

Light Valley Solar

Policy Compliance Document

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Light Valley
Solar

Infrastructure Planning

Planning Act 2008

The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009

Light Valley Solar

DCO Submission

Policy Compliance Document

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1 Introduction

Approach to Policy Compliance Document

- 1.1.1 This Policy Compliance Document (PCD) has been prepared to assist the Examining Authority and any other interested parties in their review of the performance of the DCO Application against policy requirements and objectives. It has been prepared with the aims to:
- 1) Demonstrate relevant policies have been properly considered and addressed, and
 - 2) Keep details proportionate by presenting key information only and signposting the reader to where full details are available in the wider DCO Application package.
- 1.1.2 To keep the level of information to a proportionate level, the following principles have been followed in preparing the PCD:
- 1) Policies extracted are referenced to their source. However, not all policies are fully quoted. In order to improve readability of the PCD, shorter summaries of policies may be used, with a focus on the key purpose of that policy relevant to the Proposed Development.
 - 2) Policies which set out a requirement for consultation with stakeholders are not reported in this document. Instead, consultation with relevant bodies is set out in full detail in the submitted Light Valley Solar Consultation Report **[EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01]**, plus consultation with Statutory Engagement Bodies (SEBs) is detailed in the relevant chapters of the Environmental Statement **[EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01]**, and Planning Statement **[EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.02]**.
 - 3) Overviews of approaches to delivery of solar projects, and advice regarding methodological approaches to Environmental Assessments presented in National Policy Statements (NPSs) are not repeated in this PCD.
 - 4) The focus of the PCD is on NPS policies relating directly to the application and how it will be assessed rather than on broader Government Policy position statements.
 - 5) NPSs are the focus of the PCD. To avoid unnecessary duplication of information regarding policies for sustainability, the environment, heritage, the economy and communities, the Applicant has drawn out key policies only from the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and the local plans.
- 1.1.3 Policy documents reviewed in this PCD are as follows:
- 1) National Policy Statement EN-1 (Ref 2);
 - 2) National Policy Statement EN-3 (Ref 3);
 - 3) National Policy Statement EN-5 (Ref 4);

- 4) National Planning Policy Framework (Ref 5);
- 5) Selby District Core Strategy Local Plan (Ref 6);
- 6) Selby District Local Plan (Ref 7);
- 7) North Yorkshire County Council, North York Moors National Park Authority and City of York Council Minerals and Waste Joint Plan (Ref 5); and
- 8) Escrick Neighbourhood Development Plan (Ref 9).

2 National Policy Accordance Tables

National Policy Statement EN-1

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Policy	Policy Text	Assessment	Document Reference
Paragraph 4.1.5 and 4.1.6 Weighing Impacts and Benefits	In considering any proposed development, in particular when weighing its adverse impacts against its benefits, the Secretary of State should take into account its potential benefits and potential adverse impacts. In this context, the Secretary of State should take into account environmental, social and economic benefits and adverse impacts, at national, regional and local levels	The Planning Statement confirms that the Proposed Development is Critical National Priority Infrastructure. The residual adverse effects identified through the EIA process are considered to be outweighed by the need for, and benefits arising from, the Proposed Development,	Planning Statement [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.02] Environmental Statement, Volume 1 [EN110012/APP/LVS/06]
Paragraph 4.1.7 Critical National Priority (CNP) Infrastructure	For projects which qualify as CNP Infrastructure, it is likely that the need case will outweigh the residual effects not capable of being addressed by application of the mitigation hierarchy, in all but the most exceptional cases. This presumption does not apply to residual impacts which present an unacceptable risk to, or interference	The Environmental Statement (ES) and Planning Statement confirm that no residual effects of the Proposed Development have been identified that would result in an unacceptable risk to: human health and public safety; defence; irreplaceable habitats; the achievement of net zero; offshore navigation; or, flood and coastal erosion. Further, there are no residual HRA or MCZ impacts.	Environmental Statement, Volume 1 [EN110012/APP/LVS/06] Planning Statement [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.02]

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	with, human health and public safety, defence, or irreplaceable habitats.		
Paragraph 4.2.24 Mitigation measures and CNP infrastructure	Applicants must apply the mitigation hierarchy and demonstrate that it has been applied. Measures that result in a significant reduction in generation capacity for CNP infrastructure are unlikely to be considered appropriate as mitigation.	The mitigation hierarchy to protect the environment and biodiversity: the process is to avoid, reduce, mitigate, and lastly compensate. The mitigation hierarchy has been followed throughout the project lifecycle to date. Where the EIA predicts a significant adverse effect on one or more receptors, it has been considered whether further mitigation measures could be implemented to avoid or reduce the effect, or reduce the likelihood of it happening. Regarding capacity, the Proposed Development will deliver its grid connection offer of 500MW of renewable electricity, including storage capacity, which takes into account various embedded mitigation measures. Provision has been made for 'overplanting' of the solar PV panel arrays to ensure that the Proposed Development can maximise its clean energy generation potential in light of mitigation measures and life cycle decline.	Planning Statement [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.02] Environmental Statement, Volume 1 [EN110012/APP/LVS/ 06]
Paragraph 4.2.25	Applicants should set out how residual impacts will be compensated for as far as possible.... Set out how	Each ES chapter contains a section on the residual effects of each topic area (e.g. Biodiversity, Traffic and Movement, etc.). The	Outline Construction Environment Management Plan

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Residual impacts and mitigation and compensation	any mitigation or compensation measures will be monitored and reporting agreed to ensure success and that action is taken. Changes to measures may be needed e.g. adaptive management... cumulative impacts of multiple developments with residual impacts should also be considered.	assessment takes into account the baseline conditions, embedded mitigation/good practice measures and additional mitigation. Monitoring is achieved via various management plans (listed in the adjacent column of this table), including for example the Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan; Outline Operational Environment Management Plan; and Outline Decommissioning Environment Management Plan. Cumulative and in-combination effects are addressed in Chapter 17 of the ES.	[EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.02] Outline Operational Environment Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.03] Outline Decommissioning Environment Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.04] Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 17: Cumulative and In-Combination Effects [EN110012/APP/LVS/06.01.17]
Paragraph 4.2.26 HRA derogation	Policy relates to HRA and residual impacts and need for provision of a derogation case if required.	Not applicable.	Shadow Habitats Regulation Assessment [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.11]
Paragraph 4.2.28 Non HRA residual impacts	Non HRA residual impacts – these are unlikely to outweigh the urgent need for this type of infrastructure. Therefore, in all but the most exceptional circumstances, it is unlikely that consent will be refused on the basis of these residual impacts. Exception where: "unacceptable risk to, or unacceptable	The assessment of residual environmental impacts of the Proposed Development demonstrates that there are no 'unacceptable risks to' or 'unacceptable interference with' human health, public safety, defence, irreplaceable habitats, or onshore flood risk.	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 18: Conclusions and summary of environmental effects [EN110012/APP/LVS/06.01.18]

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	interference with, human health and public safety, defence, or irreplaceable habitats."		
Paragraph 4.3.4 Mitigation hierarchy	The applicant must set out information on the likely significant environmental, social and economic effects of the development, and show how any likely significant negative effects would be avoided, reduced, mitigated or compensated for, following the mitigation hierarchy.	The Proposed Development has followed a robust EIA process, which has identified where environmental effects are likely to be 'moderate' or 'major', and therefore 'significant' in EIA terms. The mitigation hierarchy has been followed throughout the project. Where the EIA predicts a significant adverse effect on one or more receptors, it has been considered whether further mitigation measures could be implemented to avoid or reduce the effect, or reduce the likelihood of it happening. Each ES chapter follows a similar structure: identification of baseline conditions, embedded and good practice mitigation measures, assessment of impact, additional mitigation and residual effects. Monitoring and ongoing commitments to mitigation are achieved via various management plans, such as the Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan; Outline Operational Environment Management Plan ; and Outline Decommissioning Environment Management Plan.	Environmental Statement, Volume 1 [EN110012/APP/LVS/ 06] Outline Construction Environment Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.02] Outline Operational Environment Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.03] Outline Decommissioning Environment Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.04]

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Paragraph 4.3.11 Design detail at application stage	In some instances, it may not be possible at the time of the application for development consent for all aspects of the proposal to have been settled in precise detail. Where this is the case, the applicant should explain in its application which elements of the proposal have yet to be finalised, and the reasons why this is the case.	Chapter 2 of the ES: Proposed Development lists aspects of the proposal that still require design flexibility so that the detailed design of the proposal can be best informed by technical considerations, post-consent work, and take advantage of innovation in technology. Design detail that requires flexibility includes solar panel type/specification, Conversion Units and 33 kV Switch Rooms, Battery energy storage systems BESS area and substations; the routing of the cables within the Cable Route Corridor, final electrical design and access arrangements. ES Chapter 2: Proposed Development also confirms that the remainder of the ES has assessed the worst-case effects of the Proposed Development to account for the flexibility sought.	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 2: Proposed Development [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.02]
Paragraphs 4.3.15 and 4.3.22 Reasonable alternatives Paragraph 4.6.17 Environmental Net Gain at part	Applicants are obliged to include information about the reasonable alternatives they have studied in their ES. This should include an indication of the main reasons for the applicant's choice, taking into account the environmental, social and economic effects and including, where relevant, technical and commercial feasibility. The information presented for consideration should be proportionate	Alternatives and the reasons for the Applicant's choice for the project location, the solar development sites (SDS), the cable route corridor (CRC), the Highway Improvement Areas (HIAs) and SDS 8 Access, are addressed to a proportionate level the ES Chapter 3: Alternatives and Design Iteration and described further in the associated Appendix 3.1: Site Selection Assessment Report.	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 3: Alternatives and Design Iteration [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.03] Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 3.1: Site Selection Assessment Report [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.03.01] Design Approach Document (DAD) [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.05]

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of options appraisal	and only alternatives that meet the objectives of the proposed development need to be considered. Where environmental net gain was considered as part of strategic options appraisal, applicants should reference that information.	The Project Objectives are set out in the Applicant's Planning Statement and Design Approach Document (DAD) and referred to in the Site Selection Assessment Report. These set out what the Proposed Development aims to achieve and contextualises the alternatives and design iteration direction. The Proposed Development has also followed an environmentally-led design approach, with biodiversity and nature recovery key Design Principles. The BNG Report sets out that the Proposed Development will deliver biodiversity net gain of 78.30% for habitat units, 72.12% for hedgerow units and 10.42% for watercourse units. The delivery of BNG is secured via DCO Requirement.	Planning Statement [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.02] Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) Report [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.09]
Paragraph 4.4.4 Human health	Where the proposed project has an effect on humans, the ES should assess these effects for each element of the project, identifying any potential adverse health impacts, and identifying measures to avoid, reduce or compensate for these impacts as appropriate	ES Appendix 1.1: EIA Scoping Report details the rationale for scoping out human health from the EIA assessment as a standalone assessment, a decision which was supported by PINS in their Scoping Opinion adopted on 19 December 2024. It should be noted that human health is still considered throughout the ES where relevant, and an Equality Impact Assessment has been submitted with the DCO Application. The assessment of environmental impacts of the Proposed Development demonstrates that	Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 1.1: EIA Scoping Report [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.01.01] Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 18: Conclusions and Summary of Environmental Effects [EN110012/APP/LVS/06.01.18] Planning Statement, Appendix 4: Equality Impact Assessment [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.02.04]

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		there are no 'unacceptable risks to' or 'unacceptable interference with' human health taking account of assessments of noise and vibration, transport, water resources and flood risk, construction dust, electromotive force (EMF) impacts, and battery fire safety.	
Paragraph 4.4.6 Health and well-being	Opportunities should be taken to mitigate indirect impacts by promoting local improvements to encourage health and wellbeing. This includes potential impacts on vulnerable groups within society and impacts on those with protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010 (Ref 10), i.e. those groups which may be differentially impacted by a development compared to wider society as a whole.	An Equality Impact Assessment has been produced, appended to the Planning Statement, which addresses the potential impacts and mitigation measures on those with protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010 (Ref 10).	Planning Statement, Appendix 4: Equality Impact Assessment [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.02.04]
Paragraph 4.6.2 and 4.6.11 Environmental and Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG)	Projects in England should consider and seek to incorporate improvements in natural capital, ecosystem services and the benefits they deliver when planning how to deliver biodiversity net gain. Details of any off-site delivery of BNG to be set out within the application for Development Consent.	Chapter 6 of the ES: Biodiversity, and the Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) Report confirm that a BNG assessment has been completed for the Proposed Development to describe the expected biodiversity change post development. The Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG Report sets out that the Proposed Development will deliver biodiversity net gain of 78.30% for habitat units, 72.12% for hedgerow units and 10.42% for watercourse units. The delivery of BNG is secured via DCO Requirement.	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 6: Biodiversity [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.06] Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) Report [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.09]

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		No off-site delivery of BNG is proposed.	
Paragraph 4.6.13 and 4.6.15 Environmental and Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG)	Developments may also deliver wider environmental gains and benefits to communities relevant to the local area and to national policy priorities. A Statement demonstrating how opportunities for wider net gains have been considered and, where appropriate, incorporated into proposals should be provided.	Each ES chapter contains an assessment summary, which factors in receptors, impact, magnitude and mitigation (if relevant). In these sections areas of benefit are highlighted, such as in ES Chapter 9: Greenhouse Gas Emissions which outlines a beneficial impact arising from the Proposed Development at the global scale, aligning with national policy priorities. The Planning Statement also contains sections on the Project Objectives and a planning balance, weighing up the benefits of the proposal with the potential adverse effects.	Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 9.1: Greenhouse Gas Emissions [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.09.01] Planning Statement [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.02]
Paragraph 4.7.5 to 4.7.7 Design principles	To ensure good design is embedded within the project development, a project board-level design champion could be appointed, and a representative design panel used to maximise the value provided by the infrastructure. Design principles should be set out from the outset to guide development from conception to operation. Applicants should consider how their design principles can be applied post consent.	The Applicant has appointed a Board Level Design Champion to ensure good design is embedded across their portfolio of projects. In addition to the Board Level Design Champion, several members of the design team (with experience in NSIP solar and other infrastructure projects) worked together to drive the design process in line with the Design Vision and Design Principles (as described below) to ensure an integrated multi-disciplinary approach and the delivery of the Project Objectives for the Proposed Development.	Design Approach Document (DAD) [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.05] Design Parameters and Commitments [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.06] Draft Development Consent Order [EN0110012/APP/LVS/03.01]

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	Applicants should apply a sensitive use of materials and embed opportunities for nature inclusive design and demonstrate how the design process was conducted and how it evolved, explaining favoured choices.	The Design Approach Document (DAD) sets out how good design has been embedded into the Proposed Development from the outset of the project, and how it will continue to be achieved through to detailed design, to ensure that the Proposed Development will be a well-designed project and mitigates adverse effects. The DAD presents the core Design Principles that have been used and is supported by a Design Parameters and Commitments document, which sets out how design will be secured by the Draft Development Consent Order.	
Paragraph 4.7.8 Good design	Consider independent professional advice on design aspects.	The Applicant has dedicated significant resource both internally and through appointment of an experienced team of consultants to develop a high-quality design for the Proposed Development. The Applicant appointed an external consultancy, separate from the Applicant's in-house engineering design team, who worked collaboratively with the EIA and Planning teams to progress Design Integration for the Proposed Development. The output is reported in the Design Approach Document (DAD) and secured through the Design Parameters and Commitments.	Design Parameters and Commitments [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.06] Design Approach Document (DAD) [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.05] Consultation Report [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01] Consultation Report Appendix 5: Design Workshop Materials [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01.05]

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		Prior to the commencement of Statutory Consultation on 26 June 2025, the Applicant hosted two in-person Design Workshops and invited delegates including planning, conservation, rights of way, landscape and highways officers from North Yorkshire Council, plus colleagues from relevant statutory bodies, Parish Councils and local special interest groups. The workshops were used to facilitate discussions regarding the emerging Design Principles and draft layouts. The primary aim of the design workshops was to present the emerging design (including the design principles) of the Proposed Development and obtain local insight from community representatives, and statutory consultees, prior to the launch of the statutory consultation.	
Paragraph 4.10.5 Climate change adaptation	To support adaptation, applicants should take reasonable steps to maximise the use of nature-based solutions alongside conventional techniques	Adaptive measures which combine natural and conventional techniques include using a weather-resilient material specification, elevation of flood-sensitive components and operational mitigation are secured through environmental management plans. Battery energy storage systems (BESS) will be located outside of Flood Zones 2 and 3 and will include Heating, Ventilation and Cooling (HVAC) systems to maintain appropriate operating temperatures to mitigate the risk of	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 7: Climate Change Resilience [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.07.00] Outline Construction Environment Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.02] Outline Operational Environment Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.03]

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		overheating and fire. This is secured by the Outline Battery Safety Management Plan	Outline Decommissioning Environment Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.04] Outline Battery Safety Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.06]
Paragraph 4.10.09 to and 4.10.12 Climate change resilience and maximum credible scenario	The ES should set out how the proposal will take account of the projected impacts of climate change, using government guidance and industry standard benchmarks such as the Climate Change Allowances for Flood Risk Assessments, Climate Impacts Tool, and British Standards for climate change adaptation, in accordance with the EIA Regulations. Applicants should assess the impacts on and from their proposed energy project across a range of climate change scenarios, in line with appropriate expert advice and guidance available at the time. A high level of climate resilience should be built-in from the outset and Applicants should demonstrate how	Chapter 7 of the ES covers climate change resilience. UKCP18 climate projection data for Representative Concentration Pathway 8.5 has been used to describe the future baseline. This represents a high emissions and high impact future scenario Embedded mitigation measures include using a weather-resilient material specification, elevation of flood-sensitive components and operational mitigation secured through environmental management plans. No significant residual effects on climate change, following the implementation of embedded mitigation measures, has been found.	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 7: Climate Change Resilience [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.07.00] Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 15: Water Resources and Flood Risk [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.15.00]

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	proposals can be adapted over their predicted lifetimes to remain resilient to a credible maximum climate change scenario. For safety critical elements, apply credible maximum climate change scenario.		
Paragraph 4.11.5 Network connection	The applicant must liaise with National Grid who own and manage the transmission network in England and Wales or the relevant regional DNO or TSO to secure a grid connection.	Through early engagement with the National Grid a point of connection was identified at the National Grid Monk Fryston substation. This substation has available capacity for a utility scale energy project. The existing National Grid Monk Fryston substation is a key connection point in the national 275 kV network in the Humber and North East region and is being upgraded as part of National Grid's Yorkshire Green project.	Grid Connection Statement [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.10]
Paragraphs 4.12.7 and 4.12.8 Environmental permits and consents	Applicants should understand what non-planning permits / consents the development will require and consider the timings for gaining these permissions alongside the timing for gaining the DCO. They should make early contact with relevant regulators, including EA or NRW and the MMO, to discuss their requirements for Environmental Permits and other consents, such as marine licences	The majority of consents required for the delivery of the Proposed Development are included, or addressed, within the Draft DCO, as permitted by various provisions of the PA 2008. Details of other consents and licenses are set out in the submitted Other Consents and Licenses Statement.	Draft Development Consent Order [EN0110012/APP/LVS/03.01] Other Consents and Licenses Statement [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.04]

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	Wherever appropriate, applicants should submit applications for Environmental Permits and other necessary consents at the same time as applying to the Secretary of State for development consent.		
Paragraph 4.13.6 Safety and COMAH regulations	Applicants seeking to develop infrastructure subject to the COMAH regulations should make early contact with the Competent Authority.	Through consultation, the HSE has advised on potential interfaces with Control of Major Accident Hazards (COMAH) consultation zones related to gas networks. The Applicant is engaging with National Gas Transmission PLC and Northern Gas Networks Limited to agree protective provisions to manage the interface between the assets and protect each statutory undertakers' infrastructure.	Planning Statement [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.02]
Section 4.14.5 and 4.14.6 Hazardous substances	Applicants must consult the Hazardous Substances Authority (HSA) and Health and Safety Executive (HSE) at pre-application stage. Applicants must consult the LPA at pre-application stage to identify whether its proposed site is within the consultation distance of any site with hazardous substances.	HSA: Fire - no significant effects associated with battery fires or other electrical fires are likely and so further assessment of the risk and effects of fires is scoped out of the ES. An Outline Battery Fire Safety Management Plan is submitted as a part of the Application. Utilities - good practice measures are included to protect against any interference with below ground utilities during construction, operation and decommissioning in the various management plans (including relevant Protective Provisions within the DCO). Unexploded ordnance (UXO) – the Proposed Development is low risk for presence of	Light Valley Solar EIA Scoping Report [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.01.01] Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.02] Outline Battery Fire Safety Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.06]

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		unexploded ordnance (UXO). Appropriate best practice and mitigation measures will be in place via the Construction Environment Management Plan. HSE: There is unlikely to be any significant effects as a result of interactions between the nearest COMAH site and the Proposed Development. Therefore, further assessment of the risk and effects from COMAH sites was scoped out of the ES. Through consultation, the HSE has advised on potential interfaces with COMAH consultation zones related to gas networks. The Applicant is engaging with National Gas Transmission PLC and Northern Gas Networks Limited to agree protective provisions to manage the interface between the assets and protect each statutory undertakers' infrastructure.	
Paragraph 4.15.5 Nuisance	At the application stage of an energy NSIP, possible sources of nuisance under section 79(1) of the EPA 1990 and how they may be mitigated or limited should be identified by the applicant so that appropriate requirements can be included in any subsequent order granting development consent.	A Statutory Nuisance Statement is submitted with this application covering matters relating to noise, vibration, lighting, odours, dust and air quality. It concludes that the construction, operation and decommissioning phases of the Proposed Development would not cause a nuisance.	Statutory Nuisance Statement [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.07]
Paragraph 4.16.6 Security	Where national security implications have been identified, the applicant should consult with relevant security	No national security implications have been identified.	NA

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	experts from NPSA, ONR (for civil nuclear) and/or DESNZ to ensure security measures have been adequately considered in the design process and that adequate consideration has been given to the management of security risks.		
Paragraphs 5.2.8 to 5.2.14 Air quality and emissions	Where the project is likely to have adverse effects on air quality the applicant should undertake an assessment of the impacts of the proposed project as part of the ES. The ES should describe existing air quality concentrations and the relative change in air quality, any significant air quality effects, mitigation action taken and any residual effects, the predicted absolute emissions, concentration change and absolute concentrations as a result of the proposed project, and any eutrophication impacts. Applicants should consider the Environment Targets (Fine Particulate Matter) (England) Regulations 2023 and associated Defra	A full air quality assessment has been scoped out and only construction dust has been considered in the ES. Appendix 16.1 Construction Dust Assessment of the ES includes a summary of methods used to consider and assess the potential impacts, any likely effects and where necessary, recommended mitigation. The Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan and Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan also includes details on how best practice methods will be put in place to manage dust effects on air quality, such as avoiding idling vehicles when not in use.	Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 16.1: Construction Dust Assessment [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.16.01] Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.02] Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.12]

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	Guidance. The applicant's assessment should be consistent with this but may include more detailed modelling and evaluation to demonstrate local and national impacts. The applicant should work with the relevant authorities to secure appropriate mitigation measures to ensure that those statutory limits, objectives or targets are not breached A construction management plan may help codify mitigation The mitigations identified in Section 5.14 on traffic and transport impacts will help mitigate the effects of air emissions from transport.		
Paragraphs 5.3.5 and 5.3.7 Green House Gas emissions	Applicants should look for opportunities within the proposed development to embed nature-based or technological solutions to mitigate or offset the emissions of construction and decommissioning. Steps taken to minimise and offset emissions should be set out in a GHG	Chapter 9: Greenhouse Gas Emissions (ES Volume 1) assesses the likely significant effects arising from GHG and makes reference to additional relevant legislation in Table 9.2 therein. The baseline scenario is the "Do-Minimum" which comprises the cumulative GHG emissions within the Study Area without the Proposed Development. During the operation phase, impact is concluded to be	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 9: Greenhouse Gas Emissions [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.09.00] Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Chapter 9: Greenhouse Gas Emissions Assessment [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.09.01]

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	Reduction Strategy. The Strategy should consider the creation and preservation of carbon stores and sinks including through woodland creation, hedgerow creation and restoration, peatland restoration and through other natural habitats.	beneficial and significant, due to implementation of good practice but also the active generation of low carbon electricity. It is also noted that in terms of cumulative impacts, the receptor, unlike other aspects of the proposal, is the global climate, and so a cumulative assessment is considered inappropriate. The Outline Construction Environment Management Plan, Outline Operational Environment Management Plan and Outline Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan contain information on how emissions will be mitigated and offset, such as the encouragement of using low carbon modes of transport and regular maintenance of gear to optimise efficiency.	Outline Construction Environment Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.02] Outline Operational Environment Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.03] Outline Decommissioning Environment Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.04]
Paragraphs 5.4.18, 5.4.20 to 5.4.23 Biodiversity and Geological interests	Where the development is subject to EIA, the applicant should ensure that the ES clearly sets out any effects on internationally, nationally, and locally designated sites of ecological or geological conservation importance (including those outside England and Wales), on protected species and on habitats and other species identified as being of	Chapter 6 of the ES: Biodiversity identifies and assesses the relevant designated sites and states that identified wildlife commuting corridors have been kept free of fencing where possible (shown on the Outline Environmental Masterplan). The Biodiversity Net Gain Report sets out how the proposal will deliver biodiversity net gain across the Proposed Development. Embedded mitigation measures will be employed through an Outline Construction	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 6: Biodiversity [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.06.00] Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) Report [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.09] Outline Environmental Masterplan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/02.12] Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.02]

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	principal importance for the conservation of biodiversity, including irreplaceable habitats The applicant should show how the project has taken advantage of opportunities to conserve and enhance biodiversity and geological conservation interests. Applicants should consider wider ecosystem services and benefits of natural capital when designing enhancement measures. The design process should embed opportunities for nature inclusive design. Consider the movement of mobile/migratory species such as birds, fish and marine and terrestrial mammals and their potential to interact with infrastructure.	Environmental Management Plan such as reducing the risk of artificial lighting on species, such as the use of sensor-triggered lighting. The Outline Landscape and Environmental Management Plan details the range of buffers that will be implemented from habitats. The Proposed Development is located in various Mineral Safeguarding Areas across its area. The Mineral Assessment reports that the Proposed Development's construction and operational works will locally sterilise mineral resources temporarily. Following decommissioning of the development, future extraction of any mineral will not be restricted. As the area occupied by the site is small in comparison to the overall resource, it is concluded that the need for the Proposed Development is considered to outweigh the need to safeguard the mineral in the temporary case.	Outline Landscape and Environmental Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.05] Planning Statement, Appendix C, Minerals Assessment [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.02.03].
Paragraphs 5.4.33 t 5.4.35 Habitats	Applicants should include measures to mitigate fully the direct and indirect effects of development on ancient woodland, ancient and veteran trees or other irreplaceable habitats during both construction and operational phases	A shadow Habitats Regulation Assessment has been undertaken to determine if the Proposed Development is likely to have a Likely Significant Effect or adverse effect on any designated site. The methodology adopted for the HRA follows the approach set out in the PINS' advice	Shadow Habitats Regulation Assessment [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.11] Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 6: Biodiversity [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.06.00]

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	Applicants should consider any reasonable opportunities to maximise the restoration, creation, and enhancement of wider biodiversity, and the protection and restoration of the ability of habitats to store or sequester carbon. Consideration should be given to improvements to, and impacts on, habitats and species in, around and beyond developments, for wider ecosystem services and natural capital benefits, beyond those under protection and identified as being of principal importance.	Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: Advice on Habitats Regulations Assessments (2024). Section 37 of the Assessment outlines how secured mitigation measures will not result in an adverse effect on site integrity of the Lower Derwent Valley SPA/Ramsar, Humber Estuary SPA/Ramsar or Humber Estuary SAC. The Proposed Development has also been carefully designed to avoid loss of irreplaceable habitats, including ancient woodland and veteran trees, as per the findings of the Arboricultural Impact Assessment. A BNG assessment has been completed for the Proposed Development to describe the expected biodiversity change post development. Methods for enhancement and monitoring of biodiversity are secured in the Outline Landscape and Environmental Management Plan and Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan.	Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) Report [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.09] Outline Operational Environment Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.03] Outline Landscape and Environmental Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.05] Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Arboricultural Impact Assessment [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.16.02]
Paragraph 5.4.37 Biodiversity Management Strategy	Applicants should produce and implement a Biodiversity Management Strategy as part of their development proposals.	The Outline Construction, Operational, Decommissioning and Landscape and Ecological Management Plans make provisions for Biodiversity Management.	Outline Construction Environment Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.02] Outline Operational Environment Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.03]

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			Outline Decommissioning Environment Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.04] Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.05]
Paragraph 5.4.38 Cooling systems and ecology	In the design of any direct cooling system the locations of the intake and outfall should be sited to avoid or minimise adverse impacts on the receiving waters, including their ecology.	A Water Resource Assessment (WRA) has been prepared which covers the potential sources of water. The WRA includes calculations of water requirements (including dust suppression, HDD, wheel washing and BESS cooling) and potential sources of water. Both mains water supply and repurposing of existing licensed abstractions were investigated as part of this piece of work. Standard pollution prevention measures are outlined in the Outline Environmental Management Plans including the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan.	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 15: Water Resources and Flood Risk [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.15.00] Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 15.4: Water Resource Assessment [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.15.04] Outline Construction Environment Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.02] Outline Operational Environment Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.03] Outline Decommissioning Environment Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.04]

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			Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.05]
Paragraph 5.4.39 Geodiversity	To further minimise any adverse impacts on geodiversity, where appropriate applicants are encouraged to produce and implement a Geodiversity Management Strategy to preserve and enhance access to geological interest features, as part of relevant development proposals.	No geological Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) or locally designated geodiversity sites have been identified within the Order Limits, or within 250mm therefore it was not appropriate to prepare a Geodiversity Management Strategy.	NA
Section 5.5.38 – 5.5.43 Civil and Military Aviation and Defence	Where the proposed development may affect the performance of civil or military aviation activities including: communication, navigation, and surveillance (CNS) / meteorological radars / generation of weather warnings and forecasts / Instrument Flight Procedures / flight patterns / aerodrome operational procedures / bird strike / building turbulence / thermal plume turbulence / electro-magnetic and electrical noise interference - an assessment of potential effects should be set out in the ES. The requirement for ATC (Advanced Conversion Technologies) and non-cooperative surveillance	NPS EN-1 policies regarding navigation and civil/military aviation relate principally to onshore and offshore wind, and plume associated with thermal cooling. NPS EN-3 does not identify CNS, meteorological radars and or other defence assets as technical considerations for solar energy development. EN-3 does point to glint and glare only and requires applicants to map receptors qualitatively to identify potential issues and determine if an assessment is necessary. The Applicant has commissioned a Glint and Glare study. The study considered potential effects on the following aviation facilities: Leeds East Airport, Sherburn-In-Elmet Airfield, Burn Airfield, Redmoor Farm Airfield, Gilrudding Grange Airfield, Bridge Cottage Airfield, Elvington Airfield, Birchwood Lodge	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 16: Other Environmental Matters [EN110012/APP/LVS/ 06.01.16.00] Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 16.04: Glint and Glare Assessment [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.16.04] Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 16.04: Glint and Glare Assessment, Annex H Glint and Glare and Aviation [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.16.04.01] Outline Operational Environment Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.03]

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	(radar/tracking technologies) forms part of the environmental baseline for proposed developments.	Airfield, Acaster Malbis Airfield, Garforth Airfield, Cliffe Airfield, Brighton Airfield, and Melrose Farm Airfield.	Outline Construction Environment Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.02].
Paragraph 5.7.5 Insect infestation and emissions	The applicant should assess the potential for insect infestation and emissions of odour, dust, steam, smoke, and artificial light to have a detrimental impact on amenity, as part of the ES	The Proposed Development is not anticipated to cause any effects from insect infection, steam, or other effluvia. A Construction Dust Assessment has been prepared and has informed the Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan. In the context of the BESS, an Outline Battery Safety Management Plan has been prepared. For lighting, embedded mitigation measures will be employed through an Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan such as the use of sensor-triggered lighting that is not always on. During construction, lighting will utilise directional fittings to minimise outward light spill and glare.	Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 16.1: Construction Dust Assessment [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.16.01] Outline Construction Environment Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.02] Outline Battery Safety Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.06]
Paragraph 5.8.36 Flood Risk	In determining an application for development consent, the Secretary of State should be satisfied that where relevant that the application is supported by a Flood Risk Assessment (FRA), the Sequential Test, and if required, the Exception	Chapter 15 of the ES and the Site Selection Assessment Report sets out how flood risk has been considered at the site selection stage, including consideration of the Sequential Test.	Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 15.4: Water Resource Assessment [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.15.04] Outline Construction Environment Management Plan

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	Test has been applied, the proposal is in line with national and local flood risk management strategies, sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) will be used, the project will be safe (including escape routes) and not increase flood risk elsewhere, and land safeguarded for future flood risk management infrastructure is safeguarded.	An FRA and Drainage Strategy have been submitted with the application, appended to Chapter 15 of the ES. The FRA includes details of the site-specific Sequential Test and Exceptions Test. Further details on the Sequential Test and Exceptions Test are considered in the submitted Planning Statement. Chapter 15 sets out that any required mitigation required (embedded and good practice) will be secured through the Outline Construction Environment Management Plan, the Outline Operational Environment Management Plan and the Outline Decommissioning Environment Management Plan.	[EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.02] Outline Operational Environment Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.03] Outline Decommissioning Environment Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.04] Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 3.1: Site Selection Report [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.03.01] Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 15.1a: Flood Risk Assessment [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.15.01a] Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 15.1a: Drainage Strategy [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.15.01a] Planning Statement [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.02]
Paragraph 5.8.37 Drainage	The Secretary of State will need to be satisfied that the proposed drainage system complies with any National Standards published by Ministers under paragraph 5(1) of Schedule 3 to	All receptors that are potentially in hydraulic continuity with the Proposed Development have been included in the ES (such as downstream receptors and wider flood risk areas). All associated documents including Appendix 15.1: Flooding Risk	Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 3.1: Site Selection Assessment Report [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.03.01]

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	the Flood and Water Management Act 2010.	Assessment including an outline Drainage Strategy and a Water Framework Directive Compliance Assessment have used the same Study Area. These assessments have been carried out with regard to the Flood and Water Management Act 2010.	Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 15.1: Flood Risk Assessment [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.15.01] Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 15.2: Water Environment Regulations (Water Framework Directive) Compliance Assessment [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.15.02] Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 15.4: Outline Drainage Strategy [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.15.04]
Paragraph 5.8.39 Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS)	The Secretary of State should be satisfied that the most appropriate body is being given the responsibility for maintaining any SuDS, taking into account the nature and security of the infrastructure on the proposed site.	A detailed SuDS Maintenance Plan will be provided during subsequent stages of design for the Proposed Development. This will cover the various SuDS elements that are ultimately proposed (e.g infiltration basins, swales, etc) alongside the recommended inspection and maintenance requirements. Commitment C53 provides for regular monitoring and inspection of drainage systems, materials and structures to identify signs of deterioration with additional checks after extreme weather events.	Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 15.4: Outline Drainage Strategy [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.15.04] Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 1.3: Commitments Register [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.01.03]
Paragraph 5.9.19 Historic Environment	Where the loss of significance of any heritage asset has been justified by the applicant on the merits of the new development and the significance of the asset in question, the Secretary of	No designated heritage asset will experience loss of significance as a result of the Proposed Development.	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 8: Cultural Heritage [EN0110012/APP/LVS/ 06.01.08.00]

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	State should consider imposing a requirement and requiring the applicant to enter into an obligation that will prevent the loss occurring until the relevant part of the development has commenced, or it is reasonably certain that the relevant part of the development is to proceed.		
Paragraph 5.9.29 Historic Environment	The Secretary of State should give considerable importance and weight to the desirability of preserving all heritage assets.	Chapter 8 of the ES: Cultural Heritage, supported by geophysical surveys, archaeological evaluations and Statements of Significance and Impact Assessments, identifies and assesses the historic environment, such as heritage assets, archaeological remains, Important Hedgerows, as well as other heritage assets beyond the order limits (including views). Where effects on the buried archaeological resource could occur, mitigation is set out within the Archaeological Mitigation Strategy.	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 8: Cultural Heritage [EN0110012/APP/06.01.08] Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 8.3: Geophysical surveys [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.08.03] Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 8.4: Trial Trenching Reports [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.08.04]. Statements of Significance and Impact Assessments [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.08.05] Archaeological Mitigation Strategy [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.11] Tree Preservation Order and Hedgerow Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/02.10]
Paragraph 5.10.19	The applicant should consider landscape and visual matters in the early stages of siting and design,	The Design Approach Document (DAD) sets out that one of the Project Objectives for the Proposed Development is to deliver on its	Design Approach Document (DAD) [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.05]

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Landscape and Visual	where site choices and design principles are being established. This will allow the applicant to demonstrate in the ES how negative effects have been minimised and opportunities for creating positive benefits or enhancement have been recognised and incorporated into the design, delivery and operation of the scheme.	environmental mitigation requirements and deliver community benefits. This includes ensuring the Proposed Development is sensitive to the landscape, which has fed into the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Methodology. The Design Parameters and Commitments Document secures how the landscape will be protected, such as applying subdued, non-reflective finishes for the BESS enclosures. Chapter 10 of the ES: Landscape and Visual contains a landscape and visual assessment supported by a Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Methodology, a Landscape Baseline and Effects document and a Visual Baseline and Effects document.	Design Parameters and Commitments Document [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.05.01] Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.10.00] Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 10.1: Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Methodology [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.10.01] Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 10.2: Landscape Baseline and Effects [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.10.02] Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 10.3: Visual Baseline and Effects [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.10.03]
Paragraph 5.10.21 Landscape and Visual	The assessment should include the visibility and conspicuousness of the project during construction and of the presence and operation of the project and potential impacts on views and visual amenity. This should include light pollution effects, including on dark skies, local amenity and nature conservation.	Chapter 10 of the ES: Landscape and Visual contains a landscape and visual assessment supported by a Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Methodology, a Landscape Baseline and Effects document and a Visual Baseline and Effects document, which all address aspects such as light pollution, local amenity and ecology. The methodology document references how the night time baseline has taken into account England's Light Pollution and Dark Skies map published	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.10.00] Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 10.1: Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Methodology [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.10.01] Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 10.2: Landscape Baseline and Effects [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.10.02]

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		by CPRE: The Countryside Charity. Mitigation measures include sensor-triggered lighting. Impacts are considered across the construction, operation and decommissioning phases, as well as the cumulative effects. The latter has been assessed with regard to ES Chapter 17: Cumulative and In-Combination Effects. Cumulative impacts have been assessed with regard to the solar development sites, Public Right of Way (PRoW), transitional viewpoints and landscape designations.	Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 10.3: Visual Baseline and Effects [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.10.03] Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 17: Cumulative and In-Combination Effects [EN0110012/APP/06.01.17.00]
Paragraph 5.10.24 Landscape and Visual	Applicants should consider how landscapes can be enhanced using landscape management plans, as this will help to enhance environmental assets where they contribute to landscape and townscape quality.	An Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan is submitted with this application which secures measures such as natural screening of the Proposed Development.	Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.05]
Paragraph 5.10.30 Landscape and Visual	The Secretary of State should be satisfied that local authorities will have sufficient design content secured to ensure future consenting will meet landscape, visual and good design objectives.	Sufficient information is provided in the Design Approach Document, the Design Parameters and Commitments Document, ES Chapter 2: The Proposed Development, 10: Landscape and Visual, and 17: Cumulative and In-Combination Effects. These set out how the Proposed Development was designed to a clear framework and how it will meet landscape, visual and good design objectives.	Design Approach Document (DAD) [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.05] Design Parameters and Commitments Document [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.05.01] Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 2: Proposed Development [EN0110012/APP/06.01.02]

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		These can be further assured with adherence to the various management plans submitted, such as the Outline Landscape and Environmental Management Plan.	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.10.00] Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 17: Cumulative and In-Combination Effects [EN0110012/APP/06.01.17] Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.05]
Paragraph 5.11.6 and 5.11.24 Open Space – connecting communities	The government's policy is to ensure there is adequate provision of high quality open space and sports and recreation facilities to meet the needs of local communities. Connecting people with open spaces, sports and recreational facilities all help to underpin people's quality of life and have a vital role to play in promoting healthy living. Where affecting green infrastructure, the Secretary of State should consider imposing requirements to ensure the functionality and connectivity of the green infrastructure network is maintained in the vicinity of the development	Permissive paths are also proposed across the Solar Development Sites including SDS1, SDS4 and SDS6. Further details regarding potential routes are shown in the Outline Environmental Masterplan and details set out in the Outline Public Rights of Way Management Plan. A key design aspect to help mitigate the impact of the Proposed Development is the inclusion of a minimum 15 m offset from all infrastructure, including fencing, to PRowS. This will provide areas of screening and soften the appearance of the proposed development.	Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.05] Outline Environmental Masterplan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/02.12] Outline Public Rights of Way Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.09]

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Paragraph 5.11.32 Development on open space, sports and recreational buildings and land	The SoS should not grant consent for development on existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land. In the case of the Proposed Development	No permanent works will affect such land uses and therefore no independent assessment to demonstrate such uses are surplus to requirements is necessary. Any temporary impacts (three Village Greens in the Highway Improvement Areas) relate to temporary road widening, temporary removal of street furniture (where necessary) and vegetation management.	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 13: Socio Economics [EN0110012/APP/06.01.17] Planning Statement [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.02]
Paragraph 5.11.12 to 5.11.13 and 5.11.34 Agricultural Land	Applicants should seek to minimise impacts on the best and most versatile agricultural land (defined as land in grades 1, 2 and 3a of the Agricultural Land Classification) and preferably use land in areas of poorer quality (grades 3b, 4 and 5). Applicants should also identify any effects and seek to minimise impacts on soil health and protect and improve soil quality taking into account any mitigation measures proposed. The Secretary of State should ensure that applicants do not site their scheme on the best and most versatile agricultural land without justification. Where schemes are to be sited on best and most versatile agricultural land the Secretary of State should take into account the	ES Chapter 3: Alternatives and Design Iteration and the Site Selection Assessment Report explains the stages undertaken in site selection, which included an early consideration of the likely presence of best and most versatile ('BMV') land. It was found that it was possible to use only previously developed land, due to the need to use land within a technically feasible and commercially viable proximity to the available grid. The BMV land required for the Proposed Development represents approximately 1% of the likely BMV land in Selby District and 0.09% of the likely BMV land in North Yorkshire. The submitted Outline Soil Resources Management Plan details commitments to mitigating impacts to soil resources. This refers to good practice measures to minimise damage to soils that remain in place and those that are stripped, stockpiled and reinstated;	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 3: Alternatives [EN110012/APP/LVS/06.01.03] Site Selection Assessment Report [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.01] Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 5: Agricultural Land and Soils [EN110012/APP/LVS/06.01.05] Outline Soil Resources Management Plan [EN110012/APP/LVS/07.14]

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	economic and other benefits of that land. Where development of agricultural land is demonstrated to be necessary, areas of poorer quality land should be preferred to those of a higher quality.	minimise soil carbon losses; maintain water infiltration; and enhance soil biodiversity.	
Paragraph 5.11.19 and 5.11.28 Minerals	Applicants should safeguard any mineral resources on the proposed site as far as possible, taking into account the long-term potential of the land use after any future decommissioning has taken place. Where a proposed development has an impact upon a Mineral Safeguarding Area (MSA), the Secretary of State should ensure that appropriate mitigation measures have been put in place to safeguard mineral resources.	The Proposed Development is located in various Mineral Safeguarding Areas across its area. The Mineral Assessment reports that the Proposed Development's construction and operational works will locally sterilise mineral resources temporarily. Following decommissioning of the development, future extraction of any mineral will not be restricted. As the area occupied by the site is small in comparison to the overall resource, the need for the Proposed Development is considered to outweigh the need to safeguard the mineral in the temporary case.	Planning Statement, Appendix C, Minerals Assessment [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.02.03].
Paragraph 5.11.20 and 5.11.36 to 5.11.37 Green Belt	There is a general presumption against inappropriate development within the Green Belt. Such development should not be approved except in very special circumstances. Applicants should therefore determine whether their proposal, or any part of it, is within an established Green Belt and, if it is, whether their proposal may be inappropriate development	Table 7-3 of the Planning Statement identifies which components of the Proposed Development are located within Green Belt land. In December 2024, the government made a significant change to Green Belt policy with the introduction of the grey belt. This has been retained in the newly published NPPF August 2026. Appendix 2 of the Planning Statement summarises why the Proposed Development	Planning Statement [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.02] Planning Statement Appendix 2 Grey Belt Assessment [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.02.02]

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	within the meaning of Green Belt policy. The Secretary of State should ensure that substantial weight is given to any harm to the Green Belt when considering any application for such development, while taking account, in relation to renewable and linear infrastructure, of the extent to which its physical characteristics are such that it has limited or no impact on the fundamental purposes of Green Belt designation. Very special circumstances may include the wider environmental benefits associated with increased production of energy from renewables and other low carbon sources.	is located on grey belt land, and the reasons why it is not inappropriate development within the Green Belt.	
Paragraph 5.11.27 Trees and Woodlands	Existing trees and woodlands should be retained wherever possible.	Some localised loss of treelines within the Cable Route Corridor will be required to facilitate visibility splays, Cable Route Corridor accesses and working areas, but these will be reinstated and the proposal will adhere to the BNG outcomes set out in the Biodiversity Net Gain Report The Arboriculture Impact Assessment states that a number of scattered trees, treelines and two/three trees within a woodland copse	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 6: Biodiversity [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.06.00] Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Appendix 16.2, Arboriculture Impact Assessment [EN110012/APP/LVS/06.03.16.02] Outline Environmental Masterplan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/02.12]

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		require removal to facilitate development. Any loss will be compensated as illustrated in the Outline Environmental Masterplan.	Outline Landscape and Ecological Mitigation Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.05] Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) Report [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.09]
Paragraph 5.11.30 Public Rights of Way	The Secretary of State should expect applicants to take appropriate mitigation measures to address adverse effects on coastal access, National Trails, other rights of way and open access land and, where appropriate, to consider what opportunities there may be to improve or create new access. In considering revisions to an existing right of way, consideration should be given to the use, character, attractiveness, and convenience of the right of way.	A key design aspect to help mitigate the impact of the Proposed Development is the inclusion of a minimum 15 m offset from all infrastructure, including fencing, to PRowWs. This will provide areas of screening and soften the appearance of the proposed development. Information and locations of PRowWs is presented in the Outline Environmental Masterplan and Outline Public Rights of Way Management Plan. During construction, local management and/or short- term, temporary closures of some PRowW is anticipated. Where the PRowW runs directly through the Proposed Development, bespoke mitigation will be required as outlined in the Outline Public Rights of Way Management Plan.	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual Assessment [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.10] Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 13: Socioeconomics [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.13] Outline Public Rights of Way Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.09] Outline Environmental Masterplan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/02.12]
Paragraph 5.12.17 Noise and Vibration	The Secretary of State should not grant development consent unless they are satisfied that the proposals will meet the following aims, through the effective management and control	The noise environment of this area is relatively quiet, typical of a rural area. Various design choices have been implemented to minimise operational noise impacts and these are outlined in the Design Approach Document	Design Approach Document (DAD) [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.05] Design Parameters and Commitments [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.06]

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	of noise: avoid significant adverse impacts on health and quality of life from noise; mitigate and minimise other adverse impacts on health and quality of life from noise; and where possible, contribute to improvements to health and quality of life through the effective management and control of noise.	(DAD) and the Design Parameters and Commitments document. ES Chapter 11: Noise and Vibration also provides an assessment of construction noise and vibration; construction traffic noise; operational noise from stationary sources; operational road traffic noise and maintenance and replacement activity noise. No significant impacts have been identified by the assessment.	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 11: Noise and Vibration [EN0110012.APP/LVS/06.01.11]
Paragraph 5.13.9 Socio-Economic Impacts	The Secretary of State should have regard to the potential socio-economic impacts of new energy infrastructure identified by the applicant and from any other sources that the Secretary of State considers to be both relevant and important to its decision.	The construction period is anticipated to take up to 36 months and is expected to deliver minor beneficial (not significant) effects. Impact on the Private Rented Sector (PRS) and hotel accommodation, using a worst-case assumption that 50% of workers would be drawn from the local area, meaning 50% (estimated 231 workers) would require temporary housing. The socioeconomic assessment concludes that the adverse effect on the PRS and hotel accommodation is considered to be minor adverse and not significant, when a mixed accommodation strategy (i.e. PRS and hotel) is applied. Four business receptors (Birkin Fisheries, Birkin Fisheries Tea Room, Gascoigne Wood	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 13: Socioeconomics [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.13] Socioeconomic Receptors Impact Assessment [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.13.01] Outline Construction Environment Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.02] Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.05]

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		Fishery and Fairfield Equine) have been identified through the assessment as having potential to experience significant socioeconomic impacts due to their proximity to the construction works. However, where additional mitigation (such as limits placed on construction and traffic related noise and disruption) has been committed to during the construction phase (and secured through the oCEMP), it is concluded that the residual effects would reduce and not be significant. In relation to community facilities, recreation and PRowS, no public open spaces will be lost and only temporary disruption to three Village Greens to accommodate transit of Abnormal Indivisible Loads is identified. The creation of new permissive paths to improve local connectivity is secured through the oLEMP. These new routes provide an opportunity to create an enhanced and better-connected network of recreational routes within the local area, adding to the existing PRow network and providing increased opportunity for recreation in the areas surrounding the Proposed Development	
Paragraph 5.13.12	The Secretary of State may wish to include a requirement that specifies the approval by the local authority of an employment and skills plan	An Outline Skills, Supply Chain and Employment Plan has been submitted with the DCO Application and is secured via a requirement of the Draft DCO.	Outline Skills, Supply Chain and Employment Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.13]

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Socio-Economic Impacts	detailing arrangements to promote local employment and skills development opportunities, including apprenticeships, education, engagement with local schools and colleges and training programmes to be enacted.		
Paragraph 5.14.8 Traffic and Transport	The applicant should prepare a travel plan adopting a vision-led approach to identify demand management and monitoring and fall-back measures that proactively mitigate transport impacts	A Travel Plan has not been developed for the Proposed Development. The rural nature of the area and the planned shift patterns (early starts) means that the majority of construction workers will rely on a vehicle to get to site. Details regarding managing trips, parking, travel options and decarbonisation will be managed through the Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan.	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN110012/APP/LVS/ 06.01.14] Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.12]
Paragraph 5.14.22 Traffic and Transport	The Secretary of State should only consider refusing development on highways grounds if there would be an unacceptable impact on highway safety, residual cumulative impacts on the road network would be severe, or it does not show how consideration has been given to the provision of adequate active public or shared transport access and provision.	Possible disruption to roads has been assessed in the ES with regard to other proposed developments (cumulative assessment). In the event the Gascoigne Wood Power Plan (2021/1531/EIA) development were to overlap with the Proposed Development, driver delays have been identified if plans to improve the A63/162 roundabout are not implemented. However, this impact can be mitigated through use of alternative routes and avoiding peak hours to access the strategic network. The planned investment in the A63/162 roundabout has been discussed with North Yorkshire Council	Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.12]

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		Highways. The Proposed Development does not trigger a requirement for a contribution to this infrastructure highway investment. Measures to mitigate impacts are detailed in the Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan .	
Paragraph 5.15.2, 5.15.6 and 5.15.14 Resource and Waste Management	Sustainable waste management is implemented through the waste hierarchy, which sets out the priorities that must be applied when managing waste. These are (in order): prevention, preparing for reuse, recycling, other recover, including energy recovery, and disposal. Applicants must ensure that all proposals align with circular economy objectives. Any such waste will be properly managed, both on-site and off-site. The waste from the proposed facility can be dealt with appropriately by the waste infrastructure which is, or is likely to be, available. Such waste arisings should not have an adverse effect on the capacity of existing waste management facilities to deal with other waste arisings in the area.	A Site Waste Management Plan (SWMP) will be prepared by the Contractor, in substantial accordance with the Outline Materials and Waste Management Plan which will specify the waste streams which would be monitored and targets set with regards to the waste produced, including any re-use and recycling of materials. The SWMP will be finalised with specific measures to be implemented prior to the start of construction. The Outline Materials and Waste Management Plan acts as a record of the application of the waste hierarchy and circular economy principles with the aim of prioritising the avoidance and reduction of waste and promoting resource efficiency. It will be updated every six months as a minimum throughout design and construction.	Outline Materials and Waste Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.07]

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Paragraph 15.16.5 Water Quality and Resources	Where appropriate, applicants should manage surface water during construction by treating surface water runoff from exposed topsoil prior to discharging and to limit the discharge of suspended solids e.g. from car parks or other areas of hard standing, during operation.	A suite of management plans will be in place for the Proposed Development which will include measures for effective management of surface water and are listed under the document reference column.	Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN110012/APP/LVS/07.02] Outline Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan (oDEMP) [EN110012/APP/LVS/07.04] Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.03]
Paragraph 15.16.6 Water Quality and Resources	Applicants should avoid locating potentially polluting activities in the most sensitive locations for groundwater, in particular Source Protection Zone 1 (SPZ) and close to nationally important drinking water supplies. Applicants should consider implementing protective measures to control the risk of pollution to groundwater, for example, through the use of protective barriers.	Chapter 15 of the ES provides an assessment of the existing status of, and impacts of the proposed project on, water quality, water resources and physical characteristics of the water environment. Please refer to ES Table 15-1 which summarises the water resources and flood risk assessment scope, confirming that a site walkover has been undertaken to establish water receptor importance and targeted hydraulic modelling and calculations undertaken using the best available information supplied by the EA. The Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan makes provision for monitoring as appropriate.	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 15 – Water Resources and Flood Risk [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.15] Water Resource Assessment [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.16] Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN110012/APP/LVS/07.02] Outline Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan [EN110012/APP/LVS/07.04] Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.03]

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			Outline Pollution and Spillage Response Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.08] Outline Battery Safety Management Plan [EN110012/APP/LVS/07.06] Outline Drainage Strategy [EN110012/APP/LVS/06.03.15.01a]
Paragraph 15.16.15 Water Quality and Resources	The Secretary of State should be satisfied that a proposal has regard to current River Basin Management Plans and meets the requirements of the Water Environment (Water Framework Directive) (England and Wales) Regulations 2017 (including regulation 19)	Eleven WER surface water body catchments and four groundwater body catchments fall within the Order Limits. Of these, six surface water bodies contain watercourses within the Order Limits. These are summarised in Table 15-16 of ES Chapter 15: Water Resources and Flood Risk. The Proposed Development is not likely to cause deterioration of a water body or its ability to achieve good status or good potential. Provisions for water monitoring are included in the Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan, for example where works, including HDD, are close to a water body. The need for monitoring will be assessed on a case-by-case basis. Dewatering, if required, will be subject to further assessment for monitoring to ensure nearby water resources are protected.	Water Environment Regulations (Water Framework Directive) Compliance Assessment [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.15.02] Water Resource Assessment [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.16] Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 15: Water Resources and Flood Risk [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.15] Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN110012/APP/LVS/07.02]

National Policy Statement EN-3

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Policy	Policy Text	Assessment	Document Reference
Paragraph 2.4.11 Climate change adaptation	Solar photovoltaic (PV) sites may also be proposed in low lying exposed sites. For these proposals, applicants should consider, in particular, how plant will be resilient to: increased risk of flooding; and impact of higher temperatures	Mitigation measures include using a weather-resilient material specification, elevation of flood-sensitive components and operational mitigation secured through environmental management plans. The Battery energy storage system (BESS) will be located outside of Flood Zones 2 and 3 and will include Heating, Ventilation and Cooling (HVAC) systems to maintain appropriate operating temperatures to mitigate the risk of overheating and fire.	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 7: Climate Change Resilience [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.07] Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter15: Water Resources and Flood Risk [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.15]
Paragraph 2.5.2 Good Design	Proposals for renewable energy infrastructure should demonstrate good design, particularly in respect of landscape and visual amenity, opportunities for co-existence/co-location with other marine and terrestrial uses, and in the design of the project to mitigate impacts such as noise and effects on ecology and heritage.	The proposed development has been guided by the design principles set out in the Design Approach Document (DAD). The outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan and outline Environment Management Plan set out how principles of good design can and will be achieved.	Design Approach Document (DAD) EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.05 Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.05] Outline Environmental Masterplan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/02.12]
Paragraph 2.6.1 and 2.6.2 Flexibility in the project details	Where details are still to be finalised, applicants should explain in the application which elements of the proposal have	Chapter 2 of the ES: Proposed Development lists aspects of the proposal that still require design flexibility so that the detailed design of the proposal can be best informed by technical	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 2: Proposed Development [EN0110012/APP/06.01.02]

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	yet to be finalised, and the reason why this is the case. Where flexibility is sought in the consent as a result, applicants should, to the best of their knowledge, assess the likely worst-case environmental, social and economic effects of the Proposed Development to ensure that the impacts of the project as it may be constructed have been properly assessed.	considerations, post-consent work, and take advantage of innovation in technology. Design detail that requires flexibility includes solar panel type/specification, Conversion Units and 33 kV Switch Rooms, BESS area and substations; the routing of the cables within the Cable Route Corridor, final electrical design and access arrangements. ES Chapter 2 confirms that the Applicant has assessed the worst-case effects of the proposed development to account for the flexibility sought.	
Paragraph 2.10.17 and 2.10.18 Cumulative Effects	To maximise existing grid infrastructure, minimise disruption to existing local community infrastructure or biodiversity and reduce overall costs, applicants may choose a site based on nearby available grid export capacity. Where this is the case, applicants should consider the cumulative impacts of situating a solar farm in proximity to other energy generating stations and infrastructure.	The proposed development will connect to the existing grid infrastructure (at Monk Fryston substation). Utilising existing grid infrastructure will ensure that the Proposed Development is brought online quickly. EIA regulations require that cumulative and in-combination effects must be assessed. The approach to EIA methodology for LVS includes inter-project cumulative assessment. This is included in Chapter 17 of the ES.	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 17: Cumulative and In Combination Effects [EN0110012/APP/06.01.17]

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Paragraph 2.10.21 Agricultural land	Where the proposed use of any agricultural land has been shown to be necessary, poorer quality land should be preferred to higher quality land avoiding the use of “Best and Most Versatile” agricultural land where possible.	ES Chapter 3: Alternatives and Design Iteration explains the stages undertaken in site selection, which included an early consideration of the likely presence of best and most versatile (‘BMV’) land. It was found that it was not possible to use only previously developed land, due to the need to use land within a technically feasible and commercially viable proximity to the available grid. ES Chapter 5: Agricultural Land and Soils identifies that the BMV land required for the Proposed Development represents approximately 1% of the likely BMV land in Selby District and 0.09% of the likely BMV land in North Yorkshire.	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 3: Alternatives [EN110012/APP/LVS/06.01.03] Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 5: Agricultural Land and Soils [EN110012/APP/LVS/06.01.05]
Paragraph 2.10.24 Agricultural land	Where sited on agricultural land, consideration may be given as to whether the proposal allows for continued agricultural use and/or can be co-located with other functions (for example, onshore wind generation, storage, hydrogen electrolyzers) to maximise the efficiency of land use.	While the majority of the land under solar panels will remain permeable and available for some agricultural use, there will be temporary and some permanent loss of productive farmland during construction and operation, and some disturbance to soil quality. Mostly, the land will be used for pasture, which will deliver long term improvement to the soil quality. The solar panel installations will be temporary and reversible, meaning that once removed, the vast majority of soils beneath will retain their existing quality and will be capable of being returned to agricultural use.	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 5: Agricultural Land and Soils [EN110012/APP/LVS/06.01.05]

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		Permanent infrastructure (BESS, sub-stations and conversion units) may require between 17.5 ha and 18.7 ha of BMV agricultural land. Collectively the permanent loss of BMV resulting from built infrastructure plus from permanent mitigation and habitat creation would be approximately 43-44ha. In the context of Selby District, with an estimated 46,000ha of BMV quality agricultural land, the permanent losses amount to up to around 0.1% of the BMV land resource.	
Paragraph 2.10.26 Agricultural Land	Applicants are encouraged to develop and implement a Soil Resources and Management Plan which could help to use and manage soils sustainably and minimise adverse impacts on soil health and potential land contamination. This should be in line with the ambition set out in the Environmental Improvement Plan to bring at least 40% of England's agricultural soils into sustainable management by 2028 and increase this up to 60% by 2030.	The submitted Outline Soil Resources Management Plan details commitments to mitigating impacts to soil resources. This refers to good practice measures to minimise damage to soils that remain in place and those that are stripped, stockpiled and reinstated; minimise soil carbon losses; maintain water infiltration; and enhance soil biodiversity.	Outline Soil Resources Management Plan [EN110012/APP/LVS/07.14]
Paragraph 2.10.27 and 2.10.31 Access Routes	Applicants will need to consider the suitability of the access routes to the proposed site for both the construction and	Chapter 14 of the ES: Traffic and Movement reviews the traffic and movement interventions and impacts on both the Solar Development Sites and Cable Route Corridor, including	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Movement [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.14]

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	operation of the solar farm with the former likely to raise more issues. Applications should include the full extent of the access routes necessary for operation and maintenance and an assessment of their effects	access. It assesses the potential impacts of construction on severance, driver and pedestrian delay, pedestrian and cyclist amenity, and fear and intimidation. An Outline Construction Management Plan and Transport Assessment have also been produced. The former sets out the embedded mitigation measures that will be implemented for the proposed development during the construction stage such as clear signage and regular debris clearance. Traffic impacts and management are also covered in the Outline Construction, Operational and Decommissioning Environmental Management Plans.	Outline Construction Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.12] Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.14.01] Outline Construction Environment Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.02] Outline Operational Environment Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.03] Outline Decommissioning Environment Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.04]
Paragraph 2.10.34 to 35 Public rights of Way	Applicants are encouraged to design the layout and appearance of the site to ensure continued recreational use of public rights of way where possible during construction, and in particular during operation of the site. Where possible, minimise visual impacts for those using existing PRoWs.	To help mitigate the impact of the Proposed Development a minimum 15 m offset from all infrastructure, including fencing, to PRoWs has been set. This will provide areas of screening and soften the appearance of the proposed development. Permanent diversions of three Public Rights of Ways (PRoW) will be required within Solar Development Site 1 to maintain connectivity and minimise disruption. Information regarding the	Outline Environmental Masterplan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/ 02.12] Outline Public Rights of Way Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/ 07.09] Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.10.00]

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		proposed diversion of the PRoWs is presented in the Outline Environmental Masterplan and Outline Public Rights of Way Management Plan. During construction, local management and/or short- term, temporary closures of some PRoW is anticipated. Bespoke mitigation will be required and is outlined in the Outline Public Rights of Way Management Plan.	
Paragraph 2.10.36 and 2.10.37 Public Rights of Way	Maximise opportunities to facilitate enhancements to the public rights of way and the inclusion, through site layout and design of access, of new opportunities for the public to access and cross proposed solar development sites. Applicants should set out detail on how public rights of way would be managed to ensure they are safe to use in an outline Public Rights of Way Management Plan	To help mitigate the impact of the Proposed Development a minimum 15 m offset from all infrastructure, including fencing, to PRoWs has been set. This will provide areas of screening and soften the appearance of the proposed development. Permanent diversions of three Public Rights of Ways (PRoW) will be required within Solar Development Site 1 to maintain connectivity and minimise disruption. Information regarding the proposed diversion of the PRoWs is presented in the Outline Environmental Masterplan. During construction, local management and/or short- term, temporary closures of some PRoW is anticipated.	Outline Environmental Masterplan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/ 02.12] Outline Public Rights of Way Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/ 07.09]

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		Bespoke mitigation will be required and is outlined in the Outline Public Rights of Way Management Plan. Detail on how public rights of way are managed to ensure they are safe to use can also be found in the Outline Public Rights of Way Management Plan.	
Paragraph 2.10.38 to 2.10.40 Security	Security of the site is a key consideration for developers. Applicants may wish to consider not only the availability of natural defences such as steep gradients, hedging and rivers but also perimeter security measures such as fencing, electronic security, CCTV and lighting, with the measures proposed on a site-specific basis. Applicants should assess the visual impact of these security measures, as well as the impacts on local residents, including for example issues relating to intrusion from CCTV and light pollution in the vicinity of the site.	Chapter 2 of the ES: Proposed Development outlines the security measures that will be put in place for the proposed development. This includes pole-mounted CCTV, sensor-triggered lighting, perimeter fencing and other measures. During construction, temporary fences will be installed where required to secure work areas not naturally contained by existing hedgerows or fencing. Chapter 10 of the ES: Landscape and Visual assesses the visual impact of these types of works. Where security fencing is present, it will be visually permeable to retain views from PRoW. Construction-based lighting will be temporary, while permanent lighting will be sensor-triggered.	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 2: Proposed Development [EN0110012/APP/06.01.02] Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.10]

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	Applicants should consider the need to minimise the impact on the landscape and the visual impact of security measures.		
Paragraph 2.10.56 Underground cabling	In the case of underground cabling, applicants are expected to provide a method statement describing cable trench design, installation methodology, as well as details of the operation and maintenance regime.	A Cable Route Construction Method Statement is submitted with the application.	Cable Route Method Statement [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.02.01]
Paragraph 2.10.57 to 2.10.59 Project lifetime	Applicants should consider the design life of solar panel efficiency over time when determining the period for which consent is required. An upper limit of 40 years is typical, although applicants may seek consent without a time-period or for differing time-periods of operation.	The Proposed Development will have a 60 year design life. This is longer than the typical design life of solar PV panels. This will be managed through: • Replacement of individual defective and broken panels on an ad-hoc basis. • A planned replacement of all solar PV panels once during the operational phase, anticipated to be replaced over a 12 to 24 month period. This proactive approach to panel replacement aligns with the policy's recognition of efficiency deterioration and the need for replacement during the site's lifetime. It is not expected that an extensive replacement of all components will be required across the entirety of the Proposed Development during one period; instead, the programme for	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 2: Proposed Development [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.02] Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.03] Outline Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan. [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.04]

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		replacement of equipment across the Proposed Development is anticipated to be staged to maintain the electrical export to the National Grid. See Chapter 2 of the ES for a full summary of the operational programme for replacement activities.	
Paragraph 2.10.60 and 2.10.61 Decommissioning	Generally, it is expected that the panel arrays and mounting structures will be decommissioned, and underground cabling dug out to ensure that prior use of the site can continue. Applicants should set out what would be decommissioned and removed from the site at the end of the operational life of the generating station, considering instances where it may be less harmful for the ecology of the site to keep or retain certain types of infrastructure	The Proposed Development will be decommissioned and reinstated in accordance with a Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan. An outline Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan is included with the DCO Application. The decommissioning process will involve removing all solar infrastructure, including solar PV modules and BESS, along with associated infrastructure down to 1.2 meters below ground level. These materials will be recycled or disposed of as per good practices and processes at that time. Cable connections within Cable Route will remain in place after decommissioning.	Outline Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.04]
Paragraph 2.10.63 Flexibility in project details	Applicants should set out a range of options based on different panel numbers, types and layout, with and without storage	Chapter 2 of the ES: Proposed Development lists aspects of the proposal that still require design flexibility so that the detailed design of the proposal can be best informed by technical considerations, post-consent work, and take advantage of innovation in technology. Design detail that requires flexibility includes solar panel type/specification, Conversion Units	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 2: Proposed Development [EN0110012/APP/06.01.02]

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		and 33 kV Switch Rooms, BESS area and substations; the routing of the cables within the Cable Route Corridor, final electrical design and access arrangements. Chapter 2 of the ES also confirms that the remainder of the ES has assessed the worst-case effects of the proposed development to account for the flexibility sought.	
Paragraph 2.10. 72 and 2.10.74 Biodiversity, ecological, geological conservation and water management	Applicants should consider earthworks associated with construction compounds, access roads and cable trenching. Applicants should consider how security and lighting installations may impact on the local ecology. Where pole mounted CCTV facilities are proposed the location of these facilities should be carefully considered to minimise impact. If lighting is necessary, it should be minimised and directed away from areas of likely habitat	A Cable Route Construction Method Statement is submitted with the application. A Construction Dust Assessment has also been prepared. This considers potential dust soiling, human health and ecological effects, where applicable, at existing sensitive receptor locations, as a result of demolition, earthworks, construction and track-out of dirt and mud onto the public highway. Chapter 6 of the ES: Biodiversity considers how lighting and security installations may affect ecology. Identified wildlife commuting corridors will be kept free of fencing where possible (see the Outline Environmental Masterplan). Embedded mitigation measures will be employed through an Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan and Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan such as reducing the risk of artificial lighting on species, such as the use of sensor-triggered lighting that is not always on. During	Cable Route Construction Method Statement [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.02.01] Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 16.1: Construction Dust Assessment [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.16.01] Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 6: Biodiversity [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.06] Outline Environmental Masterplan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.02.03.01] Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.02]

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		construction, lighting will utilise directional fittings to minimise outward light spill and glare. A CCTV system is proposed to be installed on the perimeter of the solar PV sites and the BESS with poles painted green to mitigate the visual impact.	Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.03]
Paragraph 2.10.75 Site boundary management	If any hedges/scrub are to be removed, further surveys may be necessary to account for impacts. Buffer strips between perimeter fencing and hedges may be proposed, and the construction and design of any fencing should account for enabling mammal, reptile and other fauna access into the site if required to do so in the ecological report	Some localised loss of hedgerows and treelines within the Cable Route Corridor will be required to facilitate visibility splays, accesses, working areas and to create the Bird Mitigation Area on Site 1. These will be compensated for and BNG requirements will be adhered to. Wildlife commuting corridors have been identified and will be kept free of fencing where possible (shown on the Outline Environmental Masterplan). The submitted Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan and the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan include details the range of buffers that will be implemented from habitats.	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 6: Biodiversity [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.06] Outline Environmental Masterplan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.02.03.01] Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.02]
Paragraph 2.10.76 to 2.10.80 Flood Risk and Drainage	The Flood Risk Assessment will need to consider the impact of drainage. As solar PV panels will drain to the existing ground, the impact will not, in general, be significant.	Chapter 15: Water Resources and Flood Risk and the Flood Risk Assessment state that existing accesses will be used where possible, and new ones will constructed of asphalt or gravel over a levelling layer of substrate.	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 15: Water Resources and Flood Risk [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.15] Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 15: Flood Risk Assessment

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	Where access tracks need to be provided, permeable tracks should be used, and localised Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS), such as swales and infiltration trenches, should be used to control any run-off where recommended. Sites should be configured or selected to avoid the need to impact on existing drainage systems and watercourses. Culverting existing watercourses / drainage ditches should be avoided. Where unavoidable, applicants should demonstrate that no reasonable alternatives exist and where necessary it will only be in place temporarily for the construction period.	The Applicant has submitted an Outline Drainage Strategy with the DCO Application. Once more detail is available regarding track alignments in relation to the topography, a more formal drainage solution will be prepared if appropriate. The drainage design will mimic existing conditions or include appropriate storage, to enable greenfield runoff rates to be maintained. A detailed SuDS Maintenance Plan will be provided as part of the detailed Drainage Strategy submitted for approval post-consent. This will cover the various SuDS elements that are ultimately proposed (e.g. infiltration basins, swales, etc.) alongside the recommended inspection and maintenance requirements and responsibilities. The Proposed Development requires two new permanent culverts on Solar Development Sites (SDS) 2 and 4, and a single temporary culvert (less than 2 years) on SDS 1, plus seventeen temporary culverts within the Cable Route Corridor. The northern access route to SDS 8, if created, would require a new access road culvert over Habholme Dike. Additionally, the condition of the existing culvert crossing Selby Dam, is not known at present. As a worst case scenario, the culvert may need to be removed and replaced with a new crossing structure.	[EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.15.01] Outline Drainage Strategy [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.15.04]
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		During the replacement of the culvert (if required) a temporary crossing structure would be installed to maintain current access. If a temporary crossing structure is required, this would likely to be in place for less than 6 months. Culverts will be designed in accordance with CIRIA C786, with sizing based on upstream catchment assessments, anticipated flows, and existing upstream and downstream control structures. Each crossing will be supported by detailed design information and standard drawings, including culvert dimensions, headwall details, and erosion protection.	
Paragraph 2.10.82 Biodiversity Net Gain	Applicants should consider enhancement, management, and monitoring of biodiversity. This may include considerations and opportunities identified through Local Nature Recovery Strategies, and national goals and targets set through the Environment Act 2021 and the Environmental Improvement Plan.	Chapter 6 of the ES: Biodiversity confirms that a BNG assessment has been completed for the Proposed Development to describe the expected biodiversity change post development. Methods for enhancement and monitoring of biodiversity are outlined in the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan and Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 6: Biodiversity [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.06] Outline Environmental Masterplan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.02.03.01] Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.05] Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.03]

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Paragraph 2.10.84 Geotechnical and hydrological information	Applicants should consider whether they need to provide geotechnical and hydrological information (such as identifying the presence of peat according to country-specific definitions at each site) including the risk of landslide connected to any development work.	The Applicant has carried out a Ground Conditions Preliminary Risk Assessment to inform the geotechnical appraisal of ground conditions to support the detailed design of the development. The Construction Environment Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.02] will secure measures to avoid, manage and mitigate any risk associated with ground conditions.	Ground Conditions Preliminary Risk Assessment [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.16.02]
Paragraph 2.10.88 to 93 Landscape and visual impacts	Potential impacts on the statutory purposes of nationally designated landscapes and their settings should form a part of the pre-application process. Required security measures such as fencing should consider the need to minimise the impact on the landscape and visual impact. Plan to protect and retain, wherever possible, the growth of vegetation on site boundaries, as well as the growth of existing hedges, established vegetation, including mature trees within boundaries.	The Proposed Development is not located in a Nationally Designated Landscape. Nevertheless, a comprehensive landscape and visual impact assessment has been carried out, plus an Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan and Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan have been prepared. Where security fencing is present, it will be visually permeable to retain views from PRow. Construction-based lighting will be temporary, while permanent lighting will be sensor-triggered. Chapter 6 of the ES: Biodiversity confirms some localised loss of hedgerows and treelines within the Cable Route Corridor will be required to facilitate visibility splays, Cable Route Corridor accesses, working areas and the bird mitigation area on SDS 1. These will be reinstated.	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.10] Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 6: Biodiversity [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.06] Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 16.2: Arboriculture Impact Assessment [EN110012/APP/LVS/06.03.16.02]

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	Consider opportunities for individual trees within the boundaries to grow on to maturity.	The Arboriculture Impact Assessment identifies that a number of scattered trees, treelines and two/three trees within a woodland copse require removal to facilitate development; any loss will be compensated as illustrated in the Outline Environmental Masterplan.	
Paragraph 2.10.96 Glint and Glare	Consider the geometric possibility of glint and glare affecting nearby receptors, and provide an assessment of potential impact and impairment based on the angle and duration of incidence and the intensity of the reflection.	A Glint and Glare Assessment has been submitted as part of the DCO Application including at Annex H, an empirical study of real world effects of Glint and Glare on aviation.	Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 16.4: Glint and Glare Assessment [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.16.04]. Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 16.04: Glint and Glare Assessment, Annex H Glint and Glare and Aviation [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.16.04.01]
Paragraph 2.10.97 Glint and Glare	The extent of reflectivity analysis required to assess potential impacts will depend on the specific project site and design. This may need to account for 'tracking' panels if they are proposed as these may cause differential diurnal and/or seasonal impacts.	The submitted Glint and Glare Assessment acknowledges that a potential mitigation measure for impact to aviation receptors may be a tracking panel layout utilised with a resting angle set to avoid 'yellow' glare.	Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 16.4: Glint and Glare Assessment [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.16.04].
Paragraph 2.10.107 Archaeological investigation	The extent of investigative work should be proportionate to the sensitivity of, and extent of,	Archaeological trial trenching has been undertaken across all Solar Development Sites; the results of this evaluation has informed Chapter 8 of the ES: Cultural Heritage and the	Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 8.4: Trial Trenching Reports [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.08.04].

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	proposed ground disturbance in the associated study area.	findings are contained within ES Appendix 8.4 Trial Trenching Reports.	Environmental Statement, Chapter 8: Cultural Heritage [EN0110012/APP/06.01.08]
Paragraph 2.10.108 and 2.10.109 Historic environment and design	Applicants should: - take account of the results of historic environment assessments in their design proposal. - consider what steps can be taken to ensure heritage assets are conserved in a manner appropriate to their significance, including the impact of proposals on views important to their setting.	Chapter 8 of the ES: Cultural Heritage, supported by geophysical surveys, archaeological evaluations and Statements of Significance and Impact Assessments, includes an assessment of impact against archaeological remains, Important Hedgerows, as well as heritage assets beyond the order limits (including views).	Environmental Statement, Chapter 8: Cultural Heritage [EN0110012/APP/06.01.08] Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 8.3: Geophysical surveys [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.08.03] Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 8.4: Trial Trenching Reports [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.08.04]. Statements of Significance and Impact Assessments [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.08.05]
Paragraph 2.10.115 and 2.10.116 Movement of materials and components	Assess the various potential routes to the site for delivery of materials and components where the source of the materials is known at the time of the application and select the route that is the most appropriate. Where the exact location of the source of construction materials, such as crushed stone or concrete is not known	Due to the flexibility associated with the proposed development, the traffic generation during the construction period is assessed based on a worst-case scenario. Each site has an assigned route to the Strategic Road Network. These routes have been chosen to avoid passing through villages where possible, to minimise disruption to local residents and businesses	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.14] Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.12]

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	at the time of the application, applicants should assess the worst-case impact of additional vehicles on the likely potential routes.		
Paragraph 2.10.117 and 2.10.118 Delivery routes	Applicants should ensure all sections of roads and bridges on the proposed delivery route can accommodate the weight and volume of the loads and width of vehicles. Where modifications to roads and/or bridges are required, these should be identified, and potential effects addressed in the ES. Where a cumulative impact is likely because multiple energy infrastructure developments are proposing to use a common port and/or access route and pass through the same towns and villages, applicants should include a cumulative transport assessment as part of the ES.	Chapter 14 of the ES includes a summary of anticipated abnormal loads in Table 14-24. The Abnormal Load movements will be coordinated with the local highways authorities and police prior to being undertaken, with the routes subject to agreement with highways authorities. Chapter 17 goes on to provide a cumulative and in-combination effects assessment of the Proposed Development, including traffic generation.	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.14] Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 17: Cumulative and in-combination effects [EN110012/APP/LVS/ 06.01.17]
Paragraph 2.10.119 Soil health and soil structure	To preserve soil health and soil structure to minimise soil carbon loss and maintain water infiltration and soil biodiversity, mitigation measures for	The submitted Outline Soil Resources Management Plan (oSRMP) details commitments to mitigating impacts to soil resources. This refers to good practice measures to minimise damage to soils that	Outline Soil Resources Management Plan [EN110012/APP/LVS/07.14]

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	agricultural soils include use of green cover, multispecies cover crops - especially during the winter minimising compaction and adding soil organic matter.	remain in place and those that are stripped, stockpiled and reinstated; minimise carbon losses; maintain water infiltration; and enhance soil biodiversity.	
Paragraph 2.10.122 Ecological Monitoring	Applicants are advised to develop an ecological monitoring programme. Results will inform any changes needed to the land management of the site, including, if appropriate, any livestock grazing regime.	Methods for enhancement and monitoring of biodiversity are outlined in the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan, Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan and Outline Bird Mitigation Area Management Plan.	Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.05] Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.03] Outline Bird Mitigation Area Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.19]
Paragraph 2.10.123 Landscape and Visual Impacts	Applicants should consider the potential to mitigate landscape and visual impacts through, for example, screening with native hedges, trees and woodlands.	Impacts are considered across the construction, operation and decommissioning phases, as well as the cumulative effects. Mitigation measures including screening with native hedges, trees and woodland are set out in the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.10] Outline Environmental Masterplan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.02.03.01] Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.05]
Paragraph 2.10.124 Screening security fencing	Applicants should aim to minimise the use and height of security fencing. Where possible applicants should utilise existing features, such as	Chapter 10 of the ES: Landscape and Visual outlines that where security fencing is present, it will be visually permeable to retain views from PRoW.	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.10]

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	hedges or landscaping, to assist in site security, or screen security fencing.		
Paragraph 2.10.125 Security lighting	Applicants should minimise the use of security lighting. Any lighting should utilise a passive infra-red (PIR) technology and should be designed and installed in a manner which minimises impact.	Chapter 6 of the ES: Biodiversity states any security cameras use infra-red detection and any security lighting will be sensor-triggered. During construction, lighting will utilise directional fittings to minimise outward light spill and glare. Construction based lighting will be temporary, while permanent lighting will be sensor triggered. The Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan and Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan set out how these will be secured.	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 6: Biodiversity [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.06] Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.02] Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.05]
Paragraph 2.10.126 to 128 Glint and Glare	Applicants should consider using, and the SoS may require, panels with anti-glare/anti-reflective coating with a specified angle of maximum reflection attenuation. Consider using screening. Consider adjusting azimuth alignment of or changing elevation tilt angle of solar panels within an economically viable range to alter the angle of incidence	Solar PV Panels will be bifacial monocrystalline panels, comprising two layers of toughened, low reflectivity glass. The solar modules will be either black or dark blue. The tracking panels has been assessed on the basis of an indicative orientation of variable+/-60° angle aligned north-south rows rotating east-west. The fixed panels indicative orientation would be in east-west rows with a fixed tilt angle of +10 to 35 degrees from horizontal. The exact layout of azimuth alignment and elevation tilt angle will not be confirmed until the detailed design stage. The locations where advance planting may be implemented to mitigate impacts on highways,	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 2: Proposed Development [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.06] Figure 16.1 Advanced Planting for Glint and Glare Mitigation [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.02.16.1]

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		the railway and residential properties are shown in Figure 16.1 Advanced Planting for Glint and Glare Mitigation.	
Paragraph 2.10.133 Construction impacts on road network	Where cumulative effects on the local road network or residential amenity are predicted from multiple solar farm developments, it may be appropriate for applicants for various projects to work together to ensure that the number of abnormal loads and deliveries are minimised, and the timings of deliveries are managed and coordinated to ensure that disruption to residents and other highway users is reasonably minimised	Chapter 14 of the ES: Traffic and Movement and the Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan sets out embedded mitigation measures related to the delivery of materials and components during the construction stage. These include signage and providing drivers with route plans prior. Due to the flexibility associated with the proposed development, the traffic generation during the construction period is deemed to be the worst-case scenario. Chapter 17 goes on to provide a cumulative and in-combination effects assessment of the Proposed Development, including traffic generation. The Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan secure measures for agreement of timing and coordination of deliveries, including with other projects underway, to minimise disruption.	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Movement [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.14] Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.12] Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 17: Cumulative and in-combination effects [EN110012/APP/LVS/ 06.01.17]
Paragraph 2.10.137 Agriculture land classification and land type	The Secretary of State should take into account the economic and other benefits of the best and most versatile agricultural land. The Secretary of State should ensure that the applicant has put forward appropriate	An Outline Soil Resources Management Plan identifies good practice mitigation measures to reduce damage to soils that remain in place and those that are stripped, stockpiled and reinstated; reduce soil carbon losses; maintain water infiltration; and enhance soil biodiversity. ES Chapter 3: Alternatives and Design Iteration and the Site Selection Assessment Report	Outline Soil Resources Management Plan [EN110012/APP/LVS/07.14] Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 3: Alternatives [EN110012/APP/LVS/06.01.03] Site Selection Assessment Report [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.03.01]

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	mitigation measures to minimise impacts on soils or soil resources	explains the stages undertaken in site selection, which included an early consideration of the likely presence of best and most versatile ('BMV') land. It was found that it was possible to use only previously developed land, due to the need to use land within a technically feasible and commercially viable proximity to the available grid. The BMV land required for the Proposed Development represents approximately 1% of the likely BMV land in Selby District and 0.09% of the likely BMV land in North Yorkshire.	
Paragraph 2.10.138 to 2.10.143 Project lifetime and decommissioning	The Secretary of State should ensure that the applicant has put forward outline plans for decommissioning the generating station when no longer in use and restoring the land to a suitable use (taking into account paragraphs 2.10.60 and 2.10.61). The Secretary of State should consider the period of time the applicant is seeking to operate the generating station, as well as the extent to which the site will return to its original state, when assessing impacts such as landscape and visual effects	Chapter 2 of the ES: Proposed Development confirms the operational phase of the Proposed Development is up to 60 years. The Proposed Development will be decommissioned and reinstated in accordance with a Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan. An Outline Environmental Management Plan is included with the DCO Application. The decommissioning process will involve removing all solar infrastructure, including solar PV modules and BESS, along with associated infrastructure down to 1.2 metres below ground level. These materials will be recycled or disposed of as per good practices and processes at that time.	Outline Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan , [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.04] Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 2: Proposed Development [EN0110012/APP/06.01.02]

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	and potential effects on the settings of heritage assets and nationally designated landscapes	The mode of dealing with Interconnecting Cables and Grid Connection Cables during decommissioning would be dependent upon government policy and good practice at that time. Currently, the most environmentally acceptable option is considered to be leaving the cables in situ, as this avoids disturbance to overlying land and habitats and to neighbouring communities.	
Paragraph 2.10.150 and 2.10.151 Glint and Glare	Whilst there is some evidence that glint and glare from solar farms can be experienced by pilots and air traffic controllers in certain conditions, there is no evidence that glint and glare from solar farms results in significant impairment on aircraft safety. Therefore, unless a significant impairment can be demonstrated, the Secretary of State is unlikely to give any more than limited weight to claims of aviation interference because of glint and glare from solar farms.	Based on current illustrative layouts and the modelling undertaken, the Glint and Glare Study identifies potential moderate impacts on Sherburn-In-Elmet Airfield and Burn Airfield. However, with reference to the submitted Empirical Study (Annex H), the Applicant has determined that the development of specific mitigation measures for these airfields is not required, as the Empirical Study demonstrates that the modelled results do not lead to real world impacts.	Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 16.4: Glint and Glare Assessment [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.16.04] Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 16.4: Glint and Glare Assessment, Annex H, Empirical Study for Aviation [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.16.04] Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 16.04: Glint and Glare Assessment, Annex H Glint and Glare and Aviation [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.16.04.01] Outline Operational Environment Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.03]

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			Outline Construction Environment Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.02].
Paragraph 2.10.53 and 2.10.54 Construction including traffic and transport noise and vibration	Once solar farms are in operation, traffic movements to and from the site are generally very light, in some instances a few visits each month by a light commercial vehicle or car. Should there be a need to replace machine components, this may generate heavier commercial vehicle movements, but these are likely to be infrequent. The Secretary of State is unlikely to give any more than limited weight to traffic and transport noise and vibration impacts from the operational phase of a project.	Chapter 14 of the ES: Traffic and Movement states there are anticipated to be around five visits to each Solar Development Site per month for maintenance purposes (less than one trip a day on average). These would typically be made by light goods vehicles (LGVs). Thus, it is expected that any operational impacts on traffic and movement will be minimal, and hence the topic has been scoped out of the operational assessment.	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Movement [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.14]

National Policy Statement EN-5

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Policy	Policy Text	Assessment	Document Reference
Paragraph 2.3.2	As climate change is likely to increase risks to the resilience of some of this infrastructure, from	Chapter 7 of the ES: Climate Change Resilience and Chapter 15: Water Resources and Flood Risk outlines mitigation measures	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 7: Climate Change Resilience [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.07]

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Climate change adaptation and resilience.	flooding for example, or in situations where it is located near the coast or an estuary or is underground, applicants should in particular set out to what extent the proposed development is expected to be vulnerable, and, as appropriate, how it has been designed to be resilient to: • flooding, particularly for substations that are vital to the network; and especially in light of changes to groundwater levels resulting from climate change; • the effects of wind and storms on overhead lines; • higher average temperatures leading to increased transmission losses; • earth movement or subsidence caused by flooding or drought (for underground cables); and • coastal erosion – for the landfall of offshore transmission cables and their associated substations in the inshore	include using a weather-resilient material specification, elevation of flood-sensitive components and operational mitigation secured through environmental management plans. The Battery energy storage system (BESS) will be located outside of Flood Zones 2 and 3 and will include Heating, Ventilation and Cooling (HVAC) systems to maintain appropriate operating temperatures to mitigate the risk of overheating and fire. An Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan, Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan and Outline Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan have all been produced and submitted which will detail how monitoring and reporting of weather-related impacts will be managed.	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 15: Water Resources and Flood Risk [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.15] Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.02] Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.03] Outline Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.04]
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	and coastal locations respectively.		
Paragraph 2.3.3 Climate change resilience	Section 4.10 of EN-1 advises that the resilience of the project to the effects of climate change must be assessed in the Environmental Statement (ES) accompanying an application. For example, future increased risk of flooding would be covered in any flood risk assessment (see Sections 5.8 in EN-1). Consideration should also be given to coastal change (see sections 5.6 in EN1)	This application is accompanied by an ES and Chapter 7: Climate Change Resilience which addresses resilience in the face of climate change. An FRA and Drainage Strategy have been submitted with the application, appended to Chapter 15 of the ES. The FRA includes details of the site-specific Sequential Test and Exceptions Test.	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 7: Climate Change Resilience [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.07] Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 15.1a: Flood Risk Assessment [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.15.01a]
Part 2.4 .2 Consideration of good design for energy infrastructure	2.4.2 Applicants should consider the criteria for good design set out in EN1 Section 4.7 at an early stage when developing projects.	The proposed development has been guided by the design principles set out in the Design Approach Document. Design Parameters and Commitments are also detailed and submitted with the DCO Application.	Design Approach Document (DAD) [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.05] Design Parameters and Commitments [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.06]
Paragraph 2.4.4 Functional performance and safety	While the principles of good design should govern the design of an electricity network infrastructure application – including in its avoidance and/or mitigation of potential adverse impacts – the functional performance of the infrastructure in respect of security of supply and public and	Safety and security will be a key component of management of the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Proposed Development. A suite of outline Management Plans have been prepared as listed here.	Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.02] Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.03] Outline Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan

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	occupational safety must not thereby be threatened.		[EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.04] Outline Battery Fire Safety Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.06] Outline Pollution and Spillage Response Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.08] Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.12] Outline Soil Resource Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.14]
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National Planning Policy Framework

National Planning Policy Framework (August 2026)

Policy	Policy Text	Assessment	Document Reference
Chapter 4 Achieving sustainable development	The objective of the policies is to meet development needs through sustainable patterns of development, including by maximising the potential for growth on suitable land within settlements, enabling development which will support the rural economy, rural communities and the provision of infrastructure, and limiting	The Proposed Development will deliver wider sustainability benefits, being a renewable energy development that will make a substantial contribution to the country achieving net-zero carbon emissions. As set out in the Statement of Need and Section 2.2 of the Planning Statement, clean electricity generated by the Proposed Development, if	Statement of Need [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.03] Planning Statement [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.02]

National Planning Policy Framework (August 2026)			
	development away from settlements to help safeguard the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside.	consented, will be supplied to the National Grid at the existing Monk Fryston substation (where a 500 MW alternating current (AC) connection has been agreed) over its 60-year operational lifetime.	
S5: Principle of development outside settlements	S5, paragraph 1 limits approval of development outside settlements to uses including within sub-paragraph a. 'engineering operations and infrastructure (including for transport, energy, water and telecommunications), <i>"unless the benefits of doing so would be substantially outweighed by any adverse effects, when assessed against the national decision-making policies"</i> in the NPPF. S5, paragraph 5: policy S5 does not apply to development proposals in the Green Belt, which should instead be determined in accordance with policies HC8 (development affecting Green Space), GB6 (control of development in the Green Belt), and GB7 (development which is not inappropriate development in the Green Belt), unless development would not be inappropriate development in the Green Belt.	The Proposed Development is located in the countryside. ES Chapter 3: Alternatives and Design Iteration and the Site Selection Assessment Report set out the process of site selection that has been undertaken for the Proposed Development, and demonstrates how impacts to best and most versatile (BMV) land has been balanced against other factors in determining the Solar Development Sites as being the most appropriate location for the Proposed Development, including flood risk, sensitive receptors, heritage impacts and safe access. The Applicant is satisfied that the Proposed Development is demonstrably located on 'grey belt' land and is not inappropriate development under current policy. North Yorkshire Council confirmed acceptance of this position at the ISH1 on 30 July 2026.	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 3: Alternatives and Design Iteration [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03] Site Selection Assessment Report [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.03.01] Planning Statement including Appendix 2 (Grey Belt Assessment) [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.02.02]
Chapter 5	The objective is to support the transition to net zero by 2050 and to shape places	The NPS-EN1 establishes that there is a critical national priority (CNP) for low carbon	Statement of Need [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.03]

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Meeting the challenge of climate change	in ways which are more resilient to the effects of climate change. It does this by setting out policies to shape places in ways that contribute to radical reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the full range of current and potential impacts of climate change, by minimising vulnerability and improving resilience.	infrastructure, including for large scale solar, because of the decarbonisation, energy security, and affordability benefits that they deliver. NPS EN-1 also confirms that assets which provide flexibility to the national electricity system, or to the energy system generally, are also needed to achieve national decarbonisation and energy security aims. The Proposed Development, which consists of a large-scale solar farm with associated energy storage, is therefore aligned with the government's aims and the urgent need for CNP infrastructure.	
Policy CC2 Mitigation of climate change	A national decision-making policy to contribute to climate change mitigation and the transition to net zero. Sub-paragraphs relevant to LVS include: a. sustainable patterns of movement should be achieved, f. creation and restoration of habitats which can act as carbon stores, while avoiding harm to habitats should be achieved and g. development proposals should not involve the extraction of fossil fuels unless in accordance with policy M5 (development involving peat, coal, or onshore oil and gas).	ES Chapter 14: Traffic and Movement outlines that a vision-led Transport Assessment has been undertaken and that transport matters have been considered in the early stages of design development, ensuring sustainable patterns of movement can be achieved. The Construction Traffic Management Plan, secured through the draft Order Requirement 14 will make provisions for sustainable patterns of movement associated with construction traffic. The outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (oLEMP), secured through the draft Order Requirement 6, objectives include to create rich and varied habitats, begin the development of natural ground layers to achieved and maintain Biodiversity Net Gain.	ES Chapter 14 Traffic and Movement [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.14] Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.05]

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		The oLEMP includes provision for ecological monitoring where the strategy should include, amongst others, soil surveys with the potential to include measurements for soil carbon.	
Policy CC3 Adaptation to climate change	A national decision-making policy to ensure consideration of current and potential impacts of climate change over the lifetime of a scheme to minimise vulnerability to impacts. Development proposals should (where relevant to LVS): a. be located where risk of flooding is minimised, or can be managed and the development made safe without increasing risk elsewhere, c. incorporate sustainable drainage systems, and e. incorporate proportionate measures to mitigate against wildfires (limit fuel loads, create defensible spaces, such as by avoiding timber panel fences and incorporating firebreaks into layouts and planting schemes.	Chapter 7 of the ES: Climate Change Resilience and Chapter 15: Water Resources and Flood Risk outline mitigation measures including using a weather-resilient material specification, elevation of flood-sensitive components and operational mitigation secured through environmental management plans. The outline Drainage Strategy for the Proposed Development summarises how surface water runoff will be managed in accordance with relevant regulatory requirements and guidance. The Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) has been prepared for the Proposed Development and incorporates the results of site-specific hydraulic modelling used to inform the layout of the Proposed Development. The FRA should be read alongside the Drainage Strategy. Reflecting the outcomes of the FRA and the recommendations of the Drainage Strategy, the Design Parameters and Commitments document, secured under Draft Order Requirement 4, makes provision for drainage design to manage surface water runoff. The measures incorporate	Environmental Statement, Chapter 7: Climate Change Resilience [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.07] Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 15: Water Resources and Flood Risk [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.15] Outline Drainage Strategy [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.15.04] Flood Risk Assessment [as updated alongside submission] Design Parameters and Commitments [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.06] Draft Development Consent Order [EN0110012/APP/LVS/03.01] Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.02]

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		recommended climate change allowances for peak rainfall intensities. Wherever possible, the design will maintain existing catchments, prioritise the use of SuDS, and surface water will be managed such that existing greenfield runoff rates are maintained. In the context of wildfires, the BESS will include Heating, Ventilation and Cooling (HVAC) systems to maintain appropriate operating temperatures to mitigate the risk of overheating and fire. The outline Battery Safety Management Plan confirms at paragraph 16.1.4 that an Emergency Response Plan will include as a minimum (amongst others) emergency procedures for all credible hazards and risks, including wildfires. An Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan, Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan, and Outline Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan have all been produced and submitted which will detail how monitoring and reporting of weather-related impacts will be managed.	Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.03] Outline Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.04] Outline Battery Safety Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.06]
Chapter 7 Building a strong, effective economy	The objective is to enable businesses to invest, expand and adapt in a way that reflects the opportunities, challenges and characteristics of different areas, and supports long-term	The NPS-EN1 establishes that there is a critical national priority (CNP) for low carbon infrastructure, including for large scale solar, because of the decarbonisation, energy security, and affordability benefits that they deliver. NPS EN-1 also confirms that assets which provide	Statement of Need [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.03] ES Chapter 13 Socioeconomics [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.13]

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	economic growth both locally and nationally.	flexibility to the national electricity system, or to the energy system generally, are also needed to achieve national decarbonisation and energy security aims. The Proposed Development, which consists of a large-scale solar farm with associated energy storage, is therefore aligned with the government's aims. ES Chapter 13 Socioeconomics considers local business receptors in terms of their economic, recreational and community value. The outline Skills, Supply Chain and Employment Plan sets out how the Applicant will commit to promoting competition, innovation and skills in North Yorkshire. Draft Order Requirement 18 secures the submission of a full Skills, Supply Chain and Employment Plan to the relevant planning authority for approval.	Draft Development Consent Order [EN0110012/APP/LVS/03.01]
Policy E4 Rural business development	Sustainable growth of businesses in rural areas should be supported through (where relevant to LVS): paragraph 1, sub-paragraph b. the development and diversification of agricultural and other land-based businesses.	ES Chapter 13 Socioeconomics considers local business receptors in terms of their economic, recreational and community value. Following implementation of mitigation measures, the residual effects on business from the Proposed Development has been assessed not significant, with minor adverse residual construction effects on four businesses including Birkin Fisheries, Birkin Tea Rooms, Fairfield Equine Facilitated	ES Chapter 13 Socioeconomics [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.13] ES Chapter 5 Agricultural Land and Soils [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.05]

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		Wellbeing, and Gascoigne wood fisheries. Operational phase residual impacts are not anticipated to have significant impacts as transport patterns will remain similar to baseline conditions. Lastly, decommissioning impacts are expected to be less than for construction with mitigation measures applied. The Proposed Development would provide a long-term, alternative income source that would remove reliance on direct public support from agri-environment schemes whilst still providing environmental benefits. It would offer a stable diversification option for agricultural businesses and provide financial security against volatility in wholesale food commodity markets and yields, protecting the remaining farm operations. The switch from arable to pasture would allow the land to recover from intensive use, and the soil condition and structure to improve. The use of the soils for grassland under solar panels would improve soil health and biodiversity. The outline Skills, Supply Chain and Employment Plan sets out how the Applicant will commit to promoting competition, innovation and skills in North Yorkshire. This includes roles in construction, operation and decommissioning of the Proposed Development. The Plan provides a	Outline Skills, Supply Chain and Employment Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.13] Draft Development Consent Order [EN0110012/APP/LVS/03.01]
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National Planning Policy Framework (August 2026)

		guide to the equipment required from the supply chain for key components including for example CCTV, cabling and fencing. Importantly the Plan sets out that the Applicant will consider workforce training opportunities and seek opportunities to work with existing further and higher education providers to offer apprenticeships and other academic support. Draft Order Requirement 18 secures the submission of a full Skills, Supply Chain and Employment Plan to the relevant planning authority for approval.	
Chapter 10 Securing clean energy and water	The objective of the policy is to support the development and operation of energy and water infrastructure in ways which align with wider development, clean power and net zero objectives (including the delivery of clean power by 2030).	The Proposed Development consists of a large-scale solar farm with associated energy storage.	Statement of Need [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.03]
W3: Renewable and low carbon energy development and electricity network infrastructure	National decision-making policy gives substantial weight to (where relevant to LVS): a. the benefits for improving energy security, supporting economic development and/or the transition to a net zero future.	NPS EN-1 establishes a critical national priority (CNP) for nationally significant low carbon infrastructure (paragraphs 3.1.1 to 3.2.14). NPS EN-3 explicitly includes solar generation as a key contributor to the UK's energy security and decarbonisation goals. This clear and demonstrable need should be afforded substantial weight in the planning balance and	Outline Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan [EN0110012/LVS/APP/07.04] Draft Development Consent Order [EN0110012/APP/LSV/03.01]

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	Paragraph 2 notes that applicants should not be required to demonstrate need. Paragraph 3 notes that where development is time-limited “<i>applications should be accompanied by proposals for decommissioning and site restoration, including details of how these measures are expected to be implemented</i>”	should form the starting point for the decision maker’s assessment. The application is accompanied by an outline Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan and the production and agreement of a full plan is secured under draft Development Consent Order Requirement 19 ‘Decommissioning and restoration’.	
Chapter 13 Protecting Green Belt land	The policy objective is to prevent urban sprawl by keeping land permanently open. The government attaches great importance to Green Belts, the essential features of which are their openness and permanence.	The Applicant is satisfied that the Proposed Development is demonstrably located on ‘grey belt’ land and is not inappropriate development under current policy. North Yorkshire Council confirmed acceptance of this position at the ISH1 on 30 July 2026.	Planning Statement including Appendix 2 (Grey Belt Assessment) [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.02.02] Transcript of Issue Specific Hearing 1 (ISH1) - Part 2 [ENV5-005]
Chapter 14 Achieving well-designed places	The policy objective is to promote high quality, healthy, inclusive and sustainable places, through setting clear expectations about design outcomes and the use of relevant tools and processes.	The proposed development has been guided by the design principles set out in the Design Approach Document (DAD). Reflecting the DAD, the detailed design of the components of the Proposed Development, including considerations such as appearance, materials, colour and alignment, are set out in the Design Parameters and Commitments Document. This document is secured by	Design Approach Document (DAD) [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.05] Design Parameters and Commitments Document [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.06] Draft Development Consent Order [EN0110012/APP/LVS/03.01]

National Planning Policy Framework (August 2026)			
		Requirement 4, Detailed Design Approval, of the draft Order.	
Policy DP3: Key principles for well-designed places	DP3, paragraphs 3 and 4 - development proposals should be refused if, without clear justification, they conflict with paragraph 1 of this policy or relevant aspects of paragraph 2. Substantial weight should be given to compliance with relevant development plan policies. Principles in the Design and Placemaking PPG (draft January 2026) be used to inform how to apply this policy.	The outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan and outline Environment Management Plan set out how principles of good design can and will be achieved. This demonstrates, with reference to the draft Design and Placemaking PPG (draft January 2026), how the seven design principles have been reflected including: - liveability – design parameters establishing offsets from sensitive receptors including for example dwellings, schools, and community buildings. - Climate – where the proposed development contributes to achieving net zero targets - Nature – where environmentally led design has been applied from the outset. - Built form – where design parameters and environmentally led design has been applied to ensure the built form is delivered sensitively - Public space – where a network of permissive paths is proposed linking into the existing public rights of way network. - Identity – where design workshops were held with Stakeholders as part of the Applicant's statutory consultation process (further information is set out in the DAD).	Design Approach Document (DAD) [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.05] Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.05] Outline Environmental Masterplan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/02.12] Design Parameters and Commitments [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.06] Draft Development Consent Order [EN0110012/APP/LVS/03.01]

National Planning Policy Framework (August 2026)			
		The Design Parameters and Commitments establishes how the Proposed Development will be designed. Compliance with the parameters and commitments Requirement 4 in the Draft Development Consent Order (DCO) and will apply to the detailed design of the Scheme, to be secured post consent.	
Policy DP4: The design process	DP4, paragraph 1 requires design quality to be considered through the evolution, assessment and delivery of development proposals.	The Applicant has followed an environmentally led design approach ensuring that location and design decisions have been taken with a view to protecting the environment and local amenity. In addition to a non-statutory and a statutory consultation consultations in 2024 and 2025, the Applicant hosted two in-person Design Workshops in June 2025. Delegates including planning, conservation, rights of way, landscape and highways officers from North Yorkshire Council, plus colleagues from relevant statutory bodies, Parish Councils and local special interest groups were invited. The workshops were used to facilitate discussions regarding the emerging Design Principles and draft layouts.	Design Approach Document [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.05] Environmental Statement [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06]
Chapter 15 Promoting sustainable transport National decision-	The objective of the policy is to ensure that transport considerations are taken fully into account in the preparation of development plans and the evolution and assessment of development proposals; using a vision-led approach to embed the role that transport	ES Chapter 14: Traffic and Movement outlines that a vision-led Transport Assessment has been undertaken and that transport matters have been considered in the early stages of design development.	Environmental Statement Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Movement [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.14] Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 14.1: Transport

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making policies TR3, TR4 and TR6	infrastructure and choices can play in creating well-designed, sustainable, inclusive and popular places. TR3 – locating development in sustainable locations; TR4 – street design, access and parking; and TR6 – assessing transport impacts.	Impacts of the Proposed Development on the existing transport networks and users have been assessed as set out in in ES Appendix 14.1 Transport Assessment. Mitigation measures have been embedded into the design of the Proposed Development to mitigate residual adverse effects to a level which is not considered significant in EIA terms. The outline Construction Traffic Management Plan outlines how the measures identified in the ES for managing construction traffic will be implemented. The Management Plan is secured through draft Order Requirement 14.	Assessment [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.14.01] Outline Environmental Masterplan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/ 02.12] Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.12] Draft Development Consent Order [EN0110012/APP/LVS/03.01]
TR8 Public rights of way Paragraph 1 a and b	Development proposals should a. protect and enhance the network of PRowWs, including through suitable diversions agreed with the highway authority b. take opportunities to extend, link or improve the quality of existing routes where this enables one or more of the following: i. improved access to green spaces and the countryside	The Proposed Development has been designed to maintain public access throughout the operational phase, with existing PRowWs retained wherever practicable and supplemented by new permissive paths to improve connectivity and create additional walking, wheeling, cycling and equine options. The outline Public Rights of Way Management Plan (oPRowWMP) provides a framework for the management of walking, cycling and horse riding and other public access routes throughout the Proposed Development. The key objective is to	Outline Public Rights of Way Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.09] Planning Statement [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.02]

National Planning Policy Framework (August 2026)			
	ii. new direct and circular routes and connections between local and long-distance footpaths, bridleways and cycle routes; iii. provision of accessible, safe and convenient links to services and facilities and; iv. improve connections with public transport and interchanges.	ensure PRoWs remain open, and safe at all times throughout the Proposed Development's construction, operational and decommissioning phases, with the same applying to permissive paths during the operational phase.	
Chapter 16 Promoting healthy communities	The objective of the policies is to promote the creation of healthy and inclusive places and support the provision of appropriate public services, by enabling development which can support this aim and seeking to retain, improve and deliver new facilities which are important for community wellbeing and minimising inequalities.	As agreed at scoping, human health (including impacts on mental health and wellbeing) have been considered through the ES in various chapters and assessments which form part of the EIA, including within: ES Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual; ES Chapter 11: Noise and Vibration; ES Chapter 13: Socioeconomics; ES Chapter 14: Traffic and Movement; and ES Appendix 16.1: Construction Dust Assessment. The Planning Statement sets out the benefits of the Proposed Development which includes ecological and landscape enhancements, biodiversity net gain, creation of new permissive paths to provide pedestrians and riders improved accessibility to the countryside and improved connectivity of the wider Public Rights of Way (PRoW) network, and job creation and economic benefits.	Outline Environmental Masterplan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/02.12] Outline Public Rights of Way Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.09] Planning Statement [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.02] Environmental Statement Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.10.00] Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Appendix 2.1: The Proposed Development [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.02]

National Planning Policy Framework (August 2026)			
		Some key examples include the creation of approximately 8km of permissive paths which are proposed across the Solar Development Sites including SDS1, SDS4 and SDS6 to improve local connectivity. Further details regarding potential routes are shown in the Outline Environmental Masterplan and details set out in the Outline Public Rights of Way Management Plan. A key design aspect to help mitigate the impact of the Proposed Development is the inclusion of a minimum 15 m offset from all infrastructure, including fencing, to PRoWs. This will provide areas of screening and soften the appearance of the proposed development.	
Chapter 17: Pollution, public protection and security	The policy objective is to ensure that new development is appropriate for its location, taking into account risks posed by pollution and other hazards; that any impacts which development might have are taken into account; and that sufficient provision is made for development required for public safety and security.	In addition to the human health notes outlined in the row above, the assessment of environmental impacts of the Proposed Development demonstrates that there are no 'unacceptable risks to' or 'unacceptable interference with' human health and by association public safety following application of mitigation measures. Appendix 16.1 Construction Dust Assessment of the ES includes a summary of methods used to consider and assess the potential impacts, any likely effects and where necessary, recommended mitigation.	Environmental Statement Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.10] ES Chapter 11: Noise and Vibration [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.11] ES Chapter 14: Traffic and Movement [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.14] ES Chapter 15: Water Resources and Flood Risk [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.15]

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		An outline Battery Safety Management Plan has been prepared and will be secured by draft Order Requirement 5. The Plan confirms at paragraph 16.1.4 that an Emergency Response Plan will include as a minimum (amongst others) emergency procedures for all credible hazards and risks, including wildfires. An outline Construction Traffic Management Plan has been prepared to set out how measures identified in the ES for managing construction traffic from the Proposed Development will be implemented. This includes methods for the safe management of construction traffic.	ES Chapter 16: Other Environmental Matters [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.16] Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 17: Cumulative and In-combination Effects [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.17] ES, Appendix 16.1 Construction Dust Assessment [ES00110012/APP/LVS/06.01.17] Outline Battery Safety Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.06] Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.12]
Policy P3 Living conditions and pollution	Paragraph 2 b states development proposals should not give rise to, or contribute to, an unacceptable level of access to daylight or unacceptable levels of air, noise, artificial light, water, soil, or other forms of pollution on or beyond the site. Adverse impacts should be avoided where possible, or else mitigated to an acceptable degree. (note paragraphs c to f expand on paragraphs b).	A preliminary risk assessment of ground conditions is reported in ES Chapter 16 and assessments of visual impacts (including lighting), noise and vibration, transport, water resources and flood risk, construction dust, electromotive force (EMF) impacts, and battery fire safety have been carried out to inform the Proposed Development and reported in the Environmental Statement.	Environmental Statement Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.10] ES Chapter 11: Noise and Vibration [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.11] ES Chapter 14: Traffic and Movement [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.14]

National Planning Policy Framework (August 2026)			
			ES Chapter 15: Water Resources and Flood Risk [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.15] ES Chapter 16: Other Environmental Matters [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.16] Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 17: Cumulative and In-combination Effects [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.17]
Policy P4 Impact of development on existing activities	Paragraph 1 states existing activities (eg business and community facilities) should not have unreasonable restrictions placed on their current or permitted operations.	The primary effect identified in the ES Chapter 13 Socioeconomics, relates to the influx of construction workers across multiple developments in the same geographic area. While this is expected to generate economic benefits and contribute to local skills development, it also presents potential pressures on accommodation and local services. The Applicant has committed, through the oCEMP to appointing a Community Liaison Officer to lead discussions with local communities and act as the primary point of contact should there be any queries or complaints.	ES Chapter 13: Socioeconomics [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.13] Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.02]
P5 Maintaining public safety and security	Paragraph 1 requires development proposals to anticipate and address possible malicious threats and other hazards in relation to, amongst others, a	The Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan (oCEMP) sets out measures for managing security and reducing the risk of crime during construction. It notes that Site	Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.02]

National Planning Policy Framework (August 2026)			
	occupiers and users, c. uses which could pose a potential hazard to the surrounding area	security during construction will be managed by the Contractor(s). The Site security fencing will remain in place throughout the duration of the construction period. Any storage of materials will be kept secure to prevent theft or vandalism. A safe system for accessing the materials storage areas would be implemented by the contractor(s). Security measures may include security lighting on temporary site compounds and permanent structures; and security fencing. All security measures would be designed in with the ecological clerk of works. The Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan (oOEMP) sets out that during operation the boundary of the Solar Development Sites will be secured by both fencing and by the provision of Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) equipment. All new access tracks will be secured by gates, which will be set back from the public highway. Where existing access tracks are used that also provide access to residential properties, appropriate security measures will be put in place in consultation with the relevant property owner(s). There will be palisade fencing around the substations and BESS compound. Motion sensing security lighting would be provided within the substation compounds and within the BESS Compound to be used to maintain safe working conditions in winter	Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.03]

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		months, security purposes, and maintenance activities. Regular lighting is not required within the majority of the Solar Development Sites during the operation phase of the Proposed Development. Other potential security measures expected to be included comprise: - Detection systems such as beam break and image detection to raise alarm when fence breached; - Audio announcement when intruder detected to warn alarm triggered and police on way; - Barriers / locked gates at main entrances to the Sites; - Steel doors on substation buildings; - Buried cables, as much as practicable; - Remote monitoring; and - Alarm response contract with keyholder/security company.	
Chapter 18 Managing flood risk and coastal change F4 assessing flood risk F5 the sequential test	The policy objective is to minimise risks to development arising from all sources of flooding and coastal change, taking into account the impacts of climate change, by steering development away from areas of risk, ensuring that development will be safe for its lifetime without increasing flood risk elsewhere, and incorporating sustainable drainage systems where appropriate.	Chapter 15 of the ES and the Site Selection Assessment Report set out how flood risk has been considered at the site selection stage, including consideration of the Sequential Test. A Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) and Drainage Strategy have been submitted with the application, appended to Chapter 15 of the ES. The FRA includes details of the site-specific Sequential Test and Exceptions Test. Further	Environmental Statement, Chapter 15: Water Resources and Flood Risk [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.15] Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 3.1: Site Selection Report [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.03.01] Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 15.1a: Flood Risk Assessment

National Planning Policy Framework (August 2026)			
F6 development in areas at risk of flooding from rivers and sea F7 ensuring development is safe from flooding F8 Sustainable drainage systems and watercourses Annex F managing flood risk and coastal change		details on the Sequential Test and Exceptions Test are considered in the submitted Planning Statement. The Drainage Strategy includes details regarding sustainable drainage systems and watercourses. ES Chapter 15 sets out that any required mitigation (embedded and good practice) is secured through the Outline Construction Environment Management Plan, the Outline Operational Environment Management Plan and the Outline Decommissioning Environment Management Plan.	[EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.15.01a] Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 15.1a: Drainage Strategy [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.15.01a] Planning Statement [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.02] Outline Construction Environment Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.02] Outline Operational Environment Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.03] Outline Decommissioning Environment Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.03]
Chapter 19 Conserving and enhancing the natural environment N2: improving the natural environment	The policy objective is to influence the design and location of new development to help drive nature's recovery and contribute to wider environmental outcomes, safeguarding our most important habitats, species and landscapes and recognising the centrality of natural	The Design Approach Document sets out how the Applicant has considered and enhanced the natural and local environment by following a clear set of Design Principles, following an environmentally led approach to design. The ES includes assessments of Landscape and Visual effects, Agriculture Land and Soils,	Design Approach Document [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.05] Environmental Statement Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.10]

National Planning Policy Framework (August 2026)			
	capital to delivering sustainable growth. Policy N2 relates to: - Consideration of environmental qualities of land proposed for development - Take account of the quality of agricultural land and use of poorer quality land where possible - Taking opportunities to connect to and strengthen ecological networks beyond the site - Conserve and enhance natural features of value where possible, using landscaping - Use green infrastructure and nature-based solutions to secure multiple benefits such as for biodiversity, surface water and pollution management, climate change and recreation - Minimise adverse impacts on biodiversity and include features which support priority or threatened species - Ensure that green infrastructure and other features are located and designed to minimise future	Biodiversity (including aquatics), and Water resources and Flood. The suite of management plans include Outline Construction, Operation and Decommissioning Environmental Management Plans, an outline Soil Resource Management Plan and an Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan. The outline Environmental Masterplan sets out the proposals for green infrastructure.	Environmental Statement Volume 1, Chapter 5: Agricultural Land and Soils [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.05] Environmental Statement Volume 1, Chapter 6: Biodiversity [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.06] Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.02] Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.03] Outline Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.04] Outline Environmental Masterplan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/02.12] Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.05]

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	risk of failure and measures in place for long term management		
Chapter 20 Conserving and enhancing the historic environment	The objective of the policies in this chapter is to conserve and enhance the historic environment. Heritage assets are an irreplaceable resource and range from sites and buildings of local historic value to those of the highest significance, such as World Heritage Sites which are internationally recognised to be of Outstanding Universal Value. These assets should be conserved in a manner appropriate to their significance, so that they can be enjoyed for their contribution to the quality of life of existing and future generations.	ES Chapter 8 Cultural Heritage includes an assessment of impact on archaeological remains, Important Hedgerows, as well as heritage assets beyond the order limits (including views). A single significant effect has been identified on an Important Hedgerow within SDS 1 if it is removed in full. The ES has assessed the hedgerow as being of low importance, with its physical removal resulting in a moderate adverse effect. The Archaeological Mitigation Strategy has been updated post submission following completion of the geophysical surveys of the Cable Route Corridor. The Archaeological Mitigation Strategy is secured by Requirement 11 of the Draft DCO.	Environmental Statement, Chapter 8: Cultural Heritage [EN0110012/APP/06.01.08] Environmental Statement Volume 2 - Figure 8.1, Designated Heritage Assets [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.02.08.01] Environmental Statement Volume 2 - Figure 8.2, Heritage Assets and Non-Designated Heritage Assets [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.02.08.02] Environmental Statement Volume 2 - Heritage Assets Identified Through Archaeological Investigation [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.02.08.03] Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 8.3: Geophysical Surveys [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.08.03] Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 8.4: Trial Trenching Reports [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.08.04].

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			Archaeological Mitigation Strategy [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.11]
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3 Local Policy Accordance Tables

North Yorkshire Council's Selby District Core Strategy Local Plan 2011-2027

Selby Development Plan – Core Strategy 2013			
Policy	Policy Text	Assessment	Document Reference
SP1 Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development	The Council will take a positive approach that reflects the presumption in favour of sustainable development contained in the National Planning Policy Framework.	The Proposed Development will support sustainable development. As a renewable energy project, the Proposed Development will make a substantial contribution to the country achieving net-zero carbon emissions in line with Clean Power 2030 Action Plan (December 2024).	Planning Statement [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.02]
SP2A(c) Spatial Development Strategy	Development in the countryside (outside Development Limits) will be limited to the replacement or extension of existing buildings, the re-use of buildings preferably for employment purposes, and well-designed new buildings of an appropriate scale, which would contribute towards and improve the local economy and where it will enhance or maintain the vitality of rural communities, in accordance with Policy SP13; or meet rural affordable housing need (which meets the provisions of Policy SP10), or other special circumstances.	The Proposed Development covers some 1270.7 hectares of land, principally in the Selby Countryside. The development location is informed by: available grid connection at Monk Fryston, site availability within reasonable proximity of the grid connection location, avoiding environmentally (including heritage) constrained land. Further information is set out in ES Chapter 3: Alternatives and Design Iteration. The Proposed Development is estimated to support some 434 jobs through the construction phase of which half would be from the local area. According to Solar Energy UK, “solar farms provide diversification for landowners, by adding an index-linked, consistent income stream to their business that is not dependent on agriculture. It provides longer-term security against volatility in wholesale food commodity markets and yields,	ES Chapter 3: Alternatives and Design Iteration [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.13] ES Chapter 13: Socioeconomics [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.13]

Selby Development Plan – Core Strategy 2013

		offering support to their wider farming business/ operations.” (Ref 11)	
SP13 Scale and Distribution of Economic Growth c. Rural Economy	In rural areas, sustainable development (on both Greenfield and Previously Developed Sites) which brings sustainable economic growth through local employment opportunities or expansion of businesses and enterprise will be supported.	The Proposed Development is expected to enhance local employment opportunities with the creation of 434 net construction jobs, of which 217 would be from within the study area.	ES Chapter 13: Socioeconomics [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.13]
SP17C Low-Carbon and Renewable Energy	All development proposals for new sources of renewable energy and low-carbon energy generation and supporting infrastructure must meet the following criteria: i. are designed and located to protect the environment and local amenity or ii. can demonstrate that the wider environmental, economic and social benefits outweigh any harm caused to the environment and local amenity, and iii. impacts on local communities are minimised.	The Applicant has followed an Environmentally Led design approach ensuring that location and design decisions have been taken with a view to protecting the environment and local amenity. Wider environmental, economic and social impacts, including on communities, have been assessed in the submitted ES to inform understanding of how the benefits of the scheme will outweigh any harm caused.	Design Approach Document [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.05] Environmental Statement [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06]
SP18 Protecting and Enhancing the Environment	The high quality and local distinctiveness of the natural and man-made environment will be sustained by:	ES Chapter 8: Cultural Heritage supported by geophysical surveys, archaeological evaluations and Statements of Significance and Impact Assessments, presents an assessment of impacts on archaeological remains, Important	ES Chapter 8: Cultural Heritage [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.13.01] ES Chapter 6: Biodiversity [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.06]

Selby Development Plan – Core Strategy 2013

	1. Safeguarding and, where possible, enhancing the historic and natural environment including the landscape character and setting of areas of acknowledged importance. 2. Conserving those historic assets which contribute most to the distinct character of the District and realising the potential contribution that they can make towards economic regeneration, tourism, education and quality of life. 3. Promoting effective stewardship of the District's wildlife by: a. Safeguarding international, national and locally protected sites for nature conservation, including SINC's, from inappropriate development. b. Ensuring developments retain, protect and enhance features of biological and geological interest and provide appropriate management of these features and that unavoidable impacts are appropriately mitigated and compensated for, on or off-site.	Hedgerows, and heritage assets (including views). No designated heritage asset will experience loss of significance as a result of the Proposed Development. The Proposed Development does not significantly impact any international or national sites for conservation. Methods for enhancement and monitoring of biodiversity are outlined in the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan, Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan and Outline Bird Mitigation Area Management Plan. A BNG assessment has been completed for the Proposed Development to describe the expected biodiversity change post development. A minimum 15 m offset from all infrastructure, including fencing, to PRoWs is allowed for in the Proposed Development Parameters. Permissive paths are also proposed across the Solar Development Sites including SDS1, SDS4,	Outline Environmental Masterplan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/02.12] Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.05] Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.03] Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) Report [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.09] ES Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.10] Outline Public Rights of Way Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.14] ES Chapter 5: Agricultural Land and Soils [EN110012/APP/LVS/06.01.05] Outline Bird Mitigation Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.19]
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Selby Development Plan – Core Strategy 2013

	c. Ensuring development seeks to produce a net gain in biodiversity by designing-in wildlife and retaining the natural interest of a site where appropriate. Supporting the identification, mapping, creation and restoration of habitats that contribute to habitat targets in the National and Regional biodiversity strategies and the local Biodiversity Action Plan. 4. Wherever possible a strategic approach will be taken to increasing connectivity to the District's Green Infrastructure including improving the network of linked open spaces and green corridors and promoting opportunities to increase its multi-functionality. This will be informed by the Leeds City Region Infrastructure Strategy. 5. Identifying, protecting and enhancing locally distinctive landscapes, areas of tranquillity, public rights of way and access, open spaces and playing fields through Development Plan Documents.	SDS6 and SDS7. Further details regarding potential routes are shown in the Outline Environmental Masterplan and details set out in the Outline Public Rights of Way Management Plan. Landscape and visual have been assessed and reported on in the ES and measures to mitigate and enhance are outlined in the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan and Outline Environmental Masterplan. Outline Soil Resources Management Plan is submitted with the application which contains commitments with respect to mitigating impacts to soil resources. Air quality impacts have been scoped out of the ES with the exception of dust associated with construction. Further information is provided in the ES Chapter 16, Other Environmental Matters. Water resources potential impacts have been assessed and reported on in the ES including a Water Environment Regulations Assessment.	Outline Soil Resources Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.09] ES Chapter 16: Other Environmental Matters [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.16] ES Appendix 16.3: Construction Dusts Assessment [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.16.01] ES Chapter 15: Water Resources and Flood Risk [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.15] ES Appendix 15.02: Water Environment Regulations (Water Framework Directive) Assessment [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.15.02]
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Selby Development Plan – Core Strategy 2013

	6. Encouraging incorporation of positive biodiversity actions, as defined in the local Biodiversity Action Plan, at the design stage of new developments or land uses. 7. Ensuring that new development protects soil, air and water quality from all types of pollution. 8. Ensuring developments minimise energy and water consumption, the use of non-renewable resources, and the amount of waste material. 9. Steering development to areas of least environmental and agricultural quality.		
SP19 Design Quality	Proposals for all new development will be expected to contribute to enhancing community cohesion by achieving high quality design and have regard to the local character, identity and context of its surroundings including historic townscapes, settlement patterns and the open countryside. Where appropriate schemes should take account of design codes and Neighbourhood Plans to inform good design.	The Proposed Development has been shaped by environmentally led design. The submitted Design Approach Document (DAD) sets out how the principles of good design have informed the Proposed Development from the outset, following the Applicant's Project Objectives, Design Principles and Design Vision. Regarding the non-residential development key requirements: 1) Efficient use of land without compromising local distinctiveness, character and form and contributing to identity and heritage and create new and existing landscaping – while	Design Approach Document (DAD) [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.05] Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.05] Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.02] Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.03]

Selby Development Plan – Core Strategy 2013

	Non-residential development should meet the following key requirements: a. Make the best, most efficient use of land without compromising local distinctiveness, character and form. b. Positively contribute to an area's identity and heritage in terms of scale, density and layout; c. Be accessible to all users and easy to get to and move through; d. Create rights of way or improve them to make them more attractive to users, and facilitate sustainable access modes, including public transport, cycling and walking which minimise conflicts; e. Incorporate new and existing landscaping as an integral part of the design of schemes, including off-site landscaping for large sites and sites on the edge of settlements where appropriate; f. Promote access to open spaces and green infrastructure to support	there is limited choice in terms of physical appearance of a solar development, the Applicant has followed an environmentally led design approach promoting good design and will embed opportunities for a nature inclusive design including extensive planting to screen the Proposed Development. 2) Accessible and improved rights of way and access to open space – provision has been made for a network of pathways, including for walkers, cyclists and equines across SDSs 1, 4, 6 and 7. Works will be offset from existing Public Rights of Way by 15 m. 3) Safety and public and private spaces clearly distinguished, safe and secure – provisions for detailed design of fencing and security are secured through the Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan. 4) Sustainable construction principles and preventing unacceptable impacts (soil, air, water, light, noise) are secured through the full suite of submitted outline Management Plans	Outline Public Rights of Way Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.14] Outline Bird Mitigation Area Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.19] Outline Soil Resources Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.09]
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Selby Development Plan – Core Strategy 2013

	community gatherings and active lifestyles which contribute to the health and social well-being of the local community; g. Have public and private spaces that are clearly distinguished, safe and secure, attractive and which complement the built form; h. Minimise the risk of crime or fear of crime, particularly through active frontages and natural surveillance; i. Create mixed use places with variety and choice that compliment one another to encourage integrated living, and j. Adopt sustainable construction principles. k. Preventing development from contributing to or being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by unacceptable levels of soil, air, water, light or noise pollution or land instability. l. Development schemes should seek to reflect the principles of nationally recognised design		
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Selby Development Plan – Core Strategy 2013

	benchmarks to ensure that the best quality of design is achieved.		
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North Yorkshire Council's Selby District Local Plan

Selby District Local Plan 2005 – Saved Policies

Policy	Policy Text	Assessment	Document Reference
ENV1 Control of Development	In considering proposals the District Council will take account of: 1. The effect upon the character of the area or the amenity of adjoining occupiers; 2. The relationship of the proposal to the highway network, the proposed means of access, the need for road/junction improvements in the vicinity of the site, and the arrangements to be made for car parking; 3. The capacity of local services and infrastructure to serve the proposal, or the arrangements to be made for upgrading, or providing services and infrastructure;	The character of the areas potentially affected by the Proposed Development, and visual impacts on receptors, has been assessed in the submitted Landscape and Visual Assessment LVIA. The ES, developed in consultation with North Yorks Council, has assessed potential amenity impacts, including cumulative, on adjoining occupiers in the context of noise and vibration, construction dust, fire emissions modelling, glint and glare, traffic and transport, and water resources and flood risk. The relationship of the Proposed Development to the highway network, the proposed means of access, the need for road/junction improvements in the vicinity of the site, and the arrangements to be made for car parking have been discussed with North Yorkshire Council, are reported in the ES traffic and transport chapter and management proposals set out in the Construction Traffic Management Plan.	ES Chapter 6: Biodiversity [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.06] ES Chapter 8: Cultural Heritage [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.08] ES Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.10] Outline Environmental Masterplan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/02.12] ES Chapter 11: Noise and Vibration [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.11] ES Chapter 13: Socio Economics [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.13] ES Chapter 14: Traffic and Movement [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.14]

Selby District Local Plan 2005 – Saved Policies

	4. The standard of layout, design and materials in relation to the site and its surroundings and associated landscaping; 5. The potential loss, or adverse effect upon, significant buildings, related spaces, trees, wildlife habitats, archaeological or other features important to the character of the area; 6. The extent to which the needs of disabled and other inconvenienced persons have been taken into account; 7. The need to maximise opportunities for energy conservation through design, orientation and construction; and 8. Any other material considerations	The capacity of local services and infrastructure to serve the Proposed Development have been assessed in the ES Socioeconomics chapter. The proposed layout and landscaping, informed by the Proposed Development's relationship to its surroundings are set out in the Outline Environmental Masterplan. Detailed design of the components of the Proposed Development, including considerations such as appearance, materials, colour and alignment set out in the Design Parameters and Commitments Document. The potential loss, or adverse effect upon, trees, wildlife habitats, archaeological or other features important to the character of the area are reported on throughout the ES. Regarding the needs of disabled and other inconvenienced persons, details on the make up of proposed permissive paths are not yet confirmed and will be subject to discussion with North Yorkshire Council as set out in the outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan.	ES Chapter 1: Water Resources and Flood Risk [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.15] ES Chapter 16: Other Environmental Matters [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.16] Glint and Glare Assessment [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.16.04] Design Parameters and Commitments Document [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.06] Arboricultural Impact Assessment [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.16.03] Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.05]
ENV2 Environmental Pollution and Contaminated Land	A. Proposals for development which would give rise to, or would be affected by, unacceptable levels of noise, nuisance, