



# **Lime Down**

## Solar Park

# **Environmental Statement**

## **Volume 1, Chapter 1: Introduction**

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## **1 Introduction**

### **1.1 Background**

- 1.1.1 This Environmental Statement (ES) has been prepared by Lime Down Solar Park Limited (hereafter referred to as ‘the Applicant’) to present the environmental impact assessment (EIA) for Lime Down Solar Park (also referred to as the ‘Scheme’).
- 1.1.2 The Scheme comprises a solar photovoltaic (PV) electricity generating station with a total capacity exceeding 50 megawatts (MW) and associated development comprising Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) Area with an export capacity of approximately 500 MW, grid connection infrastructure and other infrastructure integral to the construction, operation and maintenance, and decommissioning phases.
- 1.1.3 The PV electricity generating station and BESS Area would be contained within five land parcels referred to as Lime Down A, B, C, D and E (hereafter collectively referred to as the ‘Solar PV Sites’).
- 1.1.4 The Cable Route Corridor is the area within which the export connection cables (hereafter referred to as the ‘Grid Connection Cables’) would be located to connect the Solar PV Sites to the National Grid at the existing Melksham Substation (hereafter referred to as the ‘Existing National Grid Melksham Substation’) and the area within which cables connecting the Solar PV Sites would be located (hereafter referred to as ‘Interconnecting Cables’).
- 1.1.5 The Scheme would be contained within the Order Limits (also referred to as ‘the Site’) which comprises the Solar PV Sites, Highways Improvements Areas, Cable Route Corridor, and the Existing National Grid Melksham Substation (shown in **ES Volume 2, Figure 1-1: Scheme Location [EN010168/APP/6.2]**).
- 1.1.6 The Order Limits are predominantly located within the administrative area of Wiltshire Council. Two small areas of existing highway, totalling 0.15 ha, are located within the administrative area of South Gloucestershire Council. The Order Limits comprise land which is largely agricultural in nature.
- 1.1.7 Due to its proposed generating capacity being more than 50 MW, the Scheme is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) for the purposes of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref 1-1) and requires an application for a Development Consent Order (DCO). The application will be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate and the decision whether to grant a DCO will be made by the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero (hereafter referred to as the ‘Secretary of State’).

- 1.1.8 The Scheme is considered to be ‘EIA development’ as defined by the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (the ‘EIA Regulations’) (Ref 1-2), and as such requires an EIA to be undertaken. This ES forms part of the application for a DCO and presents the findings of the EIA undertaken for the Scheme in accordance with the EIA Regulations and the Planning Act 2008 (Ref 1-1).
- 1.1.9 This chapter is supported by the following figures in **ES Volume 2 [EN010168/APP/6.2]**:
- **Figure 1-1: Scheme Location;** and
  - **Figure 1-2: The Order Limits.**
- 1.1.10 This chapter is supported by the following appendices in **ES Volume 3 [EN010168/APP/6.3]**:
- **Appendix 1-1: Statement of Competence;** and
  - **Appendix 1-2: Scoping Opinion Responses.**
- 1.1.11 A glossary and list of abbreviations are defined in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 0: Table of Contents, Glossary and Abbreviations [EN010168/APP/6.1]**.
- 1.1.12 A Non-Technical Summary (NTS) of the ES is presented in **ES Volume 4, Non-Technical Summary [EN010168/APP/6.4]**.

## **1.2 The Applicant**

- 1.2.1 The Scheme is being developed by Lime Down Solar Park Limited (hereafter referred to as ‘the Applicant’). Lime Down Solar Park is a 100% subsidiary of Island Green Power UK Projects Limited, which is in turn a 100% subsidiary of Island Green Power’s UK group holding company, Island Green Power Group Limited (IGP). The Applicant is part of IGP, who are a leading international developer of renewable energy projects, established in 2013. Further details on the corporate structure of the Applicant are available in the **Funding Statement [EN010168/APP/4.2]**.
- 1.2.2 IGP has delivered 34 solar projects worldwide totalling more than 1GW of capacity. This includes 17 solar projects in the UK and Republic of Ireland. Their mission is to increase solar energy usage, making more renewable energy possible and saving thousands of tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the process. Recently, IGP have taken two NSIP solar projects (Cottam Solar Project and West Burton Solar Project) through the DCO process. The Cottam Solar Project and West Burton Solar Project were granted development consent by Secretary of State on 5 September 2024 and 24 January 2025, respectively.

