

07 July 2026

The Planning Inspectorate
c/o QUADIENT
69 Buckingham Avenue
Slough
SL1 4PN

Application Reference: EN0110012

Light Valley Solar

Applicant Submission – Procedural Deadline B (7 July 2026)

Dear [REDACTED]

On the 19 June 2026, the Examining Authority ('**ExA**') issued a letter under Sections 88 and 89 of the Planning Act 2008 and Rules 4, 6, 9 and 13 of the Infrastructure Planning (Examination procedure) Rules 2010 ('**the Rule 6 Letter**'), providing notice of appointment of the ExA for the examination of the Light Valley Solar Development Consent Order ('**DCO**') application, an invitation to the preliminary meeting and notification of hearings, a draft Examination timetable and making a number of procedural decisions.

The Rule 6 letter issued by the ExA invited the Applicant and Interested Parties to make written submissions about how the application is to be examined and to make submissions on a number of other points for Procedural Deadline B (7 July 2026).

This letter encloses the Applicant's response to this request and is structured to comment on the matters contained in the Rule 6 letter.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

M: [REDACTED] | E: [REDACTED] nag

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Examination procedure and timetable

The Applicant has reviewed the Draft Examination Timetable contained within Annex D of the Rule 6 Letter and makes the following comments and suggested amendments:

Issue Specific Hearing 1 ('ISH1') – Due to the unavailability of the Applicant's traffic expert for the week of the July hearings, we would request that traffic and transport matters are not included on the agenda for ISH1. The Applicant can confirm that the expert is available for the Hearings provisionally scheduled for w/c 2nd November.

Deadline 6 - The Applicant notes that Deadline 6 falls just after the Christmas and New Year break, with many of the Applicants team, and we assume Interested Parties likely to be unavailable during w/c 21st and 28th December. To ensure that the Applicant and Interested Parties have sufficient time to respond to Deadline 5 submissions (15th December 2026), we would propose an amendment to the timetable to extend Deadline 6 to Friday 8th January. This will enable all parties to have the full week following the holiday period to finalise Deadline 6 submissions.

Requests to be heard orally at the preliminary meeting ('PM'), Compulsory acquisition hearing 1 ('CAH1'), Open floor hearing 1 ('OFH1'), and Issue specific hearing 1 ('ISH1')

The Applicant would like to confirm our intention to be heard orally at the PM, CAH1 and ISH1 being held between Tuesday 28th July and Thursday 30th July 2026 in The Parsonage Hotel & Spa, Escrick. The Applicant, legal representatives, and consultant team will be present in person, and we have included at Appendix 1 some short bios for members of the Applicant's team that are likely to be speaking at these hearings.

The Applicant can confirm that members of the project team will also be in attendance at OFH1 scheduled for Wednesday 29th July 2026.

Suggested locations for site inspections

The Applicant would suggest the following locations for site inspections as points across the Proposed Development which provide key vantage points and/or enable a view of the land which would accommodate the various elements of the Proposed Development. The following suggestions move from north-east to south-west, starting in Escrick and ending in Milford. The suggestions are based around viewpoint locations which can be seen on **ES Figure 10.5 Viewpoints plan [APP-095]**:

- **Escrick** - Drive along Wheldrake Lane (VP3 and VP5), then walk on PRow to Tiledshed Farm near VP4. This provides views towards Site 1 near the Escrick Conservation Area and nearby residential and recreational receptors.
- **Escrick and Skipwith** - Drive Mill Hill/Skipwith Road looking east to assess views towards Site 1 and the effects on local road users and residential receptors. Carry down south to Skipwith to assess the wider landscape setting.



- **Site 1 / Mount Pleasant Farm** - Drive to Mount Pleasant Farm and walk PRow 35.28/3/1 around VP9. This provides views from a public right of way in close proximity to the proposed solar infrastructure and helps understand the effects on recreational receptors.
- **Riccall** - drive A19 (approaching from the south as identified in the construction route maps) to Riccall and walk along National Cycle Route 65 (VP58) to assess the effects of cable route corridor construction.
- **Wistow** - Drive Black Fen Lane (VP61) and walk the local PRow near VP60. This is to understand the visibility of cable corridor construction near Wistow and local recreational routes.
- **Hambleton Hough and Hambleton** - Visit Hambleton Hough (VP41) and Mill Lane south of Hambleton (VP64). This provides views from Hambleton Hough LILA and an understanding of the effects of cable corridor construction in vicinity.
- **Site 8** - Walk Philip Lane (VP50) to assess views of the proposed solar infrastructure and its relationship with the surrounding landscape.
- **Hillam** - Drive Hillam Common Lane via VP14 and VP69 and walk local PRows around VP15, VP16 and VP66. This provides views from Hillam and the surrounding rights of way network towards Sites 3 and 4.
- **Monk Fryston** - Drive along the A63 via VP11, VP12 and VP55, then continue along Fryston Common Lane via VP10 and VP68. This provides views towards Site 2 and the cable corridor routes from key local roads and residential receptors.
- **Monk Fryston** – visit Fairfield Equine Facilitated Wellbeing centre to understand the potential impacts on the amenity of the business from construction work taking into account its use as a community asset where tranquillity is one of its key attributes in marketing.
- **Birkin and West Haddlesey** - Drive along Haddlesey Road/Birkin Road (VP21, VP23, VP57) and walk public footpath 35.10/7/1 (VP17). This will help understand the views towards Site 4 and an appreciation of effects on the setting of Birkin.
- **Birkin** – visit the Brikin Fishery and Tea Room to understand the potential impacts on the amenity of the business from construction work.
- **Hillam** - Walk the PRow around VP27 south of Hillam to assess the effects of cable corridor construction and views towards Sites 3 and 4.
- **Sherburn in Elmet** - Drive along A162 east of Sherburn in Elmer to assess wider landscape surrounding the Proposed Development to the east.
- **South Milford** - Drive along Common Lane via VP43 and VP46 to assess views towards Sites 6 and 7 and understand effects experienced by local residents and people using these route. This could also include a stop at Gascoigne Wood Fishery to understand the potential impacts on the amenity of the business from construction work.
- **South Milford** - Walk the PRow extending from Common Lane south towards Site 6. This provides views of the proposed development from the rights of way network and an appreciation of effects on nearby residential receptors.



- **South Milford** - Walk the PRoW south of South Milford across the Limestone Ridge LILA (VP42) to understand the relationship between the Proposed Development and the wider landscape setting and views.

We hope the ExA find the above suggestions useful. We will continue to work up a more detailed schedule of suggestions and will submit our suggested draft itinerary for the accompanied site inspection at Deadline 1 [REDACTED]. This will respond to any relevant locations referred to by other parties' submissions at Procedural Deadline B, as well as discussions with North Yorkshire Council.

Statements of Common Ground

In relation to the wider procedural matters, the Applicant notes the request by the ExA at Annex F of the Rule 6 letter for the preparation of Statements of Common Ground (SoCG) with the following organisations –

- Environment Agency
- Historic England
- National Highways
- National Grid Electricity Transmission PLC
- National Gas Transmission PLC
- Natural England
- Network Rail Infrastructure Ltd
- North Yorkshire Council
- Sherburn Aero Club
- SSE Hydrogen Developments Ltd

The Applicant has been in active engagement with all of those listed above during pre-examination which will enable SoCGs to be developed, which will be able to report that many issues raised in their Relevant Representations have been resolved.

In relation to National Highways, the Applicant has continued to engage proactively to address the matters raised in National Highways' Relevant Representation. National Highways has confirmed to the Applicant that all substantive matters relating to impacts on the Strategic Road Network have been satisfactorily addressed and can be closed, with the exception of a clarification that construction directional signage would not be permitted on the A1(M), which the Applicant acknowledges and will reflect in the outline Construction Traffic Management Plan at Deadline 1 [REDACTED]. National Highways has also confirmed that, notwithstanding this point on signage, all other matters are considered closed out, save for Protective Provisions, which the parties will continue to discuss. Accordingly, given that the Proposed Development does not directly interfere with the Strategic Road Network and that negotiations of protective provisions will be undertaken privately by the parties until they are agreed, it is considered that a SoCG is not necessary.

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The Applicant also considers that an SoCG is not required with National Grid Electricity Transmission PLC; National Gas Transmission PLC; Network Rail Infrastructure Ltd; and SSE Hydrogen Developments Ltd. All issues for those parties will be resolved via Protective Provisions (PP) and/or side agreements. A SoCG would not add anything to the ExA's understanding of matters, as the resolution to their relevant representations will come from the agreement of the PPs/Side Agreements. As such, a SoCG would simply report that the matters raised remain 'under discussion', until agreement is reached. The negotiations would not, for example, lead to changes to other certified documents. There would therefore be limited value to the Examination from such SoCGs. The Applicant is confident that agreed PPs and/or Side Agreement with these statutory undertakers' will be resolved before the close of Examination, and it will continue to report on progress on these discussions during Examination in the Land Rights and Negotiations Tracker.

Updated application documentation submitted at Procedural Deadline B

Within the Applicants responses to Relevant Representations, most notably those for the Statutory Bodies, a number of amendments were committed to particularly for the management plans. In addition, the review of material whilst completing the responses identified a few errata which have also been corrected. The following table sets out the documents which are included in the Procedural Deadline B submission. Each of the documents submitted has been provided as a clean and tracked changed version where appropriate.

The Applicant notes that as these changes have been made, it submitted an updated version of its Response to Relevant Representations (Part 1) on [REDACTED] rather than at Procedural Deadline B, to avoid confusion in document referencing.

Document title	Reasons for updates/amendments
01.03 Guide to the application	Updated to reflect Procedural Deadline B document submissions
04.04 Land rights and negotiations tracker – PDF and Excel format provided	Updated to reflect any relevant changes as requested in Rule 6
03.01 draft Development Consent Order (and the Applicant has also submitted a Schedule of Changes to the draft DCO alongside this).	Updates to reflect Response to Relevant Representations Part 1 and consistency checks undertaken by the Applicant.
03.02 Explanatory Memorandum	Updated to account for the changes to DCO
06.03.01.03 ES Appendix 1.3: Commitments Register	Updates to reflect Response to Relevant Representations Part 1 and Part 2
06.03.15.1 ES Appendix 15.1 Flood Risk Assessment	Updates to reflect Response to Relevant Representations Part 1 (Stat RR EA48)
06.03.15.02 ES Appendix 15.2: Water Environment Regulations (WFD) Compliance Assessment	Updates to reflect Response to Relevant Representations Part 1 (Stat RR ID EA10, EA12, EA13, EA15, EA16, EA21 and EA33)
06.03.15.04 ES Appendix 15.4 Outline Drainage Strategy	Updates to reflect Response to Relevant Representations Part 1 from Environment

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Document title	Reasons for updates/amendments
	Agency (Stat RR ID EA10, EA11, EA12, EA25, EA14)
05.06 Design Parameters and Commitments Document	Updates to reflect Response to Relevant Representations Part 1 (including Stat RR ID EA52, CRT-04, CRT-05)
05.11 Shadow Habitats Regulation Assessment	Updates to reflect Response to Relevant Representations Part 1 (Stat RR ID NE1, NE2, NE5 and EA04) Errata identified in S55 Checklist.
07.08 Outline Pollution and Spillage Response Plan	Updates to reflect Response to Relevant Representations Part 1 (Stat RR ID EA19, EA21, EA24, EA42, EA43)
07.14 Outline Soil Resource Management Plan	Updates to reflect Response to Relevant Representations Part 1 (including Stat RR ID NE14)
07.06 Outline Battery Safety Management Plan	Updates to reflect Response to Relevant Representations Part 1 (Stat RR ID EA11, EA12, EA16, EA17, EA25)
07.02 Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan	Updates to reflect Response to Relevant Representations Part 1 (Stat RR ID EA07, EA10, EA13, EA18, EA23, EA24, EA25, EA28, EA30, EA35, EA37, EA38, EA39, EA45, NE3, NE5, CRT-04)
07.03 Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan	Updates to reflect Response to Relevant Representations Part 1 (Stat RR ID EA09, EA10, EA11, EA13, EA23, EA24)
07.04 Outline Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan	Updates to reflect Response to Relevant Representations Part 1 (Stat RR ID EA08, EA10, EA20, EA24, EA41, EA42)
06.02.15.05 Figure 15.5 WER Surface Water Bodies	Updates to reflect Response to Relevant Representations Part 1 – Errata on naming of watercourses.

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Report on the Interrelationships with other nationally significant infrastructure projects (NSIP)

The Applicant notes the request for an Interrelationships Report to be produced as part of the Examination. However, it considers that such a report may be of limited value in the context of this specific Examination. It says this for the following reasons:

There are only two NSIPs which physically intersect with the Order limits of the Proposed Development: Yorkshire Green (EN020024) and Ferrybridge Next Generation Power Station (EN0110011). These interactions are shown on **Figure 17.1 Location of short list cumulative schemes (ES Volume 2 [APP-142])**.

With regard to Yorkshire Green, the construction programme indicates that works are expected to be complete prior to the commencement of construction of the Proposed Development. As such, the potential for interrelationship is anticipated to be minimal. In particular, there is no need to coordinate matters with that project, including in relation to traffic matters or mitigation measures. In respect of any overlap between the projects, this is a matter of asset protection for National Grid Electricity Transmission plc, and will be covered by the Protective Provisions for their benefit in this DCO, and the grid connection arrangements with the Applicant.

The Ferrybridge Next Generation Power Station is expected to have a similar construction programme to the Proposed Development but the physical extent of the overlap is limited to their natural gas connection crossing one of the Applicant's Solar Development Sites. As noted above, the Parties are in negotiations to put in place the necessary legal protections to govern this interaction. The relevant topic chapters of the ES have already considered the potential cumulative effects of the Ferrybridge Project. For the majority of topics, no significant cumulative effects are anticipated. However, some cumulative landscape and visual effects have been identified through the cumulative assessment during the construction phase. This generally doesn't alter the significance of effects beyond those experienced by the Proposed Development on its own aside from one affected PRow. No operational effects from the Ferrybridge project are anticipated at this location as it is an area of buried pipeline and the infrastructure will be largely underground. There are no mitigation measures 'shared' between the Proposed Development and the Ferrybridge development.

A number of other NSIPs have also been identified within the Zone of Influence (ZOI) of the cumulative assessment submitted with the application (ES Volume 1, Chapter 17 Cumulative and in-combination effects [APP-055] and accompanying **ES Volume 1, Appendix 17.1 [APP-189]**).

Where relevant, an assessment of the cumulative effects has been undertaken. NSIPs in the ZOI include:

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- Drax Bioenergy with Carbon Capture and Storage (EN010120) [ID 1] more than 10.7 km east of Solar Development Site (SDS) 4 and 8.9 km from the cable route corridor (CRC) order limits.
- Helios Renewable Energy Project (EN010140) [ID 2] more than 4.5 km southeast of CRC 1-4 order limits, 6 km east of SDS 4.
- Fenwick Solar Farm (EN010152) [ID 3] 8.4 km southeast of CRC 1-4 order limits, 11.7 km east of SDS 4.
- Ferrybridge Multifuel Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) (EN0710002) [ID 4] 3 km southwest of CRC 4-POC order limits and 5 km southwest of SDS 3.
- East Yorkshire Solar Farm (EN010143) [ID 6] 7.6 km southeast of CRC 1-4, 8.6 km southeast of SDS 1.
- Humber Carbon Capture Pipeline (EN0710003) [ID 8] 8.35 km southeast of CRC 1-4 order limits, 11 km east of SDS 4.
- Mylen Leah Solar Farm (EN0110002) [ID 9] 5.2 km east of CRC 1-4 order limits, 5.1 km east of SDS 1.
- Eggborough CCGT (EN010081) [ID 126] 2.7 km southeast of CRC 1-4 and 2.8 km east of SDS 4.

The cumulative assessment notes that cumulative effects are assessed as limited with only some landscape and visual effects likely to be an issue during construction and decommissioning activities. All other potential construction effects would be effectively managed through the construction environmental management plan measures of the various NSIP projects. The only operational effects identified were on a handful of landscape and visual receptors at the start of operation. No other operational effects were identified given the relative distance and/or nature of the cumulative developments. As such, no mitigation measures are 'shared' with these projects, and no further coordination is required with these projects.

It is also noted that traffic from committed developments that would use routes within the Study Area were identified and any additional vehicle trips on those routes were included in an additional scenario (2029 future baseline plus cumulative developments) in the Transport Assessment [APP-178] which considered the cumulative effects of the Proposed Development with other committed and planned developments. That assessment concludes that no likely significant effects arise in traffic terms. As such, there is not an identified need for coordination of traffic movements either.

Since submission of the Proposed Development, two additional NSIPs have been made public: Humberhead Solar (EN0110032) and East Coast Hydrogen Humber Pipeline (EN0710008). Humberhead Solar, is located more than 8 km from the CRC order limits and 9km southeast of SDS 1 and is of a sufficient distance that any potential interaction would be limited, including in respect of landscape and visual effects. East Coast hydrogen is located approximately 2.7km south of Site 4 at the nearest point and more than 3.5km from the nearest CRC order limits. The construction programme for that project is not anticipated to commence until late 2030/ early 2031 at the earliest, so there is likely to be little overlap in construction activities. At operation, the works predominantly

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comprise an underground pipeline with limited above ground works and therefore opportunities for cumulative effects are limited. These are shown on an updated version of Figure 1 “Location of Cumulative Schemes” enclosed with this letter.

In light of the above, the Applicant considers that in respect of the Proposed Development, there is very little ‘Interrelationship’ with other NSIPs – they are all of sufficient distance or have a lack of programme overlap. Furthermore, all relevant matters have been considered in the existing cumulative assessments.

In that context, the Applicant therefore respectfully suggests that a Report on Interrelationships would likely add limited value to the Examination. However, the Applicant is cognisant of such reports being produced in other Examinations, so would welcome discussion at the Preliminary Meeting as to how it can best assist the ExA in providing any additional information that it seeks with regards to its relationship with other NSIPs, in the context set out above.

Advice Provided by the HSE

The Health and Safety Executive advice and the Applicants response to this is summarised in **Consultation Report Appendix 12: Section 42 applicant Response [APP-037]**.

The HSE advice included the following key points:

1. To engage with the relevant operators of gas pipelines where the Proposed Development was crossing the Consultation Zones.
2. Advice in relation to the presence of Hazardous Substances Consent and the HSE role on NSIPs as set out in Advice Note 11 Annex on the Planning Inspectorate’s website - Annex G – The Health and Safety Executive.
3. Explosive sites – no HSE licenced explosives sites in the vicinity of the Proposed Development.
4. No Comments in regard to Electrical Safety.

As set out in the responses within **Consultation Report Appendix 12: Section 42 applicant Response [APP-037]**, the Applicant acknowledges that National Gas Transmission and Northern Gas Networks have assets within the Order Limits and has engaged with both to ensure that their assets are appropriately protected. The details of the land requirements are set out in the updated **Land Rights Negotiations Tracker** included within our Procedural Deadline B submissions. Protective provisions for these parties are included in the **draft DCO** included with the Procedural Deadline B submission. The Applicant is continuing to negotiate the form of these Protective Provisions with these parties and expects to reach resolution on this prior to the end of Examination.

The Applicant can confirm there is unlikely to be any significant effects as a result of interactions between the nearest COMAH site and the Proposed Development. Therefore, an assessment of risk is scoped out of the assessment. The Proposed Development can suitably avoid, manage and mitigate any risk associated with hazardous substances, in accordance with EN-1 and Policy ENV2.



Appendix 1 – Applicants representatives for Preliminary Meeting, Compulsory Acquisition Hearing 1, And Issue Specific Hearing 1

██████████ – **DCO Project Manager, Island Green Power Ltd**

Green Power's Project Manager for the Light Valley Solar project. She is a Project Manager and Chartered Civil Engineer with over 30 years of experience in renewables, infrastructure and property.

██████████ – **Land Manager, Island Green Power Ltd**

Green Power's Land Manager for the Light Valley Solar project. He is a Chartered Surveyor specialising in the renewable energy sector.

██████████ – **Legal Director, Pinsent Masons**

Legal Director at Pinsent Masons and is the Applicant's lead legal representative. ██████████ has been advising on large scale energy and infrastructure projects within the Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project regime since 2014.

██████████ – **Associate Surveyor (MRICS, FAAV)**

██████████ is an Associate Surveyor at Dalcour Maclaren, the consultant land agents acting on behalf of the Applicant, and has led the land agency aspects of the Light Valley Solar project. She has experience of nationally significant projects within the renewable energy sector.

██████████ – **EIA Lead, Arup**

EIA lead for the Light Valley Solar project. She has 20 years' experience in undertaking EIA for a variety of project types, including within the renewable energy sector.

██████████ – **Planning Advisor, Icenl**

Planning advisor for the Light Valley Solar project. ██████████ is a Planning Director with over 20 years of experience in major infrastructure consents strategy and delivery, including within the energy sector.

██████████ – **Site Selection Lead, Aecom**

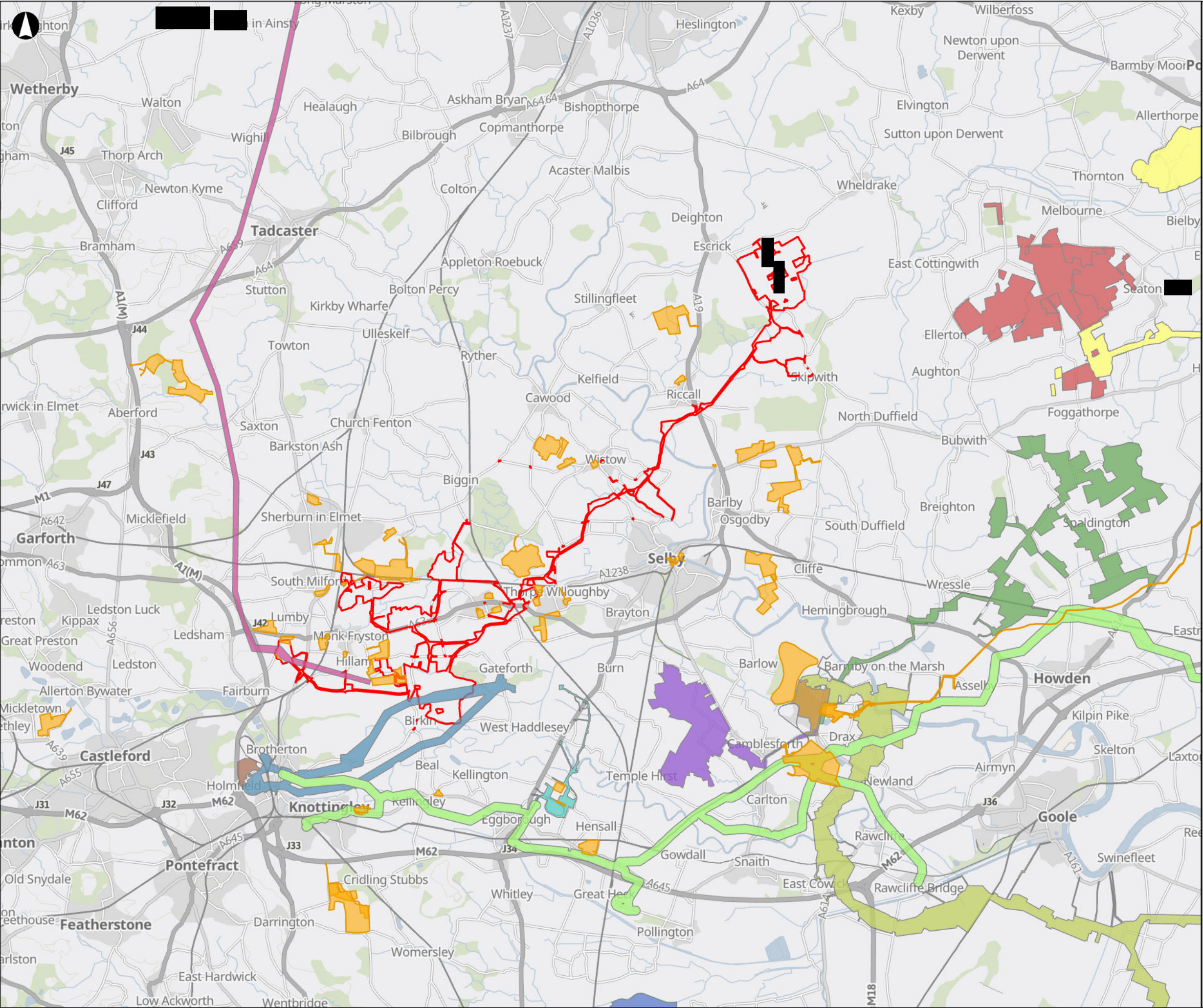
Site Selection lead for the Light Valley Solar project. ██████████ has 30 years' experience in infrastructure planning, specialising in dealing with major and complex schemes in the renewable energy sector.

██████████ – **Needs Case Lead, Humbeat**

Needs Case Lead for the Light Valley Solar project. ██████████ is an experienced power and energy analyst with a deep understanding of the need for energy delivery, including solar projects. He has represented the Applicant across their other solar projects.

A number of additional topic specialists will support ISH1 once the scope of Environmental Matters to be discussed during ISH1 is confirmed by the ExA.





Order Limits

Proposed and Committed Developments - Planning Applications

Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project Order Limits

East Yorkshire Solar Farm Order Limits

Helios Renewable Energy Project

Mylen Solar Farm

Ferrybridge Next Generation Power Station

Yorkshire GREEN

Drax Bioenergy with Carbon Capture and Storage Project

Eggborough CCGT

Fenwick Solar Farm

Ferrybridge Carbon Capture and Storage

Humber Carbon Capture Pipeline

East Coast Hydrogen

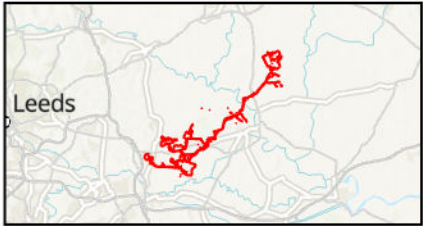
Humberhead Solar

Please Note: This figure should be read in conjunction with ES Figure 17.1 (EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.02.17.01) for details of the non-NSIP proposed and committed developments.

Coordinate System: British National Grid

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Rev	Date	By	Chkd	Appld	Authd

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Drawing Title

Figure 1
Location of Cumulative Schemes

Client

Light Valley Solar Limited

Project Name

Light Valley Solar

Scale at A3

1:125,000

Project Number

302939-00

Rev

P01

Drawing Number

LVS-302939-0007