



Planning Inspectorate
Arolygiaeth Gynllunio

Section 55

Acceptance of Applications Checklist

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

Lime Down Solar Project

Lime Down Solar Project Section 55 Acceptance of Applications Checklist

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

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

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

Section 55(2) Acceptance of applications				
1	Within 28 days (starting day after receipt) The Planning Inspectorate must decide whether or not to accept the application for examination.	Date received	28-day due date	Date of decision
		19 September 2025	17 October 2025	17 October 2025
Section 55(3) – the Planning Inspectorate may only accept an application if it concludes that:		Planning Inspectorate comments		
Section 55(3)(a) and s55(3)(c): It is an application for an order granting development consent				
2	In accordance with sections(s) 14 to 30 of the Planning Act 2008 (the PA2008), is the development a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) (or does it form part of an NSIP); and does the application state on the face of it that, in accordance with s31 of the PA2008, it is an application for a development	Yes The proposed development set out in schedule 1 of the Draft DCO (Doc 3.1) includes development falling within the categories in s14 of the PA2008. The development is for the construction of a generating station and satisfies sections 14 and 15 of the PA2008, including subsection 14(1)(a), subsection 15(1), and subsection 15(2).		

	<p>consent order (DCO) under the PA2008, or equivalent words? Does the application specify the development to which it relates, meaning which category or categories in s14 to 30 does the proposed development fall?</p> <p>If the development does not fall within the categories in s14 to 30, has a direction been given by the Secretary of State under s35 of the PA2008 for the development to be treated as development for which development consent is required?</p>	<p>This is consistent with the summary provided in section 4 of the Application Form (Doc 1.2) which states that the application is for an NSIP.</p>
3	<p>Summary: Section 55(3)(a) and s55(3)(c)</p>	<p>The Planning Inspectorate is satisfied that the Draft DCO (Doc 3.1) includes development for which development consent is required.</p>
<p>Section 55(3)(e): The applicant in relation to the application made has complied with chapter 2 of part 5 (pre-application procedure)</p>		
4	<p>In accordance with regulation 8 of The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (the EIA regulations), did the applicant (prior to carrying out consultation in accordance with s42) either (a) request The Planning Inspectorate adopt a screening opinion in respect of the development to which the application relates, or (b) notify The Planning Inspectorate in writing that it proposed to provide an environmental statement in respect of that development?</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>On 16 July 2024 the applicant submitted a Scoping Report to the Planning Inspectorate. The report confirmed that the application will include an environmental statement in respect of the proposed development.</p> <p>The Scoping Report was received on 16 July 2024, which is before the start of statutory consultation which began on 29 January 2025.</p>

5	<p>Have any Adequacy of Consultation Representations been received from 'A', 'B', 'C' and 'D' local authorities; and if so, do they confirm that the applicant has complied with the duties under s42, s47 and s48?</p> <p>Section 55(4) of the PA2008 provides that the Planning Inspectorate must have regard to the Consultation Report, and any Adequacy of Consultation Representations received.</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>There are 19 host and neighbouring authorities, of which 12 responded to the Planning Inspectorate's invitation to make an AoCR dated 23 September 2025.</p> <p>All 12 responding authorities confirmed in their AoCR that either the applicant had complied with its duties under s42, s47 and s48 of the PA2008 and/ or that their authority had no comments/ objections to make. These local authorities were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bath and North East Somerset Council (A authority) • Dorset Council (A authority) • Forest of Dean (A Authority) • Gloucestershire County Council (A authority) • Monmouthshire County Council (A authority) • New Forest National Park Authority (A authority) • Somerset Council (A Authority) • Test Valley Borough Council (A authority) • Vale of the White Horse District Council (A authority) • Swindon Borough Council (A authority) • West Berkshire (A Authority) • Wiltshire Council (B Host Authority)* <p>*Wiltshire Council confirmed that the legislative requirements had been met, and provided additional comments on the consultation and the availability of information.</p>
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		All AoCRs received have been carefully considered and are available to view on the Find a National Infrastructure Project website: https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010168/documents
Section 42: Duty to consult		
Did the Applicant consult the applicable persons set out in s42 of the PA2008 about the proposed application?		
6	<p>Section 42(1)(a) persons prescribed?</p> <p>The persons prescribed are the statutory consultees set out in schedule 1 of The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (the APFP regulations).</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>The applicant has provided a list of persons consulted under s42(1)(a) between 29 January and 19 March 2025 at appendix G-1 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.2).</p> <p>A sample of the letter sent to s42(1)(a) consultees is provided at appendix G-2 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.2).</p> <p>The Planning Inspectorate has identified the following parties based on a precautionary interpretation of the APFP regulations that were not consulted by the applicant under s42:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advanced Electricity Networks Ltd • Aurora Utilities Ltd • Green Generation Energy Networks Cymru Ltd • Inovyn Enterprises Ltd • Police and Crime Commissioner for Avon & Somerset • Salisbury NHS Foundation Trust <p>The applicant's Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) does not explain why the bodies identified above have not been consulted. However, it is noted that</p>

		<p>the licences held by these bodies cover Great Britain or various smaller areas and the operational areas of each are not clear from information in the public domain.</p> <p>Section 51 advice has been issued to the applicant in respect of the above matter and is available to view on the Find a National Infrastructure Project website: https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010168</p>
7	<p>Section 42(1)(aa) the Marine Management Organisation(MMO)?</p> <p>The MMO must be consulted in any case where the proposed development would affect, or would be likely to affect, any of the areas specified in s42(2) of the PA2008.</p>	<p>N/A</p> <p>The applicant reviewed MMO guidance and concluded that the MMO did not require consultation, see appendix G-5 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1)</p>
8	<p>Section 42(1)(b) each local authority within s43?</p> <p>Definition of 'local authority' in s43(3) of the PA2008: The 'B' authority where the application land is in the authority's area; the 'A' authority where any part of the boundary of A's area is also a part of the boundary of B's area; the 'C' authority (upper tier) where the application land is in that authority's area; the 'D' authority (upper tier) where such an authority shares a boundary with a 'C' authority.</p>	<p>Consultation 29 January 2025</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>Table 8-1 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) lists the relevant local authorities that were identified and consulted under s43 and s42(1)(b) on 29 January 2025 to 19 March 2025</p> <p>The host 'B' authority was consulted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wiltshire Council <p>The boundary 'A' authorities were consulted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bath and North East • Cotswold District Council • Dorset Council

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gloucestershire County Council • Hampshire County Council • New Forest District Council • New Forest National Park Authority • Oxfordshire County Council • Somerset Council • South Gloucestershire Council • Swindon Borough Council • Test Valley Borough Council • Vale of White Horse District Council • West Berkshire Council <p>A sample of the letter sent to s42(1)(b) relevant authorities is provided at appendix G-2 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1).</p> <p>Targeted consultation 3 June 2025</p> <p>The applicant carried out targeted consultation from 3 June 2025 due to changes made to the application following their statutory consultation. The approach to the consultation is set out in Chapter 11 and appendix I-1 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1).</p> <p>Table 8-1 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) lists the relevant local authorities that were identified and consulted under s43 and s42(1)(b) on 3 June 2025. Due to the changes made to the application South Gloucestershire was consulted as a host 'B' authority.</p>
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		<p>Bristol City Council and Stroud District Council were consulted during the consultation undertaken from 3 June. On 19 August Monmouthshire County Council and Forest of Dean District Council were consulted for 28 days.</p> <p>A sample of the letter sent to s42(1)(b) relevant authorities is provided at appendix I-1 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1).</p>
9	Section 42(1)(c) the Greater London Authority (if in Greater London area)?	<p>N/A</p> <p>The scheme is not located in Greater London.</p>
10	<p>Section 42(1)(d) each person in one or more of s44 categories?</p> <p>Category 1: owner, lessee, tenant or occupier of land</p> <p>Category 2: person interested in the land or has power to sell and convey the land or to release the land</p> <p>Category 3: persons who would or might be entitled to make a relevant claim</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>Chapter 8 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) states that all persons identified under s42(1)(d) were consulted on 29 January to 15 March 2025</p> <p>Section 8.6 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) summarises how the applicant made diligent inquiry to seek to identify and consult persons with an interest in lands affected by the Draft DCO (Doc 3.1). The full methodology undertaken by the applicant is provided in section 8.6 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1).</p> <p>The persons consulted under s42(1)(d) are listed at appendix G-4 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1).</p> <p>A sample of the letter is provided at appendix G-2 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1).</p>
Section 45: Timetable for s42 consultation		
11	Did the applicant notify s42 consultees of the deadline for receipt of consultation responses;	Yes

	and if so was the deadline notified by the applicant 28 days or more starting with the day after receipt of the consultation documents?	<p>A sample of the letter sent to s42 consultees is provided at appendix G-2 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1).</p> <p>The sample letter dated 22 January 2025 confirmed that consultation commenced on 29 January 2025 and closed on 19 March 2025, providing more than the required minimum time for receipt of responses.</p>
Section 46: Duty to notify The Planning Inspectorate of proposed application		
12	Did the applicant supply information to notify The Planning Inspectorate of the proposed application; and if so, was the information supplied to The Planning Inspectorate on or before the date it was sent to the s42 consultees? Was this done on or before commencing consultation under s42?	<p>Yes</p> <p>The applicant gave notice under s46 on 27 January 2025, which was before the beginning of s42 consultation.</p> <p>A copy of the s46 notification letter is provided at appendix G-3 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) and a copy of s46 notification acknowledgement letter from The Planning Inspectorate is provided at appendix G-3 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1).</p>
Section 47: Duty to consult local community		
13	Did the applicant prepare a statement of community consultation (SoCC) on how it intended to consult people living in the vicinity of the land?	<p>Yes</p> <p>A copy of the applicant's final SoCC is provided at appendix E of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1).</p>
14	Were 'B' and (where relevant) 'C' authorities consulted about the content of the SoCC; and if so, was the deadline for receipt of responses 28 days beginning with the day after the day that 'B' and, where applicable, 'C' authorities received the consultation documents?	<p>Yes</p> <p>The applicant sent the draft SoCC to Wiltshire Council ('B Authority') on 30 October 2024 and set a deadline of 28 November 2024. This was later extended to 6 December 2024 for responses; providing more than the required minimum time for responses to be received.</p>

15	Has the applicant had regard to any responses received when preparing the SoCC?	<p>Yes</p> <p>Appendix D of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) and section 6.3 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) provide a summary of the consultation responses from Wiltshire Council in respect of the draft SoCC and demonstrates how the applicant had regard to their content.</p> <p>Examples of changes from the draft SoCC to the final SoCC include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actioned Wiltshire Councils recommendation to increase the number of parish councils consulted. • Extended the statutory consultation period over 6 weeks. • Documented clarification how consultation feedback will be presented in the consultation report. <p>The Planning Inspectorate is satisfied that the applicant had regard to the responses received when preparing the SoCC.</p>
16	Has the SoCC been made available for inspection on a website maintained by or on behalf of the applicant; and has a notice been published in a newspaper circulating in the vicinity of the land which states where and when the SoCC can be inspected?	<p>Yes</p> <p>The published SoCC notice, provided at appendix E of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) states where and when the final SoCC was available to inspect.</p> <p>The final SoCC was made available at the following locations, which is reasonably convenient having regard to the location of the proposed development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corsham Library, Springfield Community Campus, Beechfield Road, Corsham, Wiltshire, SN13 9DN • Melksham Library, Melksham Community Campus, Market Place, Melksham, Wiltshire, SN12 6ES

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Malmesbury Library, 24 Cross Hayes, Malmesbury, Wiltshire, SN16 9BG • Chippenham Library Timber Street Chippenham, Wiltshire SN15 3EJ <p>A notice stating when and where the final SoCC could be inspected was published in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gazette & Herald, Thursday 16 January 2025 • Wiltshire Times, Friday 17 January 2025 <p>Clippings of the published advertisements are provided at appendix E of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1).</p>
17	In accordance with regulation 12 of the EIA regulations, does the SoCC set out whether the development is EIA development; and does it set out how the applicant intends to publicise and consult on the preliminary environmental information?	<p>Yes</p> <p>Appendix E of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) sets out that the development is EIA development and sets out how the applicant intended to publicise and consult on the preliminary environmental information.</p>
18	Has the applicant carried out the consultation in accordance with the SoCC?	<p>Yes</p> <p>Section 6.2 and table 6-4 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) set out how the community consultation was carried out in line with the final SoCC.</p> <p>Appendix E of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) provide evidence that the commitments within the final SoCC have been carried out.</p> <p>Although The Planning Inspectorate is satisfied that the applicant has carried out the consultation in line with the final SoCC, the following observations have been noted with regards to certain commitments:</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The applicant issued an Errata Statement on 27 January 2025 to correct an error in Figure 3. This correction increased the addresses consulted from approximately 10,500 to 14,000. This is a change in numbers from the SoCC, however, these persons were included in the statutory s42 consultation. In chapter 11, paragraph 11.3 the targeted consultation is described as statutory. Later in the chapter and relevant appendices it is confirmed that this was a non-statutory consultation. 						
Section 48: Duty to publicise the proposed application								
19	Did the applicant publicise the proposed application in the prescribed manner set out in regulation 4(2) of the (as amended) APFP regulations?	<p>Yes</p> <p>Paragraph 9.4.1 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) states: “The Applicant publicised the Scheme in appropriate newspapers in the prescribed manner”</p> <p>Table 9-1 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) displays the newspapers and dates of s48 publicity as set out below.</p> <p>A copy of the s48 notice is provided at appendix H of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1).</p> <p>Clippings of the published notices set out below are provided at appendix H of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1).</p>						
<table> <tr> <th colspan="2">Newspaper(s)</th><th>Date</th></tr> <tr> <td>a)</td><td>for at least two successive weeks in one or more local newspapers circulating in the vicinity in</td><td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wiltshire Times Wiltshire Gazette and Herald </td></tr> </table>			Newspaper(s)		Date	a)	for at least two successive weeks in one or more local newspapers circulating in the vicinity in	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wiltshire Times Wiltshire Gazette and Herald
Newspaper(s)		Date						
a)	for at least two successive weeks in one or more local newspapers circulating in the vicinity in	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wiltshire Times Wiltshire Gazette and Herald 						

b) c) d)	which the proposed development would be situated;		16/01/25 and 23/01/25		
	once in a national newspaper;	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The Guardian	22/01/25		
	once in the London Gazette and, if land in Scotland is affected, the Edinburgh Gazette; and	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The London Gazette	24/01/25		
	where the proposed application relates to offshore development – (i) once in Lloyds List; and (ii) once in an appropriate fishing trade journal?	N/A	N/A		
20	Did the s48 notice include the required information set out in regulation 4(3) of the (as amended) APFP regulations?	Yes The published s48 notice, supplied at appendix H of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) , contains the required information as set out below:			
Information		Paragraph	Information	Paragraph	
a)	the name and address of the applicant.	2	b)	a statement that the applicant intends to make an application for development consent to the Secretary of State	2
c)	a statement as to whether the application is EIA development	6	d)	a summary of the main proposals, specifying the location or route of the proposed development	3, 4, 5

e)	a statement that the documents, plans and maps were available on a website maintained by or on behalf of the applicant. The statement must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the nature and location of the proposed development the address of the website the place on the website a telephone number which can be used to contact the applicant for enquiries in relation to the documents, plans and maps 	8, 14	f)	the latest date on which those documents, plans and maps will be available for inspection	8, 9, 11
g)	whether a charge will be made for copies of any of the documents, plans or maps and the amount of any charge	10, 15, 16	h)	details of how to respond to the publicity	17, 18, 19, 20, 21
i)	a deadline for receipt of those responses by the applicant, being not less than 28 days following the date when the notice is last published	19			
21	Are there any observations in respect of the s48 notice provided above?				
	No				
22	Has a copy of the s48 notice been sent to the EIA consultation bodies and to any person	Yes			

	notified to the applicant in accordance with regulation 13 of the EIA regulations?	<p>A copy of the s48 notice was sent to the EIA consultation bodies as part of the s42 consultation, as confirmed in paragraph 9.3.2 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1).</p> <p>A sample of the s42 consultation letter provided at appendix G-2 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) confirms a copy of the s48 notice was enclosed.</p>
s49: Duty to take account of responses to consultation and publicity		
23	Has the applicant had regard to any relevant responses to the s42, s47 and s48 consultation?	<p>Consultation 29 January 2025</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>Chapter 10 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) sets out how the applicant had regard to the consultation responses received; including whether or not responses led to changes to the application.</p> <p>The actions informed by the consultation responses appear to be reflected in the final form of the application as submitted. Where a particular response has not led to a change in the application, it is sufficiently clear that regard was had to it.</p> <p>Targeted consultation 3 June 2025</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>Chapter 11 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) summarises how the applicant had regard to the consultation responses received; including whether or not responses led to changes to the application. Appendix I-5 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) provides all responses and the applicant's response.</p>

S50(3) Regard to guidance about pre-application procedure		
24	<p>To what extent has the applicant had regard to statutory guidance 'Planning Act 2008: Pre-application stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects'?</p> <p>The Planning Inspectorate must have regard to the extent to which the applicant has had regard to guidance issued under s50.</p>	<p>Section 3.2 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) states that the applicant has had regard to all relevant statutory guidance.</p> <p>The applicant submitted an adequacy of consultation milestone statement on 20 June 2025. The applicant has demonstrated that it has had regard to the advice issued by The Planning Inspectorate in relation to the statement in section 1.6 of appendix A of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1).</p> <p>Having reviewed the application, The Planning Inspectorate is satisfied that the applicant has identified and had regard to the relevant statutory guidance.</p>
25	Summary: Section 55(3)(e)	<p>The applicant has complied with chapter 2 of part 5 (pre-application procedure) of the PA2008.</p> <p>In respect of the minor consultation discrepancies identified, s51 advice has been provided to the applicant and is available to view on the National Infrastructure Project website: https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010168</p>
s55(3)(f) and s55(5A): The application (including accompaniments) achieves a satisfactory standard having regard to the extent to which it complies with section 37(3) (form and contents of application) and with any standards set under section 37(5) and follows any applicable guidance under section 37(4)		
26	<p>Is it made in the prescribed form as set out in schedule 2 of the APFP regulations, and does it include:</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>Section 4 of the Application Form (Doc 1.2) explains why the development falls within the remit of The Planning Inspectorate.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• a brief statement which explains why it falls within the remit of The Planning Inspectorate; and• a brief statement that clearly identifies the location of the application site, or the route if it is a linear scheme?	Section 5 of the Application Form (Doc 1.2) provides a brief non-technical description of the site and section 6 of the Application Form (Doc 1.2) provides the location of the proposed development. The Location Plan (Doc 2.1) has been provided.														
27	Is it accompanied by a consultation report?	Yes The application is accompanied by the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) and Consultation Report Appendices (Doc 5.2) .														
28	In accordance with regulation 5(4) of the APFP regulations, where a plan comprises three or more separate sheets, has a key plan been provided showing the relationship between the different sheets?	Yes														
29	Is it accompanied by the documents and information set out in APFP regulation 5(2)?	The documents and information required by APFP regulation 5(2) are set out in the documents and locations within the application as listed below:														
<table><tr><td colspan="2">Information</td><td colspan="2">Document</td><td colspan="2">Information</td><td colspan="2">Document</td></tr><tr><td>a)</td><td>Where applicable, an environmental statement required under the EIA regulations and any scoping or screening opinions or directions</td><td>Environmental Statement (ES) Volume 1: (Doc 6.1) ES Volume 2: Figures (Doc 6.2)</td><td>b)</td><td>a draft development consent order (DCO)</td><td>Draft Development Consent Order (Doc 3.1)</td></tr></table>			Information		Document		Information		Document		a)	Where applicable, an environmental statement required under the EIA regulations and any scoping or screening opinions or directions	Environmental Statement (ES) Volume 1: (Doc 6.1) ES Volume 2: Figures (Doc 6.2)	b)	a draft development consent order (DCO)	Draft Development Consent Order (Doc 3.1)
Information		Document		Information		Document										
a)	Where applicable, an environmental statement required under the EIA regulations and any scoping or screening opinions or directions	Environmental Statement (ES) Volume 1: (Doc 6.1) ES Volume 2: Figures (Doc 6.2)	b)	a draft development consent order (DCO)	Draft Development Consent Order (Doc 3.1)											

c)		ES Volume 3: Appendices (Doc 6.3) ES Volume 4: ES Non-Technical Summary (Doc 6.4)	d)		
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes (with minor discrepancies as noted in box 30)		Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes (with minor discrepancies as noted in box 30)
	An explanatory memorandum explaining the purpose and effect of provisions in the draft DCO	Explanatory Memorandum (Doc 3.2)		Where applicable, a book of reference	Book of Reference (Doc 4.3)
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes		Is this of a satisfactory standard?	No
e)	A copy of any flood risk assessment	ES Appendix 11-1: Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy – Lime Down Covering Report (Doc 6.3) ES Appendix 11-2 to 11-8: Flood Risk Assessment and	f)	A statement whether the proposal engages one or more of the matters set out in section 79(1) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 (statutory nuisances) and if so, how the	Statutory Nuisance Statement (Doc 7.6)

h)		Drainage Strategy – Lime Down A to E (Doc 6.3) ES Appendix 11-9: Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy – Lime Down Cable Route Corridor (Doc 6.3)	i)	applicant proposes to mitigate or limit them	
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes		Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes
	A statement of reasons and a funding statement (where the application involves any compulsory acquisition)	Statement of Reasons (Doc 4.1) Funding Statement (Doc 4.2)		A land plan identifying: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the land required for, or affected by, the proposed development where applicable, any land over which it is proposed to exercise powers of compulsory acquisition or any rights to use land 	Land Plan (Doc 2.2)

j)			k)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> any land in relation to which it is proposed to extinguish easements, servitudes and other private rights; and any special category land and replacement land 	
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes (with minor discrepancies as noted in box 30)		Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes (with minor discrepancies as noted in box 30)
	A works plan showing, in relation to existing features: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the proposed location or (for a linear scheme) the proposed route and alignment of the development and works; and the limits within which the development and works may be 	Works Plan (Doc 2.3)		Where applicable, a plan identifying any new or altered means of street, stopping up of streets or roads or any diversions, extinguishments or creation of rights of way or public rights of navigation	Streets Plan (Doc 2.4) Public Rights of Way Plan (Doc 2.5) Access Plan (Doc 2.6)

	carried out and any limits of deviation provided for in the draft DCO				
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes (with minor discrepancies as noted in box 30)		Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes (with minor discrepancies as noted in box 30)
l)	<p>Where applicable, a plan with accompanying information identifying:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> any statutory or non-statutory sites or features of nature conservation, for example sites of geological or landscape importance habitats of protected species, important habitats or other diversity features; and water bodies in a river basin management plan; 	<p>ES Figures 2-3-1 to 2-3-9: Environmental and Planning Constraints Lime Down A to E and Cable Route Corridor (Doc 6.2)</p> <p>ES Figure 8-6 to 8-6-8: Landscape Receptors Lime Down A to E and Cable Route Corridor (Doc 6.2)</p> <p>ES Figure 9.1.1: International Statutorily Designated Sites within the Study Area (Doc 6.2)</p>	m)	<p>Where applicable, a plan with accompanying information identifying any statutory or non-statutory sites or features of the historic environment, (for example scheduled monuments, world heritage sites, listed buildings, archaeological sites and registered battlefields) together with an assessment of any effects on such sites, features or structures likely to be caused by the proposed development</p>	<p>ES Figures 2-3-1 to 2-3-9: Environmental and Planning Constraints Lime Down A to E and Cable Route Corridor (Doc 6.2)</p> <p>ES Figure 8-6 to 8-6-8: Landscape Receptors Lime Down A to E and Cable Route Corridor (Doc 6.2)</p> <p>ES Figure 12-1: Designated and Non-Designated Heritage Assets scoped in for assessment (Doc 6.2)</p> <p>The assessment of effects on these sites is provided in:</p> <p>ES Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual (Doc 6.1)</p> <p>ES Chapter 12: Cultural Heritage (Doc 6.1)</p>

	<p>together with an assessment of any effects on such sites, features, habitats or bodies likely to be caused by the proposed development</p>	<p>ES Figure 9.1.2: National Statutorily Designated Sites within 5km of the Solar PV Sites (Doc 6.2)</p> <p>ES Figure 9.1.3: Non- Statutorily Designated Sites within 2km of the Solar PV Sites (Doc 6.2)</p> <p>ES Figure 11-1 to 11-7: Lime Down A to E and Cable Route Corridor Flood Risk Map (Doc 6.2)</p> <p>The assessment of effects on these sites is provided in:</p> <p>ES Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual (Doc 6.1)</p> <p>ES Chapter 9: Ecology and Biodiversity (Doc 6.1)</p>			
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n)		ES Chapter 11: Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage (Doc 6.1) Habitat Regulations Assessment Report (Doc 7.10) Water Framework Directive Assessment (Doc 7.11)	o)		
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes (with minor discrepancies as noted in box 30)		Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes
	Where applicable, a plan with any accompanying information identifying any Crown land	Crown Land Plan (Doc 2.11)		Any other plans, drawings and sections necessary to describe the development consent proposal showing details of design, external appearance, and the preferred layout of buildings, structures, drainage, surface water management, means of vehicular and pedestrian	Location Plan (Doc 2.1)

p)			q)	access, any car parking and landscaping	
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes		Are they of a satisfactory standard?	Yes
	Any of the documents prescribed by regulation 6 of the APFP regulations	Grid Connection Statement (Doc 7.5)		Any other documents considered necessary to support the application	Land and Rights Negotiations Tracker (Doc 4.4) Statement of Need (Doc 7.1) Planning Statement (Doc 7.2) Design Approach Document (Doc 7.3) Design Principles and Parameters (Doc 7.4) Consents and Agreements Position Statement (Doc 7.7) Equality Impact Assessment (Doc 7.23) Potential Main Issues for Examination (Doc 7.24) Commitments Register (Doc 7.26)
	Are they of a satisfactory standard?	Yes		Are they of a satisfactory standard?	Yes (with minor discrepancies as noted in box 30)
30	Are there any observations in respect of the documents provided at box 29 (a) to (q) above?				

Land Plan (Doc 2.2) and Book of Reference (Doc 4.3)

There are minor errors in the plans including the use of relevant road names, e.g. Reference 01-021 is described in the Book of Reference (Doc 4.3) as to 'the west of Tetbury Road', however from the plan information available it appears to be west of Farnhill Lane.

Works Plan (Doc 2.3)

There are minor errors in the plans e.g. the markings of 10a and sheet 6 appear to be incorrect.

Draft Development Consent Order (dDCO) (Doc 3.1)

Sch 4 (article 8, page 48) of dDCO refers to areas marked in purple or green on the Street Plan (Doc 2.4). However, on the specific sheets these are marked in purple and green alternating lines.

Requirement 5(4) states works within Work No.5 must accord with the parameters within Table 2-5 of the design principles and parameters plan – this should be Table 2-4 as Table 2-5 relates to Work No.6.

Statement of Reasons (Doc 4.1)

The document does not clearly set out whether affected parties were sent the Statement of Reasons. Other documents regarding compulsory acquisition and affected parties were provided.

Para 1.4.4 refers to land edged black on the Land Plan as that where powers are sought to suspend rights and override other rights (Art.25 and 27 of the DCO). Note: para 5.6.1 confirms that this power applies to all plots where CA/TP is sought (that is those shaded pink, blue and yellow) and so would exclude the National Grid Substations shown on Sheet 16 (DCO 2.2) however this area is also edged black.

Land and Rights Negotiation Tracker (Doc 4.4)

Tables from page 11 onwards are of insufficient size for clear readability.

Environmental Statement (Doc 6.1) Chapter 3

Para 3.3.52 of ES Chapter 3 refers to the cable route corridor being up to 665m in width whereas in para 4.6.11 of Chapter 4 of the ES this is cited as being up to 600.

Environmental Statement (Doc 6.1) Chapter 9

There is a missing reference in the second column of ID 3.3.2.

Paragraph 9.9.3 refers to the “Schedule of Protective Ecological Buffers” as Appendix 9.9. The correct reference is Appendix 9.8.

Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) Assessment Appendix Statutory Biodiversity Metric Calculation

This document has been provided as a pdf with static ‘screen shots’ of the metric. An Excel spreadsheet would be useful.

Environmental Statement (Doc 6.1) Chapter 11

The cover sheet for Appendix 11-3 is missing.

Environmental Statement (Doc 6.1) Chapter 12

Paragraphs 13.8.1 and 13.10.1 of chapter 12 do not contain text or references to the location of information.

Environmental Statement (Doc 6.1) Appendix 1.2

While the presentation of the Planning Inspectorate’s Scoping Opinion responses in Table 1 is acceptable, it would improve clarity and usability if the Scoping ID numbers from the Scoping Opinion were also included in Table 1.

Statement of Need (Doc 7.1)

Labelling/ formatting error – paragraph 5.10.15 refers to a ‘blue arrow’ as shown on Figure 12 but is purple.

The legend/ key (used to define the arrow and diamond) as shown on Figure 12 has overlapped with the main image and may currently be interpreted as identifying a specific point on the chart

Habitat Regulations Assessment Report (Doc 7.10)

The HRA report refers to the Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) as Document 7.18. Document 7.18 is the Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP). The correct reference for the CEMP is Document 7.12.

Section 51 advice has been issued to the applicant and is available to view on the Find a National Infrastructure Project website: <https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010168>

31	In accordance with regulation 5(2)(g) of the APFP regulations, is the application accompanied by a report identifying any European site(s) to which regulation 48 of The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 applies; or any Ramsar site(s), which may be affected by the proposed development, together with sufficient information that will enable the Secretary of State to make an appropriate assessment of the implications for the site if required by regulation 48(1)?	<p>Yes</p> <p>A Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) Report has been provided (Doc 7.10).</p> <p>The HRA Report identifies relevant European sites and the likely effects on those sites. It is considered that the information provided in the report is adequate for acceptance.</p> <p>Note: The Examining Authority will be able to ask questions during the examination. This may result in additional information being required to inform the HRA Report and the competent authority. Depending upon the type and availability of information required it may not be possible to obtain this during the statutory timetable of the examination.</p>
32	In accordance with regulation 5(2)(r) of the APFP regulations, if requested by The Planning Inspectorate, have two paper copies of the application form and other supporting documents and plans been provided?	No hard copies requested.
33	Has the applicant had regard to statutory guidance 'Planning Act 2008: Application form guidance'?	<p>Yes</p> <p>Chapter 3 of the Cover Letter and Schedule of Compliance with Section 55 (Doc 1.1) explains how the applicant has had regard to statutory guidance on the application form.</p> <p>The Planning Inspectorate is satisfied that the applicant has demonstrated regard to the guidance principles.</p>
34	Summary - s55(3)(f) and s55(5A)	The Planning Inspectorate concludes that the application (including accompaniments) has been prepared to a standard that it considers satisfactory.

		In respect of the discrepancies identified in box 30 of this checklist, to help facilitate an efficient and effective examination of the application s51 advice has been provided to the applicant in conjunction with the decision to accept the application. That advice is published on the Find a National Infrastructure Project website, here: https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010168
The Infrastructure Planning (Fees) Regulations 2010		
Pre-application fee		
35	<p>Were all pre-application fees paid before the application was made?</p> <p>Pre-application services for which a fee can be charged is defined in regulation 2A(8) and includes services listed within schedule 1 of the Infrastructure Planning (Fees) Regulations 2010. Fees for pre-application services apply to all proposed applications, from the inception meeting. These fees must be paid within 28 days of the notice. If the applicant fails to pay the fee within 28 days, The Planning Inspectorate will not provide the applicant with any further pre-application services or take any further steps in relation to the proposed application.</p>	The fees for providing the applicant with basic pre-application services were received on 26 June 2025; before the application was made.
Fees to accompany an application		

36	<p>Was the fee paid at the same time that the application was made?</p> <p>The Planning Inspectorate must charge the applicant a fee in respect of the decision by the Planning Inspectorate under section 55 of the PA2008. If the applicant fails to pay the fee, The Planning Inspectorate need not consider the application until payment is received. The fee must be paid at the same time that the application is made</p>	<p>The fee was received on 05 September 2025; before the application was made.</p>
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Role	Electronic signature	Date
Case Manager	Deborah Allen	17 October 2025
Acceptance Inspector	David Love	17 October 2025