### 1.3 The Scheme

- 1.3.1 Subject to obtaining the necessary consents, construction of the Scheme is anticipated to commence in 2027, completed ready for operation in 2029.
- 1.3.2 The location of the Order Limits in which the Scheme would be located is shown in **ES Volume 2, Figure 1-1: Scheme Location [EN010168/APP/6.2]** and **ES Volume 2, Figure 1-2: The Order Limits [EN010168/APP/6.2]**. The Order Limits comprises a total area of approximately 1,237 hectares (ha) of land.
- 1.3.3 The Solar PV Sites comprise approximately 749 ha of land for Solar PV Panels, the BESS Area, 400 kV and 132 kV Substations, associated infrastructure, and environmental mitigation areas.
- 1.3.4 The Scheme would be operational for a period of up to 60 years with an assumed decommissioning date of 2089.
- 1.3.5 The land within the Order Limits and its surroundings is described in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 2: The Order Limits [EN010168/APP/6.1]**.
- 1.3.6 Further information on site design and infrastructure is provided in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3: The Scheme [EN010168/APP/6.1]**. The consideration of alternatives and progression of the site layout is described in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 4: Alternatives and Design Evolution [EN010168/APP/6.1]**.

### 1.4 Assessment of Impacts and Mitigation

- 1.4.1 Environmental impacts arising from the Scheme have been assessed as part of the EIA process, with the results presented within this ES. The baseline for the assessment has been derived from surveys and studies within and around the Site. This is explained further in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6: Environmental Impact Assessment Methodology [EN010168/APP/6.1]** and in the methodology section of each technical chapter (**ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 to 20 [EN010168/APP/6.1]**).
- 1.4.2 The EIA assesses impacts and effects resulting from the construction, operation and maintenance, and decommissioning of the Scheme. It considers and identifies measures to avoid, reduce, or mitigate significant adverse effects on the environment and, where practicable, measures to enhance the environment. It also identifies 'residual' effects, which are defined as effects remaining following the implementation of the secured embedded and additional mitigation measures.
- 1.4.3 Where necessary and appropriate, the technical chapters (**ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 to 20 [EN010168/APP/6.1]**) set out mitigation measures that would be included as part of the Scheme. Over and above the identified

mitigation measures, a number of biodiversity and community enhancement measures are proposed. These enhancement measures are not required to mitigate significant adverse effects of the Scheme. The adverse effects of the Scheme with such measures would be no worse than as assessed in this ES.

- 1.4.4 A **Commitments Register [EN010168/APP/7.26]** has been produced which tracks commitments made by the Applicant throughout the DCO application process.

## 1.5 Structure of this Environmental Statement

- 1.5.1 The structure of this ES is outlined in **Table 1-1**.

**Table 1-1: ES Structure**

Volume	Name	Description
<b>ES Volume 1</b> <b>[EN010168/APP/6.1]</b>	Chapter 0: Table of Contents, Glossary and Abbreviations	These introductory chapters of the ES provide the basis for the technical environmental assessments which follow (Chapter 7 to 20). Chapter 0 sets out the contents of the ES, a glossary of technical terms and a list of abbreviations used. Chapter 2 provides a description of the Order Limits. Chapter 3 provides a detailed description of the Scheme. Chapter 4 discusses the design evolution, and the alternatives considered. Chapter 5 sets out the legislative and policy framework relevant to the Scheme. The methodology used to undertake the EIA for the technical chapters is set out in Chapter 6.
	Chapter 1: Introduction	
	Chapter 2: The Order Limits	
	Chapter 3: The Scheme	
	Chapter 4: Alternatives and Design Evolution	
	Chapter 5: Energy Need, Legislative Context and Energy Policy	
	Chapter 6: Environmental Impact Assessment Methodology	Chapters 7-19 report the EIA of identified environmental topics. Each topic is presented in a separate technical chapter and details the result of the assessment, likely significant effects (if any) arising from the Scheme, and proposed mitigation measures.  The chapters also present information regarding cumulative effects resulting from other approved developments or reasonably
	Chapter 7: Climate Change	
	Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual	
	Chapter 9: Ecology and Biodiversity	
	Chapter 10: Arboriculture	
	Chapter 11: Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage	

Volume	Name	Description
	Chapter 12: Cultural Heritage	foreseeable developments together with the Scheme.
	Chapter 13: Transport and Access	
	Chapter 14: Noise and Vibration	
	Chapter 15: Air Quality	
	Chapter 16: Socio-Economics, Tourism and Recreation	
	Chapter 17: Soils and Agriculture	
	Chapter 18: Human Health	
	Chapter 19: Ground Conditions	
	Chapter 20: Other Environmental Matters	Chapter 20 includes consideration of Minerals; Materials and Waste; Glint and Glare; Electromagnetic Fields; Major Accidents and Disasters; and Telecommunications, Utilities and Television.
	Chapter 21: Cumulative and In-Combination Effects	Chapter 21 provides a summary of the cumulative effects assessment presented in the individual technical chapters.
	Chapter 22: Summary of Residual Effects	Chapter 22 provides a summary of the residual significant effects identified. These are the effects that remain following the implementation of mitigation.
<b>ES Volume 2</b> <b>[EN010168/APP/6.2]</b>	Figures	Volume 2 provides a set of figures that accompany the ES to aid the reader's understanding.
<b>ES Volume 3</b> <b>[EN010168/APP/6.3]</b>	Technical Appendices	The appendices comprise background data, technical reports, tables, figures and surveys which support the assessments. Each chapter of ES (Volume 1) lists the appendices that are relevant to it.
<b>ES Volume 4</b> <b>[EN010168/APP/6.4]</b>	Environmental Statement Non-Technical Summary (NTS)	The NTS is presented in a separate volume and provides a concise description of the Scheme, the alternatives considered, baseline assessment methodology, potential effects and proposed mitigation measures. It is designed to provide information on the Scheme in an

Volume	Name	Description
		accessible format using non-technical language which can be understood by a wide audience to assist interested parties with their familiarisation of the Scheme.

## 1.6 Legislative and Planning Policy

### Consenting Process

- 1.6.1 The Scheme is defined as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) under Sections 14(1)(a) and 15(2) of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref 1-1) as an onshore generating station in England exceeding 50MW generating capacity.
- 1.6.2 The Planning Act 2008 provides that the Secretary of State is responsible for determining the application for development consent, with the power to appoint a single person or a panel from the Planning Inspectorate to manage and examine the application (referred to as the 'Examining Authority'). In its role, the Examining Authority will examine the application for the Scheme and make a recommendation to the Secretary of State who will then decide whether to grant a DCO.
- 1.6.3 A DCO has the effect of providing consent for development, in addition to a range of other consents and authorisations, where specified, as well as removing the need for some consents (such as planning permission). Section 115 of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref 1-1) also states that a DCO can include consent for 'associated development', which is development that is not a NSIP in its own right but is functionally related to the NSIP. This may be development that supports the construction, operation and maintenance, or decommissioning of the NSIP; which helps to address the impacts of the NSIP; or is of a type normally brought forward with the NSIP. The BESS Area is an example of associated development.

### EIA Regulations

- 1.6.4 The EIA requirement for NSIP developments is transposed into law through the Infrastructure Planning (EIA) Regulations 2017 (the 'EIA Regulations') (Ref 1-2). The EIA Regulations specify which developments are subject to EIA, and schemes relevant to the NSIP planning process are listed under either 'Schedule 1' or 'Schedule 2'. Those developments listed in Schedule 1 must be subject to EIA, while developments listed in Schedule 2 must only be subjected to EIA if they are considered "likely to have significant effects on the environment by virtue of factors such as its nature, size or location". The criteria on which the judgement of EIA being required must be made are set out in Schedule 3 of the EIA Regulations.



- 1.6.5 The Scheme is listed under Schedule 2, Part 3(a) – as industrial installations for the production of electricity, steam and hot water (projects not included in Schedule 1).
- 1.6.6 Owing to its size, nature and location, the Scheme is likely to have significant effects on the environment and, therefore, is considered to comprise EIA development.
- 1.6.7 The Applicant has confirmed to the Planning Inspectorate under Regulation 8(1)(b) of the EIA Regulations that an Environmental Statement (ES) will be provided with the DCO Application for the Scheme as it is considered that there is the potential for the Scheme to meet the criteria set out in Schedule 3 of the EIA Regulations (Ref 1-2).

### National Policy Statements

- 1.6.8 In accordance with Section 104(2) of the Planning Act 2008, the Secretary of State must have regard to any relevant National Policy Statement (NPS), amongst other matters, when deciding whether or not to grant an application for development consent. The following Energy NPS, designated in January 2024, are relevant to the Scheme:
- Overarching NPS for Energy (EN-1) (Ref 1-3);
  - NPS for Renewable Energy Infrastructure (EN-3) (Ref 1-4); and
  - NPS for Electricity Networks Infrastructure (EN-5) (Ref 1-5).
- 1.6.9 Section 2.10 of NPS EN-3 sets out policy requirements specific to solar generation. Given that the above NPSs will form the primary policy framework for the determination of the DCO application, the EIA approach takes account of these documents. Key policies and guidance of the NPS which are relevant each technical assessment, as well as where this is addressed in the ES, is summarised in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 5-1: National Policy Statement Requirements [EN010168/APP/6.3]** and technical chapters (**ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 to 20 [EN010168/APP/6.1]**) and/or corresponding Legislation, Policy and Guidance appendices.
- 1.6.10 Draft updates to NPS EN-1 (Ref 1-6), EN-3 (Ref 1-7), and EN-5 (Ref 1-8) were published on 24 April 2025 for consultation which ran to 29 May 2025. The draft versions of the NPS have been reviewed for substantive changes of relevance to the Application. Relevant changes to the NPSs have been highlighted in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 5: Energy Need, Legislative Context and Energy Policy [EN010168/APP/6.1]**.

### National Planning Policy Framework

- 1.6.11 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (December 2024) (Ref 1-9) sets out the Government's national planning policies for England and

how these are to be applied. Paragraph 5 of the NPPF (December 2024) makes clear that the document does not contain specific policies for NSIPs and that applications in relation to NSIPs are determined in accordance with the decision making framework set out in the Planning Act 2008 (Ref 1-1) and relevant NPSs, as well as any other matters that are relevant, which may include the NPPF. The EIA for the Scheme therefore has regard to the relevant policies of the NPPF as part of the overall framework of national policy. A summary of the relevant NPPF considerations is provided within each of the discipline chapters (**ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 to 20 [EN010168/APP/6.1]**), supported in a number of cases with a corresponding Legislation, Policy and Guidance Appendix containing further detail.

### Local Planning Policy

- 1.6.12 Policies in Local Plans provide local context and policies that influence the content of local impact reports (which the host local planning authorities will produce following submission of the DCO Application), and which the Secretary of State must have regard to in their decision making in accordance with S104 (2)(b) of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref 1-1).
- 1.6.13 The Scheme would be located predominantly within the administrative area of Wiltshire Council. Two small areas of existing highway, totalling 0.15 ha, are also located within the administrative area of South Gloucestershire Council.
- 1.6.14 Wiltshire Council acknowledged a climate emergency in February 2019 (Ref 1-10) and South Gloucestershire Council declared a climate emergency in July 2019 (Ref 1-11). Both councils have committed to seek to make their respective counties of carbon neutral by 2030. Refer to the **Planning Statement [EN010168/APP/7.2]** for further detail.
- 1.6.15 The following documents form the Development Plan for Wiltshire Council within which the majority of Scheme is located:
  - Wiltshire Core Strategy 2006 to 2026 (adopted January 2015) (Ref 1-12);
  - Chippenham Site Allocations Plan (adopted 2017) (Ref 1-13);
  - Wiltshire Housing Site Allocations Plan (adopted 2020) (Ref 1-14);
  - Made Neighbourhood Plans (Ref 1-15);
  - Wiltshire and Swindon Minerals Core Strategy 2006 to 2026 (adopted June 2009) (Ref 1-16); and
  - Wiltshire and Swindon Waste Core Strategy 2006 to 2026 (adopted July 2009) (Ref 1-17).

- 1.6.16 The following documents form the Development Plan for South Gloucestershire Council:
- South Gloucestershire Local Plan: Core Strategy 2006 – 2027 (Ref 1-18)
  - South Gloucestershire Local Plan: Policies, Sites and Places Plan (Ref 1-19); and
  - West of England Joint Waste Core Strategy (Ref 1-20).

### Consideration of Planning Policy in the EIA

- 1.6.17 This ES describes the national and local planning policies that are relevant to the EIA with a summary provided for each environmental topic.
- 1.6.18 This ES does not assess the accordance of the Scheme with planning policy which will instead be undertaken and set out in the **Planning Statement [EN010168/APP/7.2]** that accompanies the DCO Application.
- 1.6.19 The purpose of considering the abovementioned planning policy within the ES is twofold:
- To identify policies that could influence the sensitivity of receptors (and therefore the significance of effects) and any requirements for mitigation; and
  - To identify planning policies that could influence the methodology of the EIA. For example, a planning policy may require the assessment of a particular impact or the use of a particular methodology.

## **1.7 Consultation**

- 1.7.1 The process of consultation is critical to the development of the Scheme design as well as informing the development of a comprehensive and balanced ES. The Scheme has a wide range of stakeholders (including landowners, statutory consultees, local communities and special interest groups) with potentially differing interests. Consultation activities have been designed to be accessible and to allow differing stakeholders the ability to engage with the Scheme in a way that is appropriate to them. Where appropriate, the design of the Scheme has been updated to incorporate amendments suggested through the consultation process (refer to **ES Volume 1, Chapter 4: Alternatives and Design Evolution [EN010168/APP/6.1]** for further detail).

### Scoping Consultation

- 1.7.2 A Scoping Report (Ref 1-21) was submitted to the Planning Inspectorate on 16 July 2024. The EIA Scoping Report was developed following initial

consultation with a number of statutory consultees, baseline survey studies and preliminary scheme development and presents the issues that the Applicant considers the EIA will need to address.

- 1.7.3 The Planning Inspectorate reviewed and consulted on the EIA Scoping Report and adopted (on behalf of the Secretary of State) a Scoping Opinion (Ref 1-22) on 22 August 2024. The Scoping Opinion included formal responses received by the Planning Inspectorate from statutory consultees. Key issues raised in the Scoping Opinion are summarised and responded to within a Scoping Table provided in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 1-2: Scoping Opinion Responses [EN010168/APP/6.3]**. The Scoping Table demonstrates how the matters raised in the Scoping Opinion are addressed within this ES.

### DCO Consultation Requirements

- 1.7.4 The Planning Act 2008 sets out the statutory requirements for consultation when preparing an application for development consent. The Planning Act 2008 (Ref 1-1) requires applicants to carry out statutory consultation on their proposals ahead of submission of a DCO application. The requirements are:
- Section 42 'Duty to consult' of the Planning Act 2008 requires the Applicant to consult with the 'prescribed persons' which includes consultation bodies such as Natural England, Environment Agency, Historic England, host authorities, neighbouring authorities and persons with interest in the land and those who may be affected by the Scheme.
  - Section 47 'Duty to consult local community' of the Planning Act 2008 requires the Applicant to prepare a statement, the Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC), setting out how the local community will be consulted on the application.
  - Section 48 'Duty to publicise' of the Planning Act 2008 requires the Applicant to publicise the Scheme in the 'prescribed manner'. The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 ('APFP Regulations') provide further guidance including the need to publicise a notice in a national newspaper, The London Gazette, and local newspapers which provides information regarding the statutory consultation being undertaken.
  - Section 49 'Duty to take account of responses to consultation and publicity' of the Planning Act 2008 requires the Applicant to have regard to any relevant responses received to the consultation and

publicity that is required by Sections 42, 47 and 48 of the Planning Act 2008.

### **Stage 1 Consultation: Non-Statutory**

- 1.7.5 The Applicant undertook a first stage of non-statutory consultation from 14 March to 26 April 2024. Consultation activities included engaging with parish, district and county councillors; distributing Scheme information; hosting online and in person events; and collating consultation feedback.
- 1.7.6 A **Consultation Report [EN010168/APP/5.1]** has been produced and provides a summary of the consultation methodology and extent of engagement and participation over the consultation period, along with an overview of the issues raised in feedback submitted during consultation, and that the Applicant has had regard to consultation responses including any responses to the feedback.

### **Stage 2 Consultation: Statutory Consultation and Preliminary Environmental Information**

- 1.7.7 A Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) was prepared and published in January 2025 to satisfy the requirement of the EIA Regulations (Ref 1-2) 'Preliminary environmental information' is defined in Regulation 12(2) of the EIA Regulations as information "*which (a) has been compiled by the applicant; and (b) is reasonably required for the consultation bodies to develop an informed view of the likely significant environmental effects of the development (and of any associated development)*".
- 1.7.8 Planning Inspectorate Advice Note Seven (EIA: Process, Preliminary Environmental Information, and Environmental Statements) (Ref 1-23) notes: "*A good PEI document is one that enables consultees (both specialist and non-specialist) to understand the likely environmental effects of the Proposed Development and helps to inform their consultation responses on the Proposed Development during the pre-application stage.*"
- 1.7.9 In order to enable consultees to understand the likely environmental effects of the Scheme, the PEIR presented preliminary findings of the environmental assessments undertaken at the point of writing. Together with ongoing discussion and meetings, this allowed consultees to develop an informed view of the likely significant effects of the Scheme and provide a response prior to the finalisation of the DCO application and the EIA. The Applicant sought the views of consultees on the information contained within the PEIR, and there was an opportunity within the process up to submission of the DCO application for both the EIA and the scheme design to have regard to comments received.

## Targeted Consultation

- 1.7.10 A further round of targeted consultation was undertaken between 3 June 2025 and 11 July 2025 following changes to the development boundary area of the Scheme presented in the PEIR and at Stage Two Statutory Consultation. Further detail regarding the targeted consultation is provided in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 1: Introduction [EN010168/APP/6.1]**.
- 1.7.11 The targeted consultation focused on fifteen small changes to the boundary of the Scheme which included:
- Six areas to enable the temporary highway and traffic works that would be required to safely accommodate the movement of Abnormal Indivisible Load (AIL) vehicles needed during the construction phase of the Scheme; and
  - Nine areas where the development boundary has been adjusted to enable access to and within the Site and to avoid constraints such as woodland and hedgerows.
- 1.7.12 These changes did not give rise to any new or different significant environmental effects compared to those reported in the PEIR.
- 1.7.13 Further detail on the consultation undertaken is provided in the **Consultation Report [EN010168/APP/5.1]**.

## 1.8 The Environmental Statement

- 1.8.1 Schedule 4 of the EIA Regulations (Ref 1-2) sets out the information for inclusion in an ES. **Table 1-2** below summarises where the requirements of Schedule 4 of the EIA Regulations (Ref 1-2) have been addressed in the ES.

**Table 1-2: Requirements of Part 1 of Schedule 4 of the EIA Regulations**

Requirement	Location in this ES
A description of the location of the development.	<b>ES Volume 1, Chapter 1: Introduction [EN010168/APP/6.1] (this chapter)</b> <b>ES Volume 1, Chapter 2: The Order Limits [EN010168/APP/6.1]</b> <b>ES Volume 1, Chapter 3: The Scheme [EN010168/APP/6.1]</b>
A description of the physical characteristics of the development including, where relevant, requisite demolition works, and the land-use requirements during the construction and operation and maintenance phases.	<b>ES Volume 1, Chapter 2: The Order Limits [EN010168/APP/6.1]</b> <b>ES Volume 1, Chapter 3: The Scheme [EN010168/APP/6.1]</b>



Requirement	Location in this ES
A description of the main characteristics of the operation and maintenance phase of the development (in particular any production processes), for instance, energy demand and energy used, nature and quantity of the materials and natural resources (including water, land, soil and biodiversity) used.	<b>ES Volume 1, Chapter 3: The Scheme [EN010168/APP/6.1]</b>
An estimate, by type and quantity, of expected residues and emissions (such as water, air, soil and sub-soil pollution, noise, vibration, light, heat, radiation and quantities and types of waste produced.) during the construction and operation and maintenance phases.	<b>ES Volume 1, Chapter 3: The Scheme [EN010168/APP/6.1]</b> <b>ES Volume 1, Chapter 7: Climate Change [EN010168/APP/6.1]</b> <b>ES Volume 1, Chapter 11: Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage [EN010168/APP/6.1]</b> <b>ES Volume 1, Chapter 13: Transport and Access [EN010168/APP/6.1]</b> <b>ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Noise and Vibration [EN010168/APP/6.1]</b> <b>ES Volume 1, Chapter 19: Ground Conditions [EN010168/APP/6.1]</b> <b>ES Volume 1, Chapter 20: Other Environmental Matters [EN010168/APP/6.1]</b>
A description of the reasonable alternatives (for example in terms of development design, technology, location, size and scale) studied by the developer, which are relevant to the proposed scheme and its specific characteristics, and an indication of the main reasons for selecting the chosen option, including a comparison of the environmental effects.	<b>ES Volume 1, Chapter 4: Alternatives and Design Evolution [EN010168/APP/6.1]</b>
A description of the relevant aspects of the current state of the environment (baseline scenario) and an outline of the likely future baseline without implementation of the development as far as natural changes from the baseline scenario can be assessed with environmental information and scientific knowledge.	<b>ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 to 20 [EN010168/APP/6.1]</b> , baseline conditions sections.
A description of the factors specified in regulation 5(2) likely to be significantly affected by the development: population, human health, biodiversity (for example fauna and flora), land (for example land take), soil (for example organic matter, erosion, compaction, sealing), water (for example hydromorphological changes,	<b>ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 to 20 [EN010168/APP/6.1]</b> , likely impacts and effects sections.

Requirement	Location in this ES
quantity and quality), air, climate (for example greenhouse gas emissions, impacts relevant to adaptation), material assets, cultural heritage, including architectural and archaeological aspects, and landscape.	
<p>A description of the likely significant effects of the development on the environment including from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>–The construction and existence of the development, including, where relevant, demolition works;</li> <li>–The use of natural resources, in particular land, soil, water and biodiversity, considering as far as possible the sustainable availability of these resources;</li> <li>–The emission of pollutants, noise, vibration, light, heat and radiation, the creation of nuisances, and the disposal and recovery of waste;</li> <li>–The risks to human health, cultural heritage or the environment (for example due to accidents or disasters);</li> <li>–The cumulation of effects with other existing and/or approved projects, taking into account any existing environmental problems relating to areas of particular environmental importance likely to be affected or the use of natural resources;</li> <li>–The impact of the scheme on climate (for example the nature and magnitude of greenhouse gas emissions) and the vulnerability of the scheme to climate change;</li> <li>–The technologies and the substances used.</li> </ul> <p>The description of the likely significant effects on the factors specified in regulation 4(2) should cover the direct effects and any indirect, secondary, cumulative, transboundary, short-term, medium-term and long-term, permanent and temporary, positive and negative effects of the development. This description should take into account the environmental protection objectives established at Union level (as they had effect immediately before exit day) or United Kingdom level which are relevant to the scheme, including in particular</p>	<p><b>ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 to 20 [EN010168/APP/6.1]</b>, likely impacts and effects sections.</p> <p><b>ES Volume 1, Chapter 21: Cumulative and In-Combination Effects [EN010168/APP/6.1]</b>.</p>



Requirement	Location in this ES
those established under the law of any part of the United Kingdom that implemented Council Directive 92/43/EEC and Directive 2009/147/EC	
A description of the forecasting methods or evidence, used to identify and assess the significant effects on the environment, including details of difficulties (for example technical deficiencies or lack of knowledge) encountered compiling the required information and the main uncertainties involved.	<b>ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 to 20 [EN010168/APP/6.1]</b> , assessment assumptions and limitations, and assessment methodology sections.
A description of the measures envisaged to avoid, prevent, reduce or, if possible, offset any identified significant adverse effects on the environment and, where appropriate, of any proposed monitoring arrangements (for example the preparation of a post-scheme analysis). That description should explain the extent, to which significant adverse effects on the environment are avoided, prevented, reduced or offset, and should cover both the construction and operation and maintenance phase.	<b>ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 to 20 [EN010168/APP/6.1]</b> , design, mitigation and enhancement measures sections.
A description of the expected significant adverse effects of the development on the environment deriving from the vulnerability of the development to risks of major accidents and/or disasters which are relevant to the scheme concerned. [...] Where appropriate, this description should include measures to prevent or mitigate the significant adverse effects of such events on the environment and details of the preparedness for and proposed response to such emergencies.	<b>ES Volume 1, Chapter 20: Other Environmental Matters [EN010168/APP/6.1]</b> , Section 20.2 Major Accidents and Disasters
A non-technical summary of the information provided under Paragraphs 1 to 8 (of this Part).	<b>ES Volume 5, Non-Technical Summary [EN010168/APP/6.5]</b>
A reference list detailing the sources used for the descriptions and assessments included in the environmental statement.	<b>ES Volume 1, Chapter 1 to 22 [EN010168/APP/6.1]</b> , references sections

## **1.9 Institute of Sustainability and Environmental Professionals Quality Mark**

- 1.9.1 AECOM is the lead environment and planning consultancy for Lime Down Solar Park and is responsible for the direction and management of the EIA for the Scheme, along with the production of the associated ES. AECOM is an Institute of Sustainability and Environmental Professionals (ISEP) Registered Impact Assessor and holds the ISEP EIA Quality Mark as recognition of the quality of our EIA product and continuous training of our environmental consultants. A Statement of Competence is provided at **ES Volume 3, Appendix 1-1: Statement of Competence [EN010168/APP/6.3]** outlining the relevant expertise and qualifications of the experts who prepared the ES.



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