding its scale, the Proposed Development In Area H has been well designed such that it would give rise to relatively limited and localised landscape and visual effects, with such	N

			effects further reduced following implementation of the proposed mitigation planting.	
959	S47	Statement that land between South Wheatley and Sturton should be protected from development	In Area H, The Applicant acknowledges the range of views. To reduce effects on visual amenity, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views.	N
960	S47	Statement that location to the West of the village is preferrable for development	As part of the DCO process the Applicant carried out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) In Area H to assess the likely significant effects (both positive and negative) the Proposed Development could have on the environment and local area. **ES Volume 1, Chapters 6-16 [EN010163/APP/6.2.6 - 6.2.16]** provide details of a wide range of topics and the respective findings.	N
961	S47	General concern regarding the impact of the Proposed Development on the local area	In Area H, The Applicant acknowledges the range of views. To reduce effects on visual amenity, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views.	N
962	S47	Concern regarding fragmentation of ecosystems	In Area H, to reduce the potential impacts of habitat fragmentation to mammals due to the installation of security fencing, small gaps in the fencing will be created to allow continued movement throughout the Proposed Development. Gaps of approximately 35 cm x 35 cm at	N

			ground level would allow for continued use by species such as badger, brown hare and hedgehog. Access gaps will be strategically sited where existing mammal paths are present, and periodically elsewhere. Larger mammals such as deer would not be able to access beyond security fencing into solar array areas, however they would be able to travel across the landscape along green infrastructure corridors along hedgerows, watercourses and into retained areas of woodland. The proposed Biodiversity Mitigation Areas would not be security fenced and therefore accessible to deer and other mammals. As part of the DCO process the Applicant carried out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to assess the likely significant effects (both positive and negative) the Proposed Development could have on the environment and local area. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 - Ecology & Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.2.7]** provides details of the potential impacts on ecology and biodiversity.	
963	S47	Concern regarding impact on wildlife	The Applicant acknowledges that the Site supports biodiversity and a range of flora and fauna in Area H. Detailed surveys and studies have been completed by independent ecological consultants to establish the pre-development ecological baseline and these have informed the design process, the scope of which was agreed with consultees.	N

			The Proposed Development retains, protects and enhances the majority of the habitats with increased biodiversity value such as hedgerows, arable field margins, woodlands, trees, watercourses, and ponds. Significant areas of new habitats are proposed including wetlands, woodland, hedgerows and meadow grassland. An assessment of the biodiversity value, as assessed via the Statutory Biodiversity Metric Tool, has been undertaken to evaluate the habitats on Site (**ES Volume 2, Appendix 7.12, Biodiversity Net Gain [EN010163/APP/6.3.7]);** this has identified that there would be a biodiversity net gain of habitat units 54.93%, hedgerow units 35.53% and watercourse units 14.68%. An Ecological Impact Assessment has also been undertaken to evaluate the ecologically important features on the Site and how they may be affected by the Proposed Development **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 - Ecology & Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.2.7]** With mitigation in place, no significant adverse effects on designated nature conservation sites or important habitats are likely. Most species-impacts are scoped out,	

			or are likely to be neutral, not significant, or slightly beneficial in the long-term. Effects on skylark are assessed as adverse (locally significant).	
964	S47	Concern regarding extra traffic associated with construction	In Area H, construction traffic would be managed appropriately to minimise impacts on the local road network. Details can be found in the **ES Volume 2, Appendix 13.3, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13],** which has been prepared for submission in support of the DCO Application.	N
965	S47	Concern regarding impact on farmers' livelihoods	In Area H, the Proposed Development can still be used for grazing and can support continued food production. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's food security. Indeed, the reverse is true: the solar industry is working closely with Britain's farmers to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground underneath to recover, while providing income for the farming business. Solar farms also help regenerate soil quality and so are helping to ensure the continued availability of high-quality agricultural acreage for future generations.	N

966	S47	Concern that the village will become surrounded	In Area H, The Applicant notes the comment. **ES Chapter 3 : Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process (EN010163/APP/6.2.3) and the Design and Access Statement (EN010163/APP/7.3**) set out proximity to residential properties was considered as part of the site selection criteria and sufficient offsets can be achieved along with retention of existing and provision of new soft landscaping provisions to screen the proposed development. Solar panels will not be placed right up to the boundary with residential properties nor fully surrounded.	N
967	S47	General concern regarding noise	In Area H, The Applicant acknowledges that some sound and vibration could be generated during the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Proposed Development via the use of certain construction plant, the operation of various ancillary electrical equipment and the additional traffic generated by the Proposed Development in isolative and cumulative terms. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10 Socio Economics [EN010163/APP/6.2.10]** addresses all relevant potential sound and vibratory effects from the introduction of the Proposed Development, concluding that sound and vibration generated during the temporary construction, operation and decommissioning of the site is considered not significant in the context of normal planning	N

			requirements, provided that typical mitigation measures are implemented and that best practice is followed.	
968	S47	Concern regarding visual impact	In Area H, The Applicant acknowledges the range of views. To reduce effects on visual amenity, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views.	N
969	S47	Mentions of and concerns regarding food security	In Area H, the Proposed Development can still be used for grazing and can support continued food production. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's food security. Indeed, the reverse is true: the solar industry is working closely with Britain's farmers to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground underneath to recover, while providing income for the farming business. Solar farms also help regenerate soil quality and so are helping to ensure the continued availability of high-quality agricultural acreage for future generations	N

970	S47	Concern regarding loss of employment	The Proposed development will result in 382 direct and indirect temporary jobs during the construction phase and 191 temporary jobs during the decommissioning phase. An assessment of the impact on jobs is available in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10 Socio Economics [EN010163/APP/6.2.10].**	N
971	S47	Concern regarding loss of businesses/ livelihoods	In Area H, the Proposed Development can still be used for grazing and can support continued food production. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's food security. Indeed, the reverse is true: the solar industry is working closely with Britain's farmers to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground underneath to recover, while providing income for the farming business. Solar farms also help regenerate soil quality and so are helping to ensure the continued availability of high-quality agricultural acreage for future generations	N
972	S47	Concern regarding impact on property prices	The Applicant acknowledges the concerns raised in relation to changes in property values in Area H as a result of the Proposed Development. It is not considered that the Proposed Development would impact property value. Furthermore, property values are not a material planning consideration.	N

973	S47	Concern regarding loss of food production	In Area H, the Proposed Development can still be used for grazing and can support continued food production. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's food security. Indeed, the reverse is true: the solar industry is working closely with Britain's farmers to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground underneath to recover, while providing income for the farming business. Solar farms also help regenerate soil quality and so are helping to ensure the continued availability of high-quality agricultural acreage for future generations	N
974	S47	Concern regarding impact on ecology/Concern regarding loss of habitat	The Applicant acknowledges that the Site supports biodiversity and a range of flora and fauna in Area H. Detailed surveys and studies have been completed by independent ecological consultants to establish the pre-development ecological baseline and these have informed the design process, the scope of which was agreed with consultees. The Proposed Development retains, protects and enhances the majority of the habitats with increased biodiversity value such as hedgerows, arable field margins, woodlands, trees, watercourses, and ponds. Significant areas of new habitats are proposed including	N

			wetlands, woodland, hedgerows and meadow grassland. An assessment of the biodiversity value, as assessed via the Statutory Biodiversity Metric Tool, has been undertaken to evaluate the habitats on Site **ES Volume 2, Appendix 7.12 - Biodiversity Net Gain [EN010163/APP/6.3.7];** this has identified that there would be a biodiversity gain in Habitat units of 54.93%, Hedgerow units 35.53% and Watercourse units 14.68%. An Ecological Impact Assessment has also been undertaken to evaluate the ecologically important features on the Site and how they may be affected by the Proposed Development in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 - Ecology & Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.2.7]** and **Appendices associated with Chapter 7 – Ecology & Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.3.7].** With mitigation in place, no significant adverse effects on designated nature conservation sites or important habitats are likely. Most species-impacts are scoped out, or are likely to be neutral, not significant, or slightly beneficial in the long-term. Effects on skylark are assessed as adverse (locally significant).	

975	S47	Concern regarding impact on landscape	The Applicant acknowledges that some adverse effects on landscape character in Area H, would arise from the Proposed Development. However, the effects would be localised and limited in nature, particularly noting the additional mitigation planting which is included. As part of the DCO process the Applicant carried out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to assess the likely significant effects (both positive and negative) the Proposed Development could have on the environment and local area. **ES Volume 1, Chapters 6-16 [EN010163/APP/6.2.0-6.2.19]** provide details of a wide range of topics and the respective findings.	N
976	S47	Suggestion to blend panels in contours of land	In Area H, The Applicant acknowledges the range of views. To reduce effects on visual amenity, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views.	Y
977	S47	Concern regarding the loss of existing footpaths	In Area H, The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW and the addition of two significant permissive routes is included within the Proposed Development.	N

978	S47	Concern regarding the loss of bridleways	In Area H, The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW and the addition of two significant permissive routes is included within the Proposed Development.	N
979	S47	Concern regarding the loss of existing byways	In Area H, The Applicant does not propose the permanent closure or diversion of any PRoW and the addition of two significant permissive routes is included within the Proposed Development.	N
General				
980		General support for the PD	The Applicant welcomes the comment.	N
981		General support of solar	The Applicant welcomes the comment.	N

982	S47	General support of renewable energy	The Applicant welcomes the comment.	N
983	S47	Statement that reaching Net Zero is important	The Applicant welcomes the comments and wholeheartedly supports the drive to Net Zero.	N
984	S47	Statement that there is no cohesive energy plan/Concern regarding a lack of strategic planning from government	The National Policy Statements (NPSs) EN-1 and EN-3 set out the Government's position in infrastructure requirements, including energy.	N
985	S47	Recognition that climate change is a threat	The Applicant welcomes the comments and wholeheartedly supports the drive to Net Zero.	N
986	S47	Scepticism around climate change	The Applicant supports the Government's position on climate change and the drive to Net Zero. The UK has a legally binding Commitment to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050. The Government set out in	N

			its ""Clean Power by 2030"" statement that solar power should be tripled by 2030.	
987	S47	Recognition of the need for clean energy	The Applicant welcomes the comment.	N
988	S47	Recognition of need for energy security /Support for energy security	The Applicant welcomes the comment.	N
989	S47	General opposition to the race to Net Zero	The UK has a legally binding commitment to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050. In support of this, the Government's "Clean Power by 2030" policy sets out an ambition to triple solar capacity by 2030. Further reinforcing this goal, the Energy Security Strategy (April 2022) outlines a target of reaching 70 GW of solar generation by 2035. Solar energy, being one of the most cost-effective and rapidly deployable renewable technologies, will play a vital role in meeting these national objectives. However, this scale of deployment cannot be achieved through rooftop and brownfield installations alone, which face significant practical limitations. Many domestic and industrial buildings are either structurally unsuitable, lack	N

			the necessary grid connectivity, or are cost-prohibitive due to high initial installation expenses. As a result, ground-mounted solar installations—particularly on agricultural land—are essential to delivering the volume of solar power required. Their contribution is not only practical, but necessary, to secure a clean, reliable, and affordable energy future for the UK.	
990	S47	General opposition to the PD	The Applicant acknowledges that there have been a range of views expressed with some in general opposition to the Proposed Development. However, the UK has made a legally binding commitment to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050. This can only be achieved with the roll-out of reliable, affordable, clean energy sources such as solar. Solar farms, such as the Proposed Development, would make a meaningful contribution to local and national climate commitments, reducing our impact on the environment and contributing to energy security	N
991	S47	Statement that the developer only cares about profit	Whilst the Applicant is a commercial entity, the Proposed Development has a range of benefits to the community and the UK as a whole. If consented the Proposed Development would generate approximately 450MW of clean, green, electricity; enough energy to power approximately 180,000 homes every year.	N

992	S47	Statement developers hide behind "green agenda"	The Proposed Development has a range of benefits to the community and the UK as a whole. If consented the Proposed Development would generate approximately 450MW of clean, green, electricity; enough energy to power approximately 180,000 homes every year. The Applicant is not hiding behind a "green agenda", the UK has a legally binding commitment to achieve net zero and solar farms, such as the proposed development, are a key way in doing this.	N
993	S47	Concern about impact on surroundings	As part of the DCO process the Applicant carried out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to assess the likely significant effects (both positive and negative) the Proposed Development could have on the environment and local area. **ES Volume 1, Chapters 6-16 [EN010163/APP/6.2.0-6.2.10]** provide details of a wide range of topics and the respective findings.	N
994	S47	Concern that importing food will result in supply chain issues	The Proposed Development will not reduce the UK's ability to produce food or increase reliance on imports that could be affected by supply chain issues. The Proposed Development can still be used for grazing and can support continued food production. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's food security or create significant concerns with the supply of food from the UK or abroad. Indeed, the reverse is true: the solar industry is working closely with Britain's	N

			farmers to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground underneath to recover, while providing income for the farming business. This supports the future availability of high-quality farmland and helps ensure a stable, resilient food system for generations to come.	
995	S47	Statement that mitigation is insufficient/Statement that mitigation is nonsense	As part of the DCO process the Applicant carried out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to assess the likely significant effects (both positive and negative) the Proposed Development could have on the environment and local area. ES Volume 1, Chapters 6-16 provide details of a wide range of topics and the respective findings. Within each chapter will be discussion on both embedded and committed mitigation measure where these are considered necessary. The applicant believes the mitigation (embedded and committed) is not only sufficient but goes beyond that required.	N
996	S47	Statement that the removal of farmland will lead to a future of processed/modified food/ Concern related to increased pressure on the NHS due to risks relating to increasingly processed food	The Proposed Development will not reduce the UK's ability to produce food or increase reliance on modified or processed food. The Proposed Development can still be used for grazing and can support continued food production. The independent National Food Strategy Review shows that solar farms do not in any way present a risk to the UK's	N

			food security, and as such would not lead to an increase in any specific form or food type, especially modified or processed food. Indeed, the reverse is true: the solar industry is working closely with Britain's farmers to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their operations. Further, where a solar farm is installed on land which has been intensively farmed, it enables the ground underneath to recover, while providing income for the farming business. Solar farms also help regenerate soil quality and so are helping to ensure the continued availability of high-quality agricultural acreage for future generations	
997	S47	Statement that increased buffer zones would be preferable	The Applicant acknowledges the range of views. To reduce effects on visual amenity, opportunities have been sought to incorporate buffers between project infrastructure and nearby homes and villages, as well as new planting, where appropriate, to further screen views.	Y
998	S47	Statement that the local plan for development should take priority	The Planning Statement [document reference], submitted as part of the DCO Application, sets out the need for the Proposed Development and demonstrates how it accords with both national and local planning policy. In accordance with the Planning Act 2008, the statement recognises that National Policy Statements (NPSs) form the primary basis for decision-making on NSIPs and take precedence over local development plans where there is conflict.	N

999	S47	Statement that there are better solutions that need investment	The Applicant acknowledges the range of views on energy technologies. Solar can already produce as much as 30% of the UK's electricity at different points throughout the year, and in 2020, solar provided more than 4% of the UK's total energy supply. One of the advantages of solar energy is its versatility across all regions of the UK. Solar panels do not require direct sunlight to function and can generate power consistently throughout the year, even on cloudier days. Moreover, the reliability of solar power is bolstered by the ability to accurately predict sunlight hours for each day, facilitating precise forecasts of solar energy generation.	N
1000	S47	Statement that wind power is the government's preference	The Applicant acknowledges the range of views on energy technologies. National Policy Statement EN3 and EN5 made clear the Governments position on renewable energy, with policy support or a range of technologies, including wind and solar. The Government has not expressed a preference for wind over solar. Solar can already produce as much as 30% of the UK's electricity at different points throughout the year, and in 2020, solar provided more than 4% of the UK's total energy supply. One of the advantages of solar energy is its versatility across all regions of the UK. Solar panels do not require direct sunlight to function and can generate power consistently throughout the year, even on cloudier days. Moreover, the reliability of solar power is bolstered by the	N

			ability to accurately predict sunlight hours for each day, facilitating precise forecasts of solar energy generation.	
1001	S47	Statement that a wind farm in the North Sea would be preferable/Statement that offshore wind is preferred	The Applicant acknowledges the range of views on energy technologies. National Policy Statement EN3 and EN5 made clear the Government's position on renewable energy, with policy support or a range of technologies, including wind and solar. The Government has not expressed a preference for wind over solar. Solar can already produce as much as 30% of the UK's electricity at different points throughout the year, and in 2020, solar provided more than 4% of the UK's total energy supply. One of the advantages of solar energy is its versatility across all regions of the UK. Solar panels do not require direct sunlight to function and can generate power consistently throughout the year, even on cloudier days. Moreover, the reliability of solar power is bolstered by the ability to accurately predict sunlight hours for each day, facilitating precise forecasts of solar energy generation.	N
1002	S47	Statement that solar energy is inefficient	The Applicant acknowledges the range of views on energy technologies. Solar can already produce as much as 30% of the UK's electricity at different points throughout the year, and in 2020, solar provided more than 4% of the UK's total energy supply. One of the advantages of solar energy is its versatility across all regions of the UK. Solar panels	N

			do not require direct sunlight to function and can generate power consistently throughout the year, even on cloudier days. Moreover, the reliability of solar power is bolstered by the ability to accurately predict sunlight hours for each day, facilitating precise forecasts of solar energy generation.	
1003	S47	Statement that solar is not actually environmentally friendly	The Proposed Development has the potential to affect the global climate through the addition or avoidance of greenhouse gas emissions, reduction in carbon emissions and the supply of 180,000 homes with clean, green energy. Greenhouse gas emissions could occur directly from construction, operation and decommissioning activities (e.g. fuel consumption), but emissions occurring outside of the Order Limits must also be considered, such as those resulting from the extraction, manufacture and transportation of materials to the Site during construction. The Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan documents measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the construction phase. Such measures could include decreasing fuel use by maximising energy efficiency, promoting sustainable fuels and recycled materials, and using locally sourced materials as much as is practicable.	N

