Lime Down
Solar Park

Environmental Statement

Volume 3, Appendix 9-9: Watercourse Crossing Schedule

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The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010

List of Contents

List of Tables

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 This document provides a summary of all identified watercourses which are proposed to be crossed by the Scheme, alongside the preferred methodology for crossing each feature. This document should be read in conjunction with the following documents which provide further details on watercourse crossings and assessments of impacts on relevant features and receptors:

- **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9: Ecology and Biodiversity [APP-061];**
- **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11: Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage [APP-063];**
- **ES Volume 3, Appendix 3-2: Cable Route Construction Method Statement [APP-183];**
- **ES Volume 3, Appendix 11-1: Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy Covering Report [APP-210]; and**
- **Habitat Regulations Assessment Report [APP-275].**

1.1.2 Crossings of multiple watercourses are required to facilitate both the laying of underground cables and site access across the Scheme. These include both Main Rivers and ordinary watercourses. The methods to facilitate these crossings will be made up of a mix of trenchless technologies (such as Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD)) and open span methods, depending on the nature of the crossing. The HDD method will be adopted for all Main River Crossings (with the exception of SM3 which also has the potential for an area of open cut along an existing ford), with launch / receiver pits placed a minimum of 10 m from any watercourses. Where underground techniques are not feasible, open-cut techniques will be adopted subject to appropriate control measures and mitigation, set out in the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [APP-277],** the **Outline Ecological Protection and Mitigation Strategy [APP-284]**, **ES Volume 3, Appendix 3-2 Cable Route Construction Method Statement [APP-183], ES Volume 1, Chapter 11: Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage [APP-063]** and the **Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [APP-283].**

1.1.3 Permanent access tracks will be constructed across the Solar PV Sites which will typically be 3.5m to 6m wide. Requirements for new access have been designed to avoid drainage ditch and watercourse crossings wherever possible including through utilising existing crossings.

1.1.4 In total, 35 watercourse crossings have been identified across the Scheme. These are listed in **Table 1** below, which sets out the crossing reference, location, designation, preferred methodology and relevant regulatory authority. A description of habitat as well as photographs of each location is also provided. It should be noted that the locations provided in Table 1 below are indicative for

the purposes of assessment, with the final locations of crossings to be determined at the detailed design stage.

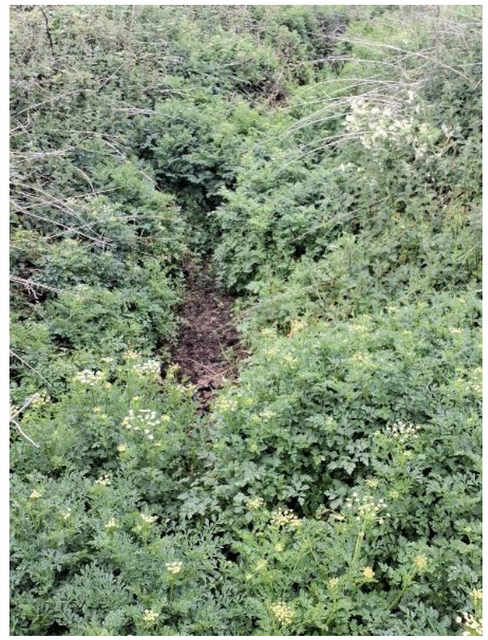
1.2 Water Course Crossing Details

Table 1: Watercourse Crossing Details

Crossing Ref	Grid Ref (Easting and Northing)	Designation	Preferred Crossing Methodology	Regulatory Authority	Location	Description	Photograph
SM1	388410,169425	Main River	**Cabling** Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) **Access** N/A	Environment Agency (EA)	Cable Route Corridor	A section of a tributary of the River Avon known as Byde Mill Brook. A stream holding circa 0.4 m deep, clear water at the time of survey with a smooth flow over a pebble/cobble substrate. 1.5 m in width and with fairly steep earth banks up to 1.7 m in height. Varied bankside vegetation comprising a range of trees, shrubs, herbs and grasses.	
SM2	389206,171833	Main River	**Cabling** HDD **Access** N/A	EA	Cable Route Corridor	A section of a tributary of the River Avon known as Pudding Brook. A stream holding circa 0.1 m deep, clear water at the time of survey with a quick flow over a pebble/cobble substrate. 1.5 m in width and with steep earth banks up to 2 m in height. Varied bankside vegetation comprising a range of trees, shrubs, herbs and grasses.	
SM3	390480,183099	Main River	**Cabling** Either HDD or Open Cut (at Ford) **Access** Via retained ford	EA	Solar PV Sites	The proposed potential open-cut crossing point is a ford which is dry for most of the year except in times of flooding and otherwise comprises a bare earth farm track. To the north of the ford, at the location proposed for potential HDD crossing, lies a small stream which feeds into a larger watercourse known as Gauze Brook. The stream held circa 0.5 m deep, turbid water at the time of survey with a rippled flow over a largely silt substrate. Approximately 1.5 to 2 m in width with steep earth banks up to 1.2 m	

Crossing Ref	Grid Ref (Easting and Northing)	Designation	Preferred Crossing Methodology	Regulatory Authority	Location	Description	Photograph
						in height. Vegetation on the left (western) bankside comprised a range of grasses, forbs and ruderals, while the right (eastern) bankside was vegetated with shrubs and trees associated with an adjacent hedgerow. Very little in the way of submerged, emergent or marginal aquatic vegetation were recorded.	
SM4	392666,181666	Main River	**Cabling** HDD **Access** Via existing crossing. It is possible that this may need be improved.	EA	Solar PV Sites	A section of a tributary of the River Avon known as Gabriel's Well. A stream holding circa 0.5 m deep, slightly turbid water at the time of survey with a rippled flow over a gravel/pebble substrate. 2 to 2.5 m in width and with steep earth banks up to 1.2 m in height. Varied bankside vegetation comprising a range of shrubs, herbs, grasses and occasional trees. The stream in this location is known to support otters.	

Crossing Ref	Grid Ref (Easting and Northing)	Designation	Preferred Crossing Methodology	Regulatory Authority	Location	Description	Photograph
							
OW1	389853,166121	Ordinary Watercourse	**Cabling** Open Cut **Access** Temporary culvert	Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA)	Cable Route Corridor	Shallow drain around the National Grid Melksham substation. Appears to be largely dry and mostly either bare or choked with ruderals, although some marginal vegetation present (e.g. fool's water-cress) indicating periodic inundation.	

Crossing Ref	Grid Ref (Easting and Northing)	Designation	Preferred Crossing Methodology	Regulatory Authority	Location	Description	Photograph
OW2	389417,166527	Ordinary Watercourse	**Cabling** Open Cut **Access** Temporary culvert	LLFA	Cable Route Corridor	Shallow drainage ditch. Appears to be largely dry and mostly either bare or choked with ruderals, although some marginal vegetation present (e.g. fool's water-cress) indicating periodic inundation.	
OW3	389192,170410	Ordinary Watercourse	**Cabling** Open Cut **Access** Temporary culvert	LLFA	Cable Route Corridor	A section of an unnamed stream which appears to eventually discharge into the River Avon, although also appears to be poorly connected on account of several large, culverted sections downstream, two of which appear to be over 100 m in length. The stream held circa 0.2 m deep water with a smooth flow over a largely silt and earth substrate. 1 m wide with low, shallow banks vegetated with riparian trees, shrubs, herbs and grasses.	

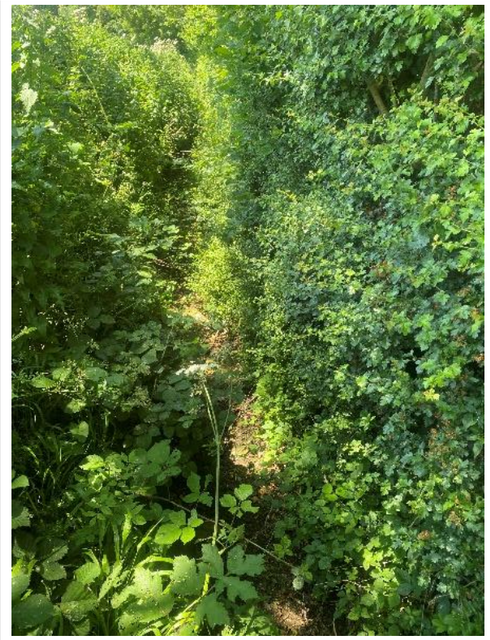
Crossing Ref	Grid Ref (Easting and Northing)	Designation	Preferred Crossing Methodology	Regulatory Authority	Location	Description	Photograph
OW4	388376,172528	Ordinary Watercourse	**Cabling** HDD **Access** N/A	LLFA	Cable Route Corridor	A section of a tributary of the Pudding Brook. A stream holding circa 0.2 m deep and clear water at the time of survey with a smooth flow over a pebble/cobble substrate. 1.7m in width and with steep/vertical earth banks between 0.5 to 3 m in height. Bankside vegetation comprises several trees as well as some short and tall herbs/grasses.	
OW5	388139,173372	Ordinary Watercourse	**Cabling** Open Cut **Access** Temporary culvert	LLFA	Cable Route Corridor	Shallow agricultural drainage ditch, 1 m deep and 0.5 m wide. Holding shallow water (0.1 m deep) at the time of survey but likely to regularly dry during the summer months. Overshaded by adjacent hedge and lacking in aquatic/marginal vegetation.	

Crossing Ref	Grid Ref (Easting and Northing)	Designation	Preferred Crossing Methodology	Regulatory Authority	Location	Description	Photograph
OW6	387274,174846	Ordinary Watercourse	**Cabling** HDD **Access** N/A	LLFA	Cable Route Corridor	Roadside ditch, relatively shallow (up to 1 m deep). Appears to be regularly dry with no aquatic/emergent vegetation present. Mostly bare and overshaded by adjacent hedgerow and trees.	
OW7	387315,175276	Ordinary Watercourse	**Cabling** Open Cut **Access** Temporary culvert	LLFA	Cable Route Corridor	An open ditch passing running through the middle of two arable fields. 0.5 m wide holding shallow (0.05 m deep) water. Steep earth banks circa 1m deep, vegetated with a moderate diversity of marginal species indicative of holding water regularly, including meadowsweet, hemlock water-dropwort, great willowherb and fool's water-cress.	

Crossing Ref	Grid Ref (Easting and Northing)	Designation	Preferred Crossing Methodology	Regulatory Authority	Location	Description	Photograph
OW8	386411,178511	Ordinary Watercourse	**Cabling** Open Cut **Access** Temporary culvert	LLFA	Cable Route Corridor	Shallow agricultural drainage ditch, 0.8 m deep and 0.5 m wide. Holding shallow water (0.1 m deep) at the time of survey but likely to regularly dry during the summer months. Overshaded by adjacent hedge and lacking in aquatic/marginal vegetation.	
OW9	387081,181894	Ordinary Watercourse	**Cabling** HDD **Access** N/A	LLFA	Cable Route Corridor	A section of a tributary of the River Avon known as Gauze Brook. Dry at the time of survey (April 2025) but likely to hold water seasonally. Shallow but steep earth banks around 1 m in depth. The channel bed was around 2.5 m in width and comprised a dry pebble/cobble substrate. Bankside vegetation mostly comprising short grasses and several mature trees.	

Crossing Ref	Grid Ref (Easting and Northing)	Designation	Preferred Crossing Methodology	Regulatory Authority	Location	Description	Photograph
OW10	386207,182876	Ordinary Watercourse	**Cabling** Open Cut **Access** Temporary culvert	LLFA	Cable Route Corridor	Drainage ditch at the base of railway embankment. Heavily modified with steep reinforced banks around 1.5 m deep. Dry at the time of survey with some filamentous algae in the reinforced channel bed. Likely to be wet seasonally.	
OW11	388084,183521	Ordinary Watercourse	**Cabling** Open Cut **Access** Temporary culvert	LLFA	Cable Route Corridor	A section of a small tributary of the River Avon. A small stream dry at the time of survey but likely to hold water seasonally, with some marginal vegetation occasionally present. 0.5 m x 0.5 m deep and wide with earth substrate. Overshaded by adjacent hedgerow. Bankside vegetation comprises hedgerow shrubs, coarse grasses and ruderals.	

Crossing Ref	Grid Ref (Easting and Northing)	Designation	Preferred Crossing Methodology	Regulatory Authority	Location	Description	Photograph
OW12	387570,184171	Ordinary Watercourse	**Cabling** Open Cut **Access** Temporary culvert	LLFA	Cable Route Corridor	A section of a small tributary of the River Avon. A stream holding circa 0.2 m deep and fairly clear water at the time of survey, with no apparent flow and over a sandy/silt substrate with occasional pebbles. 1 m in width and with steep earth banks up to 1 m in height. Overshaded by adjacent hedgerow but with some marginal vegetation present including meadowsweet and hemlock water-dropwort, along with coarse grasses and ruderals.	
OW13	387038,183926	Ordinary Watercourse	**Cabling** Open Cut **Access** Temporary culvert	LLFA	Cable Route Corridor	A section of a small tributary of the River Avon. A stream holding circa 0.1 m deep and fairly turbid water at the time of survey, although likely to dry up regularly. No flow apparent and a sandy/silt substrate. 1 m in width and with steep earth banks up to 1 m in height. Overshaded by adjacent hedgerow but with some vegetation typically comprising coarse grasses and ruderals, with occasional common reed.	

Crossing Ref	Grid Ref (Easting and Northing)	Designation	Preferred Crossing Methodology	Regulatory Authority	Location	Description	Photograph
OW14	386381,183875	Ordinary Watercourse	**Cabling** Open Cut **Access** Temporary culvert	LLFA	Cable Route Corridor	A section of ditch passing through mature woodland and at the edge of an arable field. Dry at the time of survey although damp, bare earth channel bed indicative of periodic inundation. Circa 1m wide with 1-1.5 m steep earth banks. Overshaded by woodland, with vegetation limited to ruderals, coarse grasses and bramble.	
OW15	391794,183143	Ordinary Watercourse	**Cabling** Open Cut **Access** Temporary culvert	LLFA	Cable Route Corridor	Roadside ditch. Relatively shallow (1 m deep) and narrow (0.5 m wide) likely to be dry for most of the year. Vegetated with grasses and ruderals with no aquatic/marginal vegetation.	

Crossing Ref	Grid Ref (Easting and Northing)	Designation	Preferred Crossing Methodology	Regulatory Authority	Location	Description	Photograph
OW16	392061,183381	Ordinary Watercourse	**Cabling** Open Cut **Access** Temporary culvert	LLFA	Cable Route Corridor	Roadside ditch. Relatively shallow (1 m deep) and narrow (0.5 m wide) likely to be dry for most of the year. Vegetated with grasses and ruderals with no aquatic/marginal vegetation.	
OW17	386007,182541	Ordinary Watercourse	**Cabling** Open Cut **Access** New permanent culvert	LLFA	Solar PV Sites	Roadside ditch. Relatively shallow (0.5 m deep) and narrow (0.5 m wide) likely to be dry for most of the year. Vegetated with coarse grasses and ruderals with no aquatic/marginal vegetation.	No photo available
OW18	386392,182728	Ordinary Watercourse	**Cabling** Open Cut **Access** Existing culvert	LLFA	Solar PV Sites	Dry ditch at the base of hedgerow. 0.5 m deep and 0.5 m wide, with earth banks vegetated with coarse grasses and ruderals. Unlikely to regularly hold water.	

Crossing Ref	Grid Ref (Easting and Northing)	Designation	Preferred Crossing Methodology	Regulatory Authority	Location	Description	Photograph
OW19	385047,182912	Ordinary Watercourse	**Cabling** Open Cut **Access** Existing culvert	LLFA	Solar PV Sites	A dry ditch circa 1 m deep and 1 m wide. Earth banks dominated by coarse grasses and tall ruderals with no aquatic vegetation present. Likely to hold water for short periods over the winter only.	
OW20	387696,184980	Ordinary Watercourse	**Cabling** Open Cut **Access** Existing culvert	LLFA	Solar PV Sites	Dry and shallow ditch at base of hedgerow. 0.5 m deep and 0.5 m wide. Vegetated with grasses and ruderals with no aquatic vegetation. Unlikely to regularly hold water.	

Crossing Ref	Grid Ref (Easting and Northing)	Designation	Preferred Crossing Methodology	Regulatory Authority	Location	Description	Photograph
OW21	388277,185155	Ordinary Watercourse	**Cabling** Open Cut **Access** Existing culvert	LLFA	Solar PV Sites	A section of a small tributary of the River Avon. Dry at the time of survey but likely to hold water seasonally as evidenced by occasional presence of common reed. Shallow but steep earth banks around 0.5 to 1 m in depth. The channel bed was around 2 m in width and comprised a dry pebble/cobble and silted substrate. Bankside vegetation mostly comprised coarse grasses and ruderals as well as a plantation woodland to the south.	
OW22	389093,183583	Ordinary Watercourse	**Cabling** Open Cut **Access** New permanent culvert	LLFA	Solar PV Sites	Dry ditch at the southern base of a hedgerow. Approximately 1.5 m deep and 0.75 m wide with steep earth banks. Overshaded by hedgerow and vegetated with coarse grasses and ruderals with little aquatic/marginal vegetation. Unlikely to hold water regularly.	

Crossing Ref	Grid Ref (Easting and Northing)	Designation	Preferred Crossing Methodology	Regulatory Authority	Location	Description	Photograph
OW23	390083,183521	Ordinary Watercourse	**Cabling** Open Cut **Access** New permanent culvert	LLFA	Solar PV Sites	Dry ditch at the northern base of a hedgerow. Approximately 1 m deep and 0.5 m wide with steep earth banks, vegetated primarily by coarse grasses and ruderals. Unlikely to hold water regularly, but occasional marginal plants such as meadowsweet were present indicating periodic inundation.	
OW24	392044,181928	Ordinary Watercourse	**Cabling** Open Cut **Access** Existing culvert	LLFA	Solar PV Sites	A section of a tributary of the Gabriel's Well watercourse, which is heavily culverted. This was a small, open and predominantly dry feature with either bare or grassy channel bed and banksides indicating regular drying out, although common reed was noted indicated periodic inundation. Steep, earth banksides around 1.5 to 2 m deep. The stream was circa 2 m wide with a channel bed of earth, pebble and cobble substrate. Bankside vegetation typically comprised short, grazed grass and herbs.	 

Crossing Ref	Grid Ref (Easting and Northing)	Designation	Preferred Crossing Methodology	Regulatory Authority	Location	Description	Photograph
OW25	392681,181548	Ordinary Watercourse	**Cabling** Open Cut **Access** New permanent culvert	LLFA	Solar PV Sites	Dry ditch, approximately 1 m deep and 0.5 m wide with steep earth banks, vegetated primarily by coarse grasses and ruderals. Unlikely to hold water regularly, but occasional marginal plants such as meadowsweet were present indicating periodic inundation.	
OW26	388801,185134	Ordinary Watercourse	**Cabling** Open Cut **Access** Existing culvert	LLFA	Solar PV Sites	Dry ditch, approximately 1 m deep and 1 m wide with steep earth banks. Vegetated primarily with coarse grasses and ruderals. Occasional great willowherb present indicating periodic inundation but highly likely to be dry for most of the year.	

Crossing Ref	Grid Ref (Easting and Northing)	Designation	Preferred Crossing Methodology	Regulatory Authority	Location	Description	Photograph
OW27	392508,181657	Ordinary Watercourse	**Cabling** Open Cut **Access** New permanent culvert	LLFA	Solar PV Sites	Dry ditch at the base of hedgerow.1 m deep and 1 m wide, with steep earth banks vegetated with coarse grasses and ruderals. Unlikely to regularly hold water.	
OW28	385421,182915	Ordinary Watercourse	**Cabling** Open Cut **Access** New permanent culvert	LLFA	Solar PV Sites	Drain running between two agricultural fields. Approximately 1 m wide with 1 m deep, steep earth banks. Damp ground present at the channel bed. The channel was choked with a range of vegetation including species such as great willowherb, meadowsweet and water mint indicative of holding water seasonally.	

Crossing Ref	Grid Ref (Easting and Northing)	Designation	Preferred Crossing Methodology	Regulatory Authority	Location	Description	Photograph
OW29	388499, 183270	Ordinary Watercourse	**Cabling** Open Cut **Access** New permanent culvert	LLFA	Solar PV Sites	A drainage ditch along the southern side of a field boundary hedgerow. The ditch is approximately 1 m wide with 1 m deep, steep earth banks. The ditch was dry at the time of survey and mostly vegetated with ruderals, such as nettles, hogweed, docks and cleavers. However, some marginal vegetation indicative of occasionally wet or damp ground was noted in the channel, including great willowherb and common figwort.	
OW30	388651, 183345	Ordinary Watercourse	**Cabling** Open Cut **Access** New permanent culvert	LLFA	Solar PV Sites	A drainage ditch along the southern side of a field boundary hedgerow. The ditch is approximately 1 m wide with 1 m deep, steep earth banks. The ditch was dry at the time of survey and mostly vegetated with ruderals, such as nettles, hogweed, docks and cleavers. However, some marginal vegetation indicative of occasionally wet or damp ground was noted in the channel, including great willowherb and common figwort.	

Crossing Ref	Grid Ref (Easting and Northing)	Designation	Preferred Crossing Methodology	Regulatory Authority	Location	Description	Photograph
OW31	388103,185398	Ordinary Watercourse	**Cabling** Open Cut **Access** New permanent culvert	LLFA	Solar PV Sites	A drainage ditch along the north-eastern side of a field boundary hedgerow. The ditch is approximately 2 m wide with 1.25 m deep, earth banks. The ditch was dry at the time of survey somewhat overshaded by the adjacent hedgerow, The ditch banks and channel were mostly vegetated with grasses. However, some marginal vegetation indicative of occasionally wet or damp ground was noted in the channel, including great willowherb.