1004	S47	Statement that tidal energy is preferred	The Applicant acknowledges the range of views on energy technologies. National Policy Statement EN3 and EN5 made clear the Government's position on renewable energy, with policy support or a range of technologies, including tidal and solar. The Government does not express a preference for one renewable technology over another, recognising that different solutions are needed to meet energy targets and ensure security of supply. Solar can already produce as much as 30% of the UK's electricity at different points throughout the year, and in 2020, solar provided more than 4% of the UK's total energy supply. One of the advantages of solar energy is its versatility across all regions of the UK. Solar panels do not require direct sunlight to function and can generate power consistently throughout the year, even on cloudier days. Moreover, the reliability of solar power is bolstered by the ability to accurately predict sunlight hours for each day, facilitating precise forecasts of solar energy generation.	N
1005	S47	Statement that nuclear is preferred	The Applicant acknowledges the range of views on energy technologies. National Policy Statement make it clear the Governments position on renewable energy, with policy support or a range of technologies, including nuclear and solar. The Government does not express a preference for one renewable technology over another, recognising that	N

			different solutions are needed to meet energy targets and ensure security of supply. Solar can already produce as much as 30% of the UK's electricity at different points throughout the year, and in 2020, solar provided more than 4% of the UK's total energy supply. One of the advantages of solar energy is its versatility across all regions of the UK. Solar panels do not require direct sunlight to function and can generate power consistently throughout the year, even on cloudier days. Moreover, the reliability of solar power is bolstered by the ability to accurately predict sunlight hours for each day, facilitating precise forecasts of solar energy generation.	
1006	S47	Statement that nuclear would support more jobs	The Applicant will endeavour to find local firms and suppliers for construction activity on-site, as well as civil engineering works for the solar farm. Other opportunities for local suppliers relate to contractors for aggregates, landscaping supplies, haulage as well as plant hire. A range of commitments are set out in **ES Volume 2, Appendix 10.1, The Outline Supply Chain, Employment and Skills Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.10].**	N
1007	S47	Statement that there is adequate resource in North Sea oil fields	The UK has a legally binding commitment to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050. As one of the cheapest and most rapidly deployable forms of renewable energy, solar will play an important role in achieving this commitment. The UK Government has made it clear in its recently published National Policy Statement (NPS) that these	N

			commitments can only be achieved with the deployment of renewable technologies rather that fossil fuels such as North Sea oil.	
1008	S47	Statement that solar needs to be adopted	The Applicant welcomes the comments and wholeheartedly supports the drive to Net Zero	N
1009	S47	Statement that solar farms have low environmental impact	The Applicant welcomes the comments and agrees that the construction of a solar farm has low environmental impact compared to many other forms of energy generation.	N
1010	S47	Statement that we need to transition away from fossil fuels	The Applicant welcomes the comments and wholeheartedly supports the drive to Net Zero and the transition away from fossil fuels.	N
1011	S47	Concern regarding increased criminal activity/Concern regarding theft of cables	The Proposed Development will incorporate security measures throughout the Site. Operational areas of the site will be secured with 2m deer fencing, with the exception of the substations which will be secured by palisade fencing. CCTV cameras will be installed to monitor the activity within the Site.	N

1012	S47	Statement that the project seems to have already been signed off by the minister	This statement is not correct The application will undergo a detailed examination process by an independent Examining Authority, with the final decision to be made by the Secretary of State.	N
1013	S47	Statement that RES has donated £5m	The Applicant is not clear what this representation refers to and therefore no further comment or action is considered necessary	N
1014	S47	Statement that the Proposed Development is ill thought through	The Applicant acknowledges that there have been a range of views expressed with some in general opposition to the Proposed Development. The UK has made a legally binding commitment to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050. This can only be achieved with the roll-out of reliable, affordable, clean energy sources such as solar. Solar farms, such as the Proposed Development, would make a meaningful contribution to local and national climate commitments, reducing our impact on the environment and contributing to energy security.	N
1015	S47	Statement that the Proposed Development will provide much needed green energy	The Applicant welcomes the comments and wholeheartedly supports the drive to Net Zero	N
1016	S47	Statement that the Proposed Development will bring investment	The Applicant welcomes the comment and emphasises that the Proposed Development will deliver £224m of investment during the construction phase, providing a boost to the local construction sector.	N

1017	S47	Statement that we should continue to use fossil fuels	The Applicant acknowledges the range of views on energy technologies. The UK Government has made it clear in its recently published National Policy Statements (NPS) that the legally binding commitments to net-zero can only be achieved with the deployment of renewable technologies rather that fossil fuels. Solar can already produce as much as 30% of the UK's electricity at different points throughout the year, and in 2020, solar provided more than 4% of the UK's total energy supply. One of the advantages of solar energy is its versatility across all regions of the UK. Solar panels do not require direct sunlight to function and can generate power consistently throughout the year, even on cloudier days. Moreover, the reliability of solar power is bolstered by the ability to accurately predict sunlight hours for each day, facilitating precise forecasts of solar energy generation.	N
1018	S47	Statement that solar is not a sole solution	The Applicant acknowledges the range of views on energy technologies. The Government have stated that a fivefold increase in solar power is needed alongside increased wind, tidal, nuclear sources. Solar can already produce as much as 30% of the UK's electricity at different points throughout the year, and in 2020, solar provided more than 4% of the UK's total energy supply. One of the advantages of solar energy is its versatility across all regions of the UK. Solar panels do not require direct sunlight to function and can generate power consistently	N

			throughout the year, even on cloudier days. Moreover, the reliability of solar power is bolstered by the ability to accurately predict sunlight hours for each day, facilitating precise forecasts of solar energy generation.	
1019	S47	Suggestion that the Proposed Development could be reduced in scale and combined with wind	The Applicant acknowledges the range of views on energy technologies and the suggestion to combine solar with wind. However, the scale of the Proposed Development has been carefully designed to make a meaningful contribution to national and local renewable energy targets while maintaining compatibility with ongoing agricultural use. Solar energy offers key advantages that complement, rather than compete with, other technologies such as wind. Notably, solar can already provide up to 30% of the UK's electricity at various times of the year, and in 2020 contributed over 4% of the total energy supply. Its reliability stems from the ability to forecast sunlight hours with high accuracy and from its consistent performance—even on cloudy days—across all UK regions. While wind power is an important part of the renewable mix, the site-specific conditions and land characteristics of this proposal are more suitable for solar. Reducing the scale or relying on wind in this location would limit the effectiveness and certainty of energy generation, undermining the project's contribution to decarbonisation goals.	N

1020	S47	Statement that addition of wind would lead to increased production during poorer weather	The Applicant acknowledges the range of views on energy technologies. National policy recognises a mix of technologies are needed to meet net-zero. The applicant develops renewable energy projects including wind, solar and battery storage but has taken a decision to develop solar and battery storage within this project. Solar can already produce as much as 30% of the UK's electricity at different points throughout the year, and in 2020, solar provided more than 4% of the UK's total energy supply. It is acknowledged that wind and solar have their own distinct advantages. An energy mix is needed to make the supply of electricity as secure as possible. One of the advantages of solar energy is its versatility across all regions of the UK. Solar panels do not require direct sunlight to function and can generate power consistently throughout the year, even on cloudier days. Moreover, the reliability of solar power is bolstered by the ability to accurately predict sunlight hours for each day, facilitating precise forecasts of solar energy generation.	N
1021	S47	Concern regarding increased carbon footprint due to lack of homegrown food	The Proposed Development will not compromise the availability of homegrown food or contribute to an increased carbon footprint. The land can continue to be used for low-intensity grazing, allowing for ongoing food production alongside clean energy generation. According to the independent National Food Strategy Review, solar farms pose no risk to the UK's food security and do not increase reliance on imported food with higher associated	N

			carbon emissions. In fact, solar farms can support farming by lowering energy costs and increasing the long-term sustainability of agricultural operations. When installed on previously intensively farmed land, solar developments also allow the soil to rest and regenerate, improving its quality over time. This contributes to the preservation of productive farmland for future generations, helping secure both the nation's food supply and its environmental resilience.	
1022	S47	Statement that alternatives to solar need pursuing	The Applicant acknowledges the range of views on energy technologies. Solar can already produce as much as 30% of the UK's electricity at different points throughout the year, and in 2020, solar provided more than 4% of the UK's total energy supply. One of the advantages of solar energy is its versatility across all regions of the UK. Solar panels do not require direct sunlight to function and can generate power consistently throughout the year, even on cloudier days. Moreover, the reliability of solar power is bolstered by the ability to accurately predict sunlight hours for each day, facilitating precise forecasts of solar energy generation.	N
1023	S47	Statement that solar is not efficient to meet UK goals	The Applicant acknowledges the range of views on energy technologies. National Policy Statement EN3 and EN5 make clear the Government's position on renewable energy, with strong policy support for a range of technologies including solar. Solar can already produce as	N

			much as 30% of the UK's electricity at different points throughout the year, and in 2020, solar provided more than 4% of the UK's total energy supply. One of the advantages of solar energy is its versatility across all regions of the UK. Solar panels do not require direct sunlight to function and can generate power consistently throughout the year, even on cloudier days. Moreover, the reliability of solar power is bolstered by the ability to accurately predict sunlight hours for each day, facilitating precise forecasts of solar energy generation.	
1024	S47	General concern regarding dirt	An Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan has been developed as part of the DCO application to outline how construction activities will be managed throughout the construction process. **ES Volume 2, The Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** sets out strategies and measures for managing construction activities, including minimising dust and dirt, stakeholder engagement, site management, environmental considerations, community impact, health and safety, and monitoring and compliance. This includes measures to mitigate the impact of dust from construction works on nearby sensitive human and ecological receptors.	N

1025	S47	Statement that wind is preferred/more efficient	The Applicant acknowledges the range of views on energy technologies. National Policy Statement EN3 and EN5 made clear the Governments position on renewable energy, with policy support or a range of technologies, including wind and solar. Solar can already produce as much as 30% of the UK's electricity at different points throughout the year, and in 2020, solar provided more than 4% of the UK's total energy supply. One of the advantages of solar energy is its versatility across all regions of the UK. Solar panels do not require direct sunlight to function and can generate power consistently throughout the year, even on cloudier days. Moreover, the reliability of solar power is bolstered by the ability to accurately predict sunlight hours for each day, facilitating precise forecasts of solar energy generation.	N
1026	S47	Statement that fossil fuels can be used with investment in cleaning up the exhaust	The UK has a legally binding commitment to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050. As one of the cheapest and most rapidly deployable forms of renewable energy, solar will play an important role in achieving this commitment. The UK Government has made it clear in its recently published National Policy Statement (NPS) that these commitments can only be achieved with the deployment of renewable technologies rather that fossil fuels.	N

1027	S47	Suggestion that large scale solar is not the right renewable solution for the area	The Proposed Development has a range of benefits to the community and the UK as a whole. The site's location, being immediately adjacent to the former West Burton Power Station makes it ideal to fill the gap left by the decommissioning of the coal power station. If consented the Proposed Development would generate approximately 450MW of clean, green, electricity; enough energy to power approximately 180,000 homes every year.	N
1028	S47	Statement that the Proposed Development feels like a panic to hit a target without considering future implications	The UK Government recently published National Policy Statements (NPS) have been under production for some time with extensive consultation of draft versions. These have now been published and contain the governments considered position on energy generation, solar sits at the very heart of these policies.	N
1029	S47	Suggestion that UK needs more power plants	The UK has a legally binding commitment to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050. As one of the cheapest and most rapidly deployable forms of renewable energy, solar will play an important role in achieving this commitment. The UK Government has made it clear in its recently published National Policy Statements (NPS) that these commitments can only be achieved with the deployment of renewable technologies such as wind, solar, tidal etc. It is agreed that more generating sources are needed to meet the UKs needs.	N

1030	S47	Concern regarding impact on tourism	**ES Volume 1, Chapter: 10 Socio Economics [EN010163/APP/6.2.10]** outlines the likely effects arising from the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Proposed Development upon the local population and any impacts on tourism	N
1031	S47	Statement that the project is a done deal	The application will undergo a detailed examination process by an independent Examining Authority, with the final decision to be made by the Secretary of State.	N
1032	S47	Statement that solar projects shouldn't be condensed in single counties	The UK has a legally binding commitment to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050. This project will help meet these commitments. Solar is a recognised form of energy generation throughout the world and isn't only found in the UK.	N
1033	S47	Statement that negative impacts of Proposed Development need more consideration	As part of the DCO process the Applicant carried out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to assess the likely significant effects (both positive and negative) the Proposed Development could have on the environment and local area. **ES Volume 1, Chapters 6-16 [EN010163/APP/6.2.6-6.2.16] provide** details of a wide range of topics and the respective findings. Each chapter assess and concludes the likely significant effects arising from the Proposed Development.	N

1034	S47	Statement that the proposals for the Proposed Development are not detailed enough	The Applicant presented indicative plans at PEIR for public review and commentary. These details have now been settled into the final proposal as shown in the **Works Plan [EN010163/APP/2.2]** and indicatively on the **Site Layout plan [EN010163/APP/2.6].**	N
1035	S47	Statement that solar farms can attract vandals	The Proposed Development will incorporate security measures throughout the Site. Operational areas of the site will be secured with 2m deer fencing, with the exception of the substations which will be secured by palisade fencing. CCTV cameras will be installed to monitor the activity within the Site.	N
1036	S47	Opposition to replacing longstanding power stations with solar farms	The UK has a legally binding commitment to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050. As one of the cheapest and most rapidly deployable forms of renewable energy, solar will play an important role in achieving this commitment.	N
1037	S47	Statement the Proposed Development should not proceed in such a populated area	The site selection for a solar farm is led by availability of capacity on the National Grid and the availability of land through agreement. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3: Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** provides a detailed account of the site selection process and the viability of land to be provided through voluntary agreement for the Proposed Development. The land within the Order Limits does not contain any residential properties and significant buffers	N

			have been used for those isolated properties that are close to the order limits.	
1038	S47	Concern regarding pollution due to increased car use as a result of the loss of local walks	The Applicant does not propose the permanent close or diversion of any PRoWs, such that existing local walks will remain available for use throughout the lifetime of the Proposed Development. The Applicant is also construction two permissive paths through the Site to increase connectivity and public access.	N
1039	S47	Statement that power generated will go straight to the national grid, not to the benefit of local residents	It is correct that the energy produced will feed into the National Grid. However, the energy we all use in our homes and businesses is transmitted around the county via the national grid and is for the benefit of all. The applicant has consulted upon an extensive community benefits package, including a Local Energy Discount Scheme to directly benefit those within the locality.	N
1040	S47	Statement that there is a great deal of poorly informed commentary amongst anti groups	The Applicant welcomes the comment and has tried to promote transparency and access to information on the project website and contact with team members	N
1041	S47	Statement that the local area is in desperate need of improved local facilities and amenities	The Applicant is proposing a community benefits package of £320,000 a year for the benefit of the local community. The Applicant sought feedback on the community benefit proposals and asked for suggestions on how the community would like to see the fund distributed, The	

			Applicant has considered all feedback that has been received on its community benefit proposals.	
1042	S47	Statement that the local area is in desperate need of housing	The Applicant acknowledges that statement regarding housing, unfortunately this proposal doesn't include any housing and isn't able to address this specific point. whilst not for housing the applicant is proposing a community benefits package of £320,000 a year for the benefit of the local community that could be used in other ways to help people in the local area.	N
1043	S47	Statement that carbon emissions will negate green "payback"	The Proposed Development has the potential to affect the global climate through the addition or avoidance of greenhouse gas emissions. Greenhouse gas emissions could occur directly from construction, operation and decommissioning activities (e.g. fuel consumption), but emissions occurring outside of the draft Order Limits must also be considered, such as those resulting from the extraction, manufacture and transportation of materials to the Site during construction. The Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan documents measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the construction phase. Such measures could include decreasing fuel use by maximising energy efficiency, promoting sustainable	N

			fuels and recycled materials, and using locally sourced materials as much as is practicable.	
1044	S47	Statement that Proposed Development will not go ahead	The Applicant acknowledges that there have been a range of views expressed with some in general opposition to the Proposed Development.	N
1045	S47	Statement that the Proposed Development should not go ahead	The Applicant acknowledges that there have been a range of views expressed with some in general opposition to the Proposed Development.	N
1046	S47	Statement that developer's profit should be publicly available information	Whilst the Applicant is a commercial entity, the specifics regarding the financing of this project are commercially sensitive and not for publication.	N
1047	S47	Statement that the Proposed Development is a done deal	The application will undergo a detailed examination process by an independent Examining Authority, with the final decision to be made by the Secretary of State.	N
1048	S47	Statement that the Proposed Development is a way to make money by playing the "green card"	The Proposed Development has a range of benefits to the community and the UK as a whole. If consented the Proposed Development would generate approximately 450MW of clean, green, electricity; enough energy to power approximately 180,000 homes every year.	N

1049	S47	Statement that the proposals need improvement	The Applicant acknowledges that there have been a range of views expressed with some in general opposition to the Proposed Development.	N
1050	S47	Statement that the project will not go ahead	The Applicant acknowledges that there have been a range of views expressed with some in general opposition to the Proposed Development.	N
1051	S47	Suggestion to concentrate on alternative methods for electricity generation	The Applicant acknowledges the range of views on energy technologies. Solar can already produce as much as 30% of the UK's electricity at different points throughout the year, and in 2020, solar provided more than 4% of the UK's total energy supply. One of the advantages of solar energy is its versatility across all regions of the UK. Solar panels do not require direct sunlight to function and can generate power consistently throughout the year, even on cloudier days. Moreover, the reliability of solar power is bolstered by the ability to accurately predict sunlight hours for each day, facilitating precise forecasts of solar energy generation.	N
1052	S47	Statement that proposal should be rejected/abandoned	The application will undergo a detailed examination process by an independent Examining Authority, with the final decision to be made by the Secretary of State.	N

1053	S47	Query regarding the possibility of bringing cable broadband to the hamlet whilst construction work is happening	The Applicant is proposing a community benefits package of £320,000 a year for the benefit of the local community. There are no proposals within this project specifically for broadband to be brought to the village, but this is the type of project community benefit funds can be used for.	N
1054	S47	Statement that plans will not provide enough energy to power homes	The Applicant is unsure what is meant by this statement, however, if consented the Proposed Development would generate approximately 450MW of clean, green, electricity; enough energy to power approximately 180,000 homes every year.	N
1055	S47	Statement that damaged caused by the Proposed Development outweighs benefits	The Applicant acknowledges that there have been a range of views expressed with some in general opposition to the Proposed Development. The planning balance is presented and discussed in the Planning Statement **[EN010163/APP/**7.1]. The type of proposal, being solar development, also benefits from the designation as Critical National Priority development in Policy EN1 and therefore has a presumption in favour of development.	N
1056	S47	Statement that local plan should focus on these benefits	The Planning Statement which has been submitted as part of the DCO Application, sets out the need for the Proposed Development, and how it is in accordance with national and local planning policy.	N

1057	S47	Statement that the Proposed Development is an insult to local community	The Applicant acknowledges that there have been a range of views expressed with some in general opposition to the Proposed Development.	N
1058	S47	Statement that the majority of local people are against the PD	The Applicant acknowledges that there have been a range of views expressed with some in general opposition to the Proposed Development. The extent of representations received, and their nature is set out in full in the **Consultation Report [EN010163/APP/5.1]**	N
1059	S47	Statement that the UK becoming net-zero won't make a difference to global emissions	The UK has a legally binding Commitment to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050. The Government set out in its "Clean Power by 2030" statement that solar power should be tripled by 2030. The UK isn't the only country facing energy generation issues climate change and net-zero or worldwide issues that each country is taking in their own ways.	N
1060	S47	Statement that the project isn't green	If consented the Proposed Development would generate approximately 450MW of clean, green, electricity; enough energy to power approximately 180,000 homes every year.	N
1061	S47	Statement that the how much the landowner will be paid for leasing the land should be made public	The commercial agreements in all aspects of the Proposed Development are confidential, which is normal for any such commercial development.	N

1062	S47	Statement asking how many government ministers hold shares in RES	The Applicant is a wholly owned subsidiary of RES UK & Ireland Limited, a company incorporated in England and Wales with company number 04913493. That company is in turn a wholly owned subsidiary of Renewable Energy Systems Holdings Limited, a company incorporated in England and Wales with company number 04913497. Renewable Energy Systems Holdings Limited is ultimately owned by the McAlpine Family.	N
1063	S47	Statement that mitigation is nonsense	The Applicant acknowledges that there have been a range of views expressed with some in general opposition to the Proposed Development. The mitigation, both embedded and secondary, have been tailored as part of the iterative EIA process to minimise the potential impacts of the proposed development.	N
1064	S47	General concern regarding air pollution	An Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan has been developed as part of the DCO application to outline how construction activities will be managed throughout the construction process. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.1 Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) [EN010163/APP/6.3.4]** sets out strategies and measures for managing construction activities, including stakeholder engagement, site management, environmental considerations, community impact, health and safety, and monitoring and compliance. This includes measures to mitigate the	N

			impact of dust from construction works on nearby sensitive human and ecological receptors.	
1065	S47	Concern regarding damage to local infrastructure	Construction traffic would be managed appropriately to minimise impacts on the local road network. Details can be found in the Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan, which has been prepared for submission in support of the DCO Application.	N
1066	S47	Statement that local infrastructure is inadequate to handle the PD	Construction traffic would be managed appropriately to minimise impacts on the local road network. Details can be found in the Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan, which has been prepared for submission in support of the DCO Application.	N
1067	S47	Statement that the consultation materials are incorrect	The Applicant has a responsibility to accurately present the Proposed Development through the consultation materials. The Applicant created a suite of materials to explain the updated proposals for the Proposed Development. This included the consultation newsletter, project navigation document, consultation brochure, non-technical summary of the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) and PEIR. In these documents the Applicant provided the most up to date information regarding the Proposed Development at the time of consultation. In these documents the Applicant explained	N

			the project need and benefits, alongside details of the potential impacts and mitigations which may be considered. Information in these documents was from detailed technical work and assessments.	
1068	S47	Statement that more information on how the Proposed Development would integrate with other projects would be preferable	The PEIR outlined the Applicant's assessments of the potential impacts of the Proposed Development carried out to date, to support the community in making informed responses to the consultation, including information on cumulative impacts. The PEIR and the non-technical summary were available on the Applicant's website, at deposit points and at consultation events. A full cumulative assessment is available in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6 - 17 [EN010163/APP/6.2.6 - 6.2.17].** This chapter provides updated information on the environmental assessments at the submission of the DCO, following feedback received at consultation and progress of the preparation of the DCO application. The Applicant is also actively engaging with developers of interfacing projects in the area to explore how projects can be delivered cohesively.	N

1069	S47	Statement that materials do not address how BESS fire and explosion risks will be mitigated	To ensure the community were properly informed of the proposals the Applicant produced a suite of documents for the statutory consultation. This included the consultation newsletter, project navigation document, consultation brochure. These documents provided an overview of the Proposed Development and the various environmental and technical assessments including information about transport and access. The technology underpinning battery storage is well established and extensively used in various facets of our daily lives. The battery units proposed for the Proposed Development have long lives, charging and discharging thousands of times. **ES Volume 2, Appendix 4.3 Outline Fire Risk Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.4.]** has been developed, which outline the Applicant's strategies, protocols, and commitments, ensuring that battery storage at the Proposed Development adheres to the highest standards and contributes seamlessly to the overall success of the solar farm project. More detailed information on health and safety, including risks associated with BESS, was available in the PEIR NTS which was available to view from the launch of statutory consultation.	N

1070	S47	Statement that the reports are biased	The Applicant has a responsibility to fairly present the Proposed Development through the consultation materials. The Applicant created a suite of materials to explain the updated proposals for the Proposed Development. This included the consultation newsletter, project navigation document, consultation brochure, non-technical summary of the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) and PEIR. In these documents the Applicant provided the most up to date information regarding the Proposed Development at the time of consultation. In these documents the Applicant explained the project need and benefits, alongside details of the potential impacts and mitigations which may be considered. The technical information, including the PEIR and NTS were developed by qualified technical EIA consultants, with the appropriate qualifications to undertake fair and accurate assessments in accordance with current law, policy and guidance.	
1071	S47	Concern that views are being ignored	Under Section 49 of the Planning Act 2008, the Applicant has a duty to "have regard" to responses received during the statutory consultation. In line with this obligation, the Applicant has carefully considered all stakeholder and community feedback, using it to refine and shape the final proposals before submitting the DCO application. A detailed account of how the Applicant has taken consultation responses into account can be found in	N

			Appendix H of the Consultation Report Appendices Part A [EN010163/APP/5.1.1].	
1072	S47	Statement that information on page 5 needs challenging	The Applicant notes these comments. Page 5 of the Statutory Consultation Brochure focused on the need for the project including the need for solar, the site and site selection. The UK has a legally binding commitment to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050. In support of this, the Government's "Clean Power by 2030" policy sets out an ambition to triple solar capacity by 2030. Further reinforcing this goal, the Energy Security Strategy (April 2022) outlines a target of reaching 70 GW of solar generation by 2035. Solar energy, being one of the most cost-effective and rapidly deployable renewable technologies, will play a vital role in meeting these national objectives. However, this scale of deployment cannot be achieved through rooftop and brownfield installations alone, which face significant practical limitations. Many domestic and industrial buildings are either structurally unsuitable, lack the necessary grid connectivity, or are cost-prohibitive due to high initial installation expenses. As a result, ground-mounted solar installations—	N

			particularly on agricultural land—are essential to delivering the volume of solar power required. Their contribution is not only practical, but necessary, to secure a clean, reliable, and affordable energy future for the UK. The Applicant has followed a step-by- step site selection process which confirms the location of the Proposed Development is suitable for a large-scale solar farm. This has included the avoidance of sensitive landscape and environmental designations in confirming site suitability and consideration of alternative sites. Details of this are set out in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3: Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3].**	
1073	S47	Statement that the images used in materials are deceptive/Statement that the map is disingenuous	The Applicant had a responsibility to fairly present the Proposed Development through consultation materials. To achieve this, a suite of materials was created to explain the updated proposals, including a series of maps displaying the Proposed Development site. The consultation newsletter featured a simplified map, while the project website hosted a detailed interactive map, allowing stakeholders to zoom in, toggle layers, and explore different features with ease. At consultation events, touch screen TVs provided high-quality access to the interactive map, with images of these displays and the events available in **Appendix F-10 of the Consultation**	N

			Report Appendices Part F [EN010163/APP/5.1.1]. Additionally, the consultation brochure included detailed land area plans, breaking down each section and highlighting landscape features such as local roads and properties.	
1074	S47	Statement that maps were not detailed enough/Concern that the map does not show the West Burton site/Concern that the map does not show Roman Ermine Street/Concern that the map doesn't show footpaths	The Applicant had a responsibility to fairly present the Proposed Development through consultation materials. To achieve this, a suite of materials was created to explain the updated proposals, including a series of maps displaying the Proposed Development site. The consultation newsletter featured a simplified map, while the project website hosted a detailed interactive map, allowing stakeholders to zoom in, toggle layers, and explore different features with ease. The interactive map included options for a map view or to view the site overlaid onto a satellite image. The maps layers included options to view; proposed site boundary; area for solar panels and associated development; biodiversity mitigation; biodiversity mitigation and cable infrastructure; site access corridor and cable infrastructure; cable infrastructure; secondary construction compounds; substation, BESS and associated infrastructure; primary access point; internal site node; primary construction compound. At consultation events, touch screen TVs provided high-quality access to the interactive map, with images of these	

			displays and the events available in **Appendix F-10 of the Consultation Report Appendices Part F [EN010163/APP/5.1.1].** Additionally, the consultation brochure included detailed land area plans, breaking down each section and highlighting landscape features such as local roads and properties.	
1075	S47	Concern that the map does not show the quarry site/Concern that the map does not show the overhead power lines/Concern that Wood Lane Solar Farm not considered in materials/Statement that the maps and plans did not show the other projects in the area	The Applicant had a responsibility to present the Proposed Development through the consultation materials. As neither the quarry site nor the overhead line proposals are part of the Proposed Development, the Applicant did not consider it necessary to include them in the consultation materials. However, as cumulative impacts are a consideration in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), information on neighbouring projects has been included in the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) and Non-Technical Summary (NTS). A map showing the Proposed Development alongside neighbouring projects can be found on page 9 of the PEIR NTS, this was available from the 20 January 2025 on the project website. The consultation newsletter featured a simplified map, while the project website hosted a detailed interactive map, allowing stakeholders to zoom in, toggle layers, and explore different features with ease. The interactive map included options for a map view or to view the site	

			overlaid onto a satellite image. The maps layers included options to view; proposed site boundary; area for solar panels and associated development; biodiversity mitigation; biodiversity mitigation and cable infrastructure; site access corridor and cable infrastructure; cable infrastructure; secondary construction compounds; substation, BESS and associated infrastructure; primary access point; internal site node; primary construction compound. At consultation events, touch screen TVs provided high-quality access to the interactive map, with images of these displays and the events available in **Appendix F-10 of the Consultation Report Appendices Part F, [EN010163/APP/5.1.1].** Additionally, the consultation brochure included detailed land area plans, breaking down each section and highlighting landscape features such as local roads and properties.	
1076	S47	Concern that the materials only reference one out of many projects in the area/Statement that there is a lack of commentary regarding other plans for the villages	The PEIR outlined the Applicant's assessments of the potential impacts of the Proposed Development carried out to date, to support the community in making informed responses to the consultation, including information on cumulative impacts. The PEIR and the non-technical summary were available on the Applicant's website, at deposit points and at consultation events. A full cumulative assessment is available in **ES Volume 1 - Chapter 17 [EN010163/APP/6.2.6 - 6.2.17].** These	N

			chapters provides updated information on the environmental assessments at the submission of the DCO, following feedback received at consultation and progress of the preparation of the DCO application.	
1077	S47	Statement that the outcome is already decided	Due to Proposed Development's classification as an NSIP the Applicant must submit an application for development consent to gain consent for the project. The statutory consultation was part of the pre-application stage of the DCO process, after which an application is submitted to the Planning Inspectorate for acceptance. If accepted, the application will undergo examination by the Examining Authority appointed by the Planning Inspectorate. The Examining Authority then makes a recommendation to the Secretary of State, who decides whether to grant the Development Consent Order (DCO). The Applicant expects to receive a decision on the Proposed Development in late 2026.	
1078	S47	General statement that promises will not be honoured	The benefits of the Proposed Development are outlined in the DCO application, including the Planning Statement. The proposed mitigation and monitoring measures will be secured via various management plans, which will be agreed with the local planning authority prior to construction of the Proposed Development commencing, in accordance with the DCO Requirements (which are enforceable commitments) and will be substantially in	N

			accordance with the outline versions submitted with the DCO Application. The Applicant has been successfully operating its innovative Local Electricity Discount Scheme (LEDS) since its launch in 2013 and currently provides LEDS to 36 wind farms/solar farms/battery storage facilities for over 10,000 eligible properties across the UK for a range of clients. With regard to community benefits associated with the Proposed Development, as part of the statutory consultation for the Proposed Development, the Applicant sought input on how people would best like the community benefits package to be delivered, which could include LEDS, if the Proposed Development is granted development consent. The Applicant has committed to deliver a tailored community benefits package of £320,000 a year, equating to approximately £13 million over its 40-year lifetime. To show how LEDS at the Proposed Development could be delivered (if the full amount of available funding was allocated to the scheme), the Applicant presented an indicative scenario on page 29 of the consultation brochure, and invited feedback regarding the proposed eligible area and discount per property.	

			The Applicant remains open to suggestions from the local community on how best to utilise the community benefit funding that will become available once the Proposed Development is operational, and will consult community representatives before finalising the tailored package of benefits if the Proposed Development is granted development consent. It is common across the industry for projects to change hands over their operational lifetime. Planning consent is connected to the land not the developer, therefore, all DCO requirements must be followed by any new owner to ensure that the project is operated and maintained to the agreed standard, including decommissioning. While not a formal planning requirement, any community benefit agreement entered into will also be transferred to future owners.	
1079	S47	Statement that there is a lack of commentary regarding how the project is supplementing local people	As part of the proposals for Steeple Renewables Project, the Applicant is proposing to deliver a tailored community benefits package of £320,000 a year, equating to approximately £13 million over its 40-year lifetime. As part of the statutory consultation the Applicant sought feedback on what communities would like to see delivered as part of the community benefits package. As part of this the Applicant is exploring the delivery of its unique Local Electricity Discount Scheme – known as	N

			LEDS that offers communities in close proximity to the Proposed Development a discount on their energy bills annually. This would offer a real tangible benefit to the people living in proximity to the Proposed Development. However, the community benefits provided by the Proposed Development are not material planning considerations.	
1080	S47	Statement that it is unclear how PROWs will be preserved/Statement that drawings do not clearly stipulate whether PROWs will be protected for use	To ensure the community were properly informed of the proposals the Applicant produced a suite of documents for the statutory consultation. This included the consultation newsletter, project navigation document, consultation brochure. These documents provided and overview of the Proposed Development and the various environmental and technical assessments including information about transport and access. More detailed information on the transport and access was available in the PEIR NTS which was available to view from the launch of statutory consultation. **ES Volume 1 - Chapter 3, Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** which sets out details on how Public Rights of Way, and the two permissive paths to be created by the Applicant, will be managed to ensure users safety during the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Proposed Development.	N

1081	S47	Statement that the map is not to scale	The Applicant was responsible for presenting the Proposed Development clearly and fairly through consultation materials. To achieve this, a suite of resources was created to explain the updated proposals, including a series of maps illustrating the Proposed Development site. The consultation newsletter featured a simplified map, while the project website hosted a detailed interactive version, allowing stakeholders to zoom in, toggle layers, and explore various features with ease. The maps produced by the Applicant were not intended to provide a to-scale representation of the Proposed Development but rather to offer an illustrative depiction of the **Order Limits [EN010163/APP/2.4]**.	N
1082	S47	Concern that promises to protect PROWs won't be kept	The benefits of the Proposed Development are outlined in the DCO application. The proposed mitigation and monitoring measures will be secured via various management plans, which will be agreed with the local planning authority prior to construction of the Proposed Development commencing and will be substantially in accordance with the outline versions submitted with the DCO Application. If consented these are legally binding commitments the Applicant has made and must be delivered on.	N

			ES Volume 1 - Chapter 3, Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3] which sets out details on how Public Rights of Way, and the two permissive paths to be created by the Applicant, will be managed to ensure users safety during the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Proposed Development.	
1083	S47	Statement that the consultation process is unfair	The Planning Act 2008 has clear requirements for the statutory consultation, which the Applicant has followed as outlined in the Consultation Report. The Applicant has undertaken two rounds of consultation. Over 100 responses were received from the local community during the non-statutory consultation held in Autumn 2023, all of which have been considered and responded to as part of our early informal consultation report, published in March 2024. The statutory consultation was held in early 2025 and received over 150 responses. All responses to these consultations have been considered. The **Consultation Report [EN010163/APP/5.1.**] is submitted as part of the DCO application. This report details all the activity the Applicant undertook as part of its non-statutory and statutory consultation periods, the feedback received and how the Applicant had regard for that feedback.	N

1084	S47	Statement that the way questions are in the materials is biased	The feedback form was developed to gain input from stakeholders and the community and included a number of free text responses boxes. Respondents were not required to use the feedback form to respond to the consultation. Responses were also accepted via email and post. Details of the accepted methods of feedback were included in the consultation brochure, newsletter and on the project website.	N
1085	S47	Statement that the brochure contains no detail in relation to PROWs/Statement that it was difficult to find information on footpaths in the EIA	To ensure the community were properly informed of the proposals the Applicant produced a suite of documents for the statutory consultation. This included the consultation newsletter, project navigation document, consultation brochure. These documents provided and overview of the Proposed Development and the various environmental and technical assessments including information about transport and access. More detailed information on PROWs was available in the PEIR NTS which was available to view from the launch of statutory consultation. **ES Volume 1 - Chapter 3, Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** sets out details on how Public Rights of Way, and the two permissive paths to be created by the Applicant, will be managed to ensure users safety	N

			during the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Proposed Development.	
1086	S47	Statement that materials do not clearly state whether existing PROWs will be preserved during operation	To ensure the community were properly informed of the proposals the Applicant produced a suite of documents for the statutory consultation. This included the consultation newsletter, project navigation document, consultation brochure. These documents provided and overview of the Proposed Development and the various environmental and technical assessments including information about transport and access. More detailed information on PROWs was available in the PEIR NTS which was available to view from the launch of statutory consultation. **ES Volume 1 - Chapter 3, Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** sets out details on how Public Rights of Way, and the two permissive paths to be created by the Applicant, will be managed to ensure users safety during the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Proposed Development.	N

1087	S47	Statement that materials do not clearly state whether existing PROWs will be preserved during construction	As referenced in the Non-Technical Summary of the PEIR at consultation, all public rights of way would be kept open during construction as far as is practicable and safe. Where it would not be practicable and safe, there may be a requirement for some public rights of way to be temporarily diverted or closed for a duration of approximately three months. **ES Volume 1 - Chapter 3, Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** sets out details on how Public Rights of Way, and the two permissive paths to be created by the Applicant, will be managed to ensure users safety during the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Proposed Development.	
1088	S47	Statement that materials do not encourage people to use the land for cycling	The Proposed Development includes the creation of new permissive paths and outdoor recreational areas, which are designed to enhance the accessibility and usability of the land for various activities, including cycling. These initiatives aim to promote active travel and provide additional recreational opportunities for the local community. **ES Volume 1 - Chapter 3, Site Description, Site Selection and Iterative Design Process [EN010163/APP/6.2.3]** which sets out details on how Public Rights of Way, and the two permissive paths to be	N

			created by the Applicant, will be managed to ensure users safety during the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Proposed Development.	
1089	S47	Concern regarding documents not being accessible to understand	The Applicant has a responsibility to fairly present the Proposed Development through the consultation materials. The Applicant created a suite of materials of varying complexity to meet the needs of varying stakeholders. This included the consultation newsletter, project navigation document, consultation brochure, non-technical summary of the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) and PEIR. In these documents the Applicant explained the project need and benefits, alongside details of the potential impacts and mitigations which may be considered. The Applicant also organised online and in-person events to provide people an opportunity to ask questions to the project team directly. Throughout the consultation, the Applicant did not receive any special requests for materials to be provided in other languages or braille.	N
1090	S47	Concern regarding a "get out clause" that gives Secretary of State free reign over landscape	The Proposed Development is subject to rigorous planning and environmental regulations, ensuring that any decisions made by the Secretary of State are based on comprehensive assessments and consultations and in line with the National Policy Statements for Energy. The Applicant remains committed to transparency and adherence to all regulatory requirements, ensuring that	N

			the landscape is protected and managed responsibly in accordance with the conclusions of the Environmental Impact Assessment, presented in the **Environmental Statement [EN010163/APP/6]**, and **ES Volume 2, Appendix 7.14, Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.7]**	
1091	S47	Statement that they do not feel they have been properly consulted	The Applicant has undertaken two rounds of consultation. Over 100 responses were received from the local community during the non-statutory consultation held in Autumn 2023, all of which have been considered and responded to as part of our early informal consultation report, published in March 2024. The statutory consultation was held in early 2025 and received over 150 responses. All responses to these consultations have been considered. The **Consultation Report [EN010163/APP/5.1.]** is submitted as part of the DCO application. This report details all the activity the Applicant undertook as part of its non-statutory and statutory consultation periods, the feedback received and how the Applicant had regard for that feedback.	N
1092	S47	Statement that the consultation materials are not detailed enough	The Applicant created a suite of materials of varying complexity to meet the needs of a range of stakeholders. This included the consultation brochure, non-technical summary of the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) and PEIR. More detailed information is available in the DCO application, including the **Environmental Statement [EN010163/APP/6]**. If the	N

			application is accepted by the Planning Inspectorate, there will be further opportunities for people to provide comments on the application throughout the Examination process.	
1093	S47	Statement that RES staff weren't present at the event	RES staff were present at every event. Alongside the RES team there were supporting staff from the various subconsultant teams. All attendees had a thorough understanding of the project and could answer questions from members of the public.	N
1094	S47	Statement that the consultation materials are the same as the one in 2023	While some foundational elements from the 2023 consultation have been retained for consistency and clarity, significant updates and enhancements were made to the materials for the statutory consultation. These updates reflected the feedback received during the 2023 consultation and incorporated new information and findings from ongoing assessments.	N
1095	S47	Statement that the consultation did not provide enough information	The Applicant created a suite of materials of varying complexity to meet the needs of a range of stakeholders. This included the consultation brochure, non-technical summary of the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) and PEIR. More detailed information is available in the DCO application, including the **Environmental Statement [EN010163/APP/6]**. If the application is accepted by the Planning Inspectorate, there will be further opportunities for people to provide	N

			comments on the application throughout the Examination process.	
1096	S47	Statement that the consultation is just telling communities what will happen	The consultation materials included information and plans on the Proposed Development. It also provided information on the next steps for the development to help the community understand the planning process. The consultation process has been designed to genuinely engage with stakeholders and the community, ensuring that all feedback is carefully considered and addressed. Under Section 49 of the Planning Act 2008, the Applicant has a duty to "have regard" to responses received during the statutory consultation. In line with this obligation, the Applicant has carefully considered all stakeholder and community feedback, using it to refine and shape the final proposals before submitting the Development Consent Order (DCO) application. A detailed account of how the Applicant has taken consultation responses into account can be found in the **Consultation Report Appendices Part H [EN010163/APP/5.1.1]**. Due to Proposed Development's classification as an NSIP the Applicant must submit an application for development consent to gain consent for the project. The statutory	N

			consultation was part of the pre-application stage of the DCO process, after which an application is submitted to the Planning Inspectorate for acceptance. If accepted, the application will undergo examination by the Examining Authority appointed by the Planning Inspectorate. The Examining Authority then makes a recommendation to the Secretary of State, who decides whether to grant the Development Consent Order (DCO). The Applicant expects to receive a decision on the Proposed Development in late 2026.	
1097	S47	Statement that the PEIR is difficult for the general public to understand /Statement that the information in the PEIR is intentionally confusing	The Applicant accepts that the PEIR is a technical document and may be difficult for community stakeholders to understand. To address this, the Applicant produced the PEIR NTS which was produced to make the information in the PEIR more accessible but still provide detailed information about the technical work and assessments. The NTS was available to view on the project website from the launch of consultation and was available to collect from deposit locations. The document could also be requested free of charge from the project team, using the project contact details. The Applicant is required to produce both the PEIR and NTS as part of the DCO process.	N

1098	S47	Statement that the language is misleading	The Applicant had a responsibility to fairly present the Proposed Development through consultation materials. To achieve this, a suite of materials was created to explain the updated proposals, including a series of maps displaying the Proposed Development site. The Applicant accepts that some of the language in the technical documents that are required by the DCO process (including the PEIR) may be difficult for the community and stakeholders to understand. To address this, the Applicant produced the PEIR NTS (non-technical summary) which was produced to make the PEIR more accessible but still provide detailed information about the technical work and assessments. Other consultation materials including the consultation brochure and consultation exhibition boards were produced in effort to clearly present information about the Proposed Development in accessible language.	
1099	S47	Statement that the consultation wasn't well publicised/Statement that more needs doing to inform the local community/Statement that communication has been appalling	To inform the community about the consultation, the Applicant distributed a four-page newsletter via first-class post to over 3,000 households within a 2 km radius of the Proposed Development. The consultation zone is shown in the SoCC which can be found in **Appendix C-5.3 of the Consultation Report Appendices Part C, [EN010163/APP/5.1.1]**. In addition, the Applicant engaged with local parish councils and other key political stakeholders before, during, and after the consultation	N

			period, including holding meetings to discuss the Proposed Development. In accordance with Section 48 of the Planning Act 2008, the Applicant publicised its proposed application for development consent in the prescribed manner set out in Regulation 4 of the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (APFP Regulations). A combined Section 47 and Section 48 notice was issued, a copy of which is provided in **Appendix C-6.1 of the Consultation Report Appendices Part C, [EN010163/APP/5.1.1]** As required under Regulation 4, a notice under Section 48 of the Planning Act 2008 was published in the following publications: Retford Times and Nottinghamshire Post on 16 and 23 January 2025. The Guardian and The London Gazette on 9 January 2025. Separately, the Applicant also placed an additional advertisement in the Retford Times, independent of the statutory notices. This can be found in **Appendix C-6.6** of the **Consultation Report Appendices Part C [EN010163/APP/5.1.1]** To further raise awareness,	

			Facebook advertisements promoting the consultation were run from 20 January 2025. Examples of these adverts are included in **Appendix F-12 of the Consultation Report Appendices Part F,** [**EN010163/APP/5.1.1**] At the start of the consultation, the Applicant sent posters to all host and neighbouring parish councils, accompanied by a letter requesting that the posters be displayed locally to help increase awareness. A copy of the poster is available in **Appendix F-9.1 of the Consultation Report Appendices Part F,** [**EN010163/APP/5.1.1**]	
1100	S47	General satisfaction with the consultation	The Applicant welcomes these comments.	N
1101	S47	Statement that there is too much repetitive information	The Applicant has a responsibility to fairly present the Proposed Development through the consultation materials. The Applicant created a suite of materials of varying complexity to meet the needs of varying stakeholders. This included the consultation newsletter, project navigation document, consultation brochure, non-technical summary of the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) and PEIR. In these documents the Applicant explained the project need and benefits, alongside details of the potential impacts and mitigations	N

			which may be considered. This approach meant each document could be read and understood on its own.	
1102	S47	Statement that the consultation materials didn't provide any more information than the newsletter	The Applicant created a suite of materials of varying complexity to meet the needs of a range of stakeholders. This included the consultation brochure, non-technical summary of the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) and PEIR. More detailed information will be available in the DCO application, including the **Environmental Statement [EN010163/APP/6]**. The newsletter produced by the Applicant sought to give an overview of the Proposed Development and information about the consultation. The consultation brochure included much more detail about the Proposed Development including information about the EIA work that has been undertaken. The consultation brochure also had detailed maps of each of the land parcels that are part of the Proposed Development site. If the application is accepted by the Planning Inspectorate, there will be further opportunities for people to provide comments on the application throughout the Examination process.	N

1103	S47	Concern that some villages received different/more detailed information	On the 16 January 2025 the Applicant mailed the consultation newsletter via 1st class post to over 3000 addresses within the local area. The same newsletter was sent to all communities. The consultation zone can be viewed in the in the Applicants' Statement of Community Consultation at **Appendix C-5.3 of the Consultation Report Appendices Part C, [EN010168/APP/5.1.1].** The Applicant also made consultation documents available at local deposit points: - Gainsborough Library - Retford Library - Sturton Hall and Conference Centre Each of the deposit points included copies of the consultation brochure, consultation newsletter, navigation document, NTS of the PEIR, consultation feedback form and Freepost envelopes. All of which could be taken away. The deposit points included the Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC), **draft DCO [EN010168/APP/3.1]** and PEIR which could not be removed from the deposit location.	N

1104	S47	Suggestion that all impacted homes should receive information through their door	On the 16 January 2025 the Applicant mailed the consultation newsletter via 1st class post to over 3000 addresses within the local area. The consultation zone can be viewed in the Applicants' Statement of Community Consultation at **Appendix C-5.3 of the Consultation Report Appendices Part C, [EN010168/APP/5.1.1].** To ensure the community were properly informed of the proposals the Applicant produced a suite of documents for the statutory consultation. This included the consultation newsletter, project navigation document, consultation brochure. These documents provided and overview of the Proposed Development and the various environmental and technical assessments including information about transport and access. Each of these documents was available to view on the project website from the launch of consultation and signposted to within the materials. The Applicant also made consultation documents available at local deposit points: • Gainsborough Library • Retford Library • Sturton Hall and Conference Centre	N

			Each of the deposit points included copies of the consultation brochure, consultation newsletter, navigation document, NTS of the PEIR, consultation feedback form and Freepost envelopes. All of which could be taken away. The deposit points included the Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC), **draft DCO [EN010168/APP/3.1]** and PEIR which could not be removed from the deposit location.	
1105	S47	Statement that consultation materials did not state the number of panels	The Applicant notes these comments. The Proposed Development will involve the installation of approximately 895,000 modules.	N
1106	S47	Statement that there was not enough detail about traffic and transport	To ensure the community were properly informed of the proposals the Applicant produced a suite of documents for the statutory consultation. This included the consultation newsletter, project navigation document, consultation brochure. These documents provided an overview of the Proposed Development and the various environmental and technical assessments including information about transport and access. More detailed information on the transport and access was available in the PEIR NTS which was available to view from the launch of statutory consultation. More information on traffic and transport has been	N

			submitted as part of the ES. See **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13: Transport and Access [EN010163/APP/6.2.13]**, which includes the **Appendix 13.1, Transport Statement [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** and **Appendix 13.2, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.13]** as supporting documents.	
1107	S47	Concerns about the presence of security personnel at the consultation events	The Applicant notes these concerns. The team that represented the Proposed Development at the consultation events was made up of mostly RES staff with supporting staff from the various subconsultant teams. The primary focus of the consultation events was to provide detailed information about the Proposed Development and to engage with the community. The presence of security personnel was intended to ensure the safe and smooth operation of the events, allowing attendees and staff to feel secure while discussing their concerns and providing feedback.	N
1108	S47	Statement that the consultations did not have CGIs of what the project would look like	The Applicant has adopted a parameters-based approach to project design. During the statutory consultation, indicative areas were presented to illustrate where panels and associated infrastructure are likely to be located. This approach allowed for continued refinement of the design in response to feedback from the community and stakeholders. Consequently, no Computer-Generated Images (CGIs) of the site were developed at that stage, as the submission design had not yet been completed.	N

1109	S47	Statement that the questions were designed to benefit the landowner	The feedback form was developed to gain input from stakeholders and the community and included a number of free text responses boxes. A copy of the feedback form can be found in which can be found in **Consultation Report Appendices Part F [EN010163/APP/5.1.1]**. Respondents were not required to use the feedback form to respond to the consultation. Responses were also accepted via email and post. Details of the accepted methods of feedback were included in the consultation brochure, newsletter and on the project website. The questions were not designed to benefit the landowner.	N
1110	S47	Statement that there is a lack of clarity on the purpose of submitting feedback	The Applicant introduced the consultation and its purpose on the consultation newsletter and on p.3 of the consultation brochure, which can be found in **Consultation Report Appendices Part F [EN010163/APP/5.1.1]**. The consultation process has been designed to genuinely engage with stakeholders and the community, ensuring that all feedback is carefully considered and addressed. Under Section 49 of the Planning Act 2008, the Applicant has a duty to "have regard" to responses received during the statutory consultation. In line with this obligation, the Applicant has carefully considered all stakeholder and community feedback, using it to refine and shape the final proposals before submitting the Development Consent Order (DCO) application. A detailed account of how the Applicant has taken consultation responses into account can be found in	N

			Consultation Report Appendices Part H [EN010163/APP/5.1.1].	
1111	S47	Statement that the consultation is biased/Statement that the consultation is just lip service/Statement that the consultation was a "sham"/Statement that unless the project does not proceed it is not a "proper" consultation/Statement that the consultation materials feed false information/Statement that the consultation materials are biased	The Applicant has a responsibility to fairly present the Proposed Development through the consultation materials. The Applicant created a suite of materials of varying complexity to meet the needs of varying stakeholders. This included the consultation newsletter, project navigation document, consultation brochure, non-technical summary of the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) and PEIR. In these documents the Applicant explained the project need and benefits, alongside details of the potential impacts and mitigations which may be considered. The Applicant acknowledges the concerns raised regarding the consultation process. The Applicant emphasises that the consultation process has been designed to genuinely engage with stakeholders and the community, ensuring that all feedback is carefully considered and addressed. The consultation involved multiple rounds, including non-statutory and statutory consultations, with over 250 responses considered. The Applicant has made significant efforts to provide	N

			detailed information, address concerns, and incorporate feedback into the Proposed Development. This includes the reduction of the total area of the project, extensive environmental assessments, and the inclusion of designated mitigation areas based on community feedback. The Applicant remains committed to a transparent and meaningful consultation process, aiming to balance the needs and concerns of all stakeholders while advancing the project in a responsible manner.	
1112	S47	Concern that the team is not familiar with the local area	The Applicant notes these comments. The team at the events were familiar with the Proposed Development and able to answer questions on their specialisms.	N
1113	S47	Statement that staff at the events were not helpful	The team that represented the Proposed Development at the consultation events was made up of mostly RES staff with supporting staff from the various subconsultant teams. While the primary focus of the consultation events was to provide detailed information about the Proposed Development, we acknowledge that there may have been instances where attendees felt the staff were not as helpful as expected. The Applicant remains committed to improving the consultation process and ensuring that future events include staff who are well-prepared to address all questions and concerns from the community.	N

			We value the feedback and will use it to enhance our engagement efforts moving forward.	
1114	S47	Statement that staff 'followed the line' at the consultation events	The team that represented the Proposed Development at the consultation events primarily consisted of RES staff, supported by members from various subconsultant teams. All staff were thoroughly briefed in advance to ensure consistency and accuracy in the information provided to the community. While the main objective of the consultation events was to share detailed information about the Proposed Development, we recognise that this approach may have, at times, come across as overly scripted. We are reviewing this feedback carefully and will use it to refine our approach to future engagement.	N
1115	S47	Statement that event staff couldn't answer basic questions about the PD/Statement that event staff were unable to answer questions	The team that represented the Proposed Development at the consultation events was made up of mostly RES staff with supporting staff from the various subconsultant teams. All attendees had a detailed understanding of the scheme, within their specialist area. The Applicant acknowledge that there may have been instances where attendees felt the staff were not as helpful as expected. The Applicant remains committed to improving the consultation process and ensuring that future events	N

			include staff who are well-prepared to address all questions and concerns from the community.	
1116	S47	Statement that staff at the event did not understand rural life	The Applicant notes these comments. The team at the events were familiar with the Proposed Development and its potential impacts on the area. The team was able to answer questions on their specialisms.	N
1117	S47	Statement that some answers to the questions were condescending	The Applicant acknowledges these comments. The Applicant regrets if any responses were perceived as condescending. We value the feedback and will use it to enhance our engagement efforts moving forward.	N
1118	S47	Statement that the staff at events did not have knowledge of other projects in the area	The Applicant notes these comments. The team that represented the Proposed Development at the consultation events was made up of mostly RES staff with supporting staff from the various subconsultant teams. The staff were prepared to discuss the broader context of renewable energy projects in the area, however, it is acknowledged that there may have been instances where specific knowledge about other projects was limited. The Applicant remains committed to providing comprehensive and accurate information and will ensure that future events include staff who are well-informed about both the Proposed Development and other relevant projects in the area. The cumulative assessment is presented in the ES,	N

			which sets out the cumulative impacts of the Proposed Development and other schemes in the area.	
1119	S47	Statement that there was no empathy for the community	The consultation process has been designed to genuinely engage with stakeholders and the community, ensuring that all feedback is carefully considered and addressed. The Applicant has made significant efforts to provide detailed information, address concerns, and incorporate feedback into the Proposed Development. This includes the reduction of the total area of the project, extensive environmental assessments, and the inclusion of designated mitigation areas based on community feedback. The Applicant remains committed to a transparent and meaningful consultation process, aiming to balance the needs and concerns of all stakeholders while advancing the project in a responsible manner.	N
1120	S47	Statement that conversations at the event became heated	The Applicant understands that some attendees found conversations difficult and emotive. The staff at the events were professional and respectful at all times.	N

1121	S47	Statement that the consultation is a box ticking exercise/Statement that the consultation is just a PR exercise	The Applicant acknowledges the concerns raised regarding the consultation process. The Applicant emphasises that the consultation process has been designed to genuinely engage with stakeholders and the community, ensuring that all feedback is carefully considered and addressed. The consultation involved multiple rounds, including non-statutory and statutory consultations, with over 250 responses considered. The Applicant has made significant efforts to provide detailed information, address concerns, and incorporate feedback into the Proposed Development. This includes the reduction of the total area of the project, extensive environmental assessments, and the inclusion of designated mitigation areas based on community feedback. The Applicant remains committed to a transparent and meaningful consultation process, aiming to balance the needs and concerns of all stakeholders while advancing the project in a responsible manner.	N
1122	S47	Statement that the consultation was a waste of money	The Applicant has made significant efforts to provide detailed information, address concerns, and incorporate feedback into the Proposed Development. This includes the reduction of the total area of the project, extensive environmental assessments, and the inclusion of designated mitigation areas based on community feedback. The Applicant remains committed to a transparent and meaningful consultation process, aiming	N

			to balance the needs and concerns of all stakeholders while advancing the project in a responsible manner. The statutory consultation is a requirement of the DCO process and has been paid for by the Applicant.	
1123	S47	Statement that they feel like RES are not being honest	Engagement and consultation is a key part of the DCO application process as outlined by the Planning Act 2008 and supporting guidance from Government. The Applicant has a responsibility to fairly present the Proposed Development through the consultation materials. The Applicant created a suite of materials of varying complexity to meet the needs of a range of stakeholders. This included the consultation brochure, non-technical summary of the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) and PEIR. In these documents the Applicant explained the project need and benefits, alongside details of the potential impacts and mitigations which may be considered. The **Consultation Report [EN010163/APP/5.1.]** which is submitted as part of the DCO application includes details on the engagement and consultation process to date and how feedback has been considered. Engagement will be ongoing through the project development, construction, operation and decommissioning of the Proposed Development	

1124	S47	General support for the work undertaken on the PEIR	The Applicant welcomes these comments.	N
1125	S47	Statement that calls to the consultation line have been ignored/Statement that they have tried to contact the team and been unable to get through	The Applicant provided multiple ways for the community to contact the project team during the consultation. If stakeholders were unable to reach the Applicant by phone, alternative methods were available to ensure communication. Calls to the phoneline were answered whenever possible during business hours, and when a call could not be answered, an answerphone function was available for people to leave their details and any queries. The Applicant made every effort to return all missed calls including those who left voicemails. All missed calls to the consultation phoneline were followed up.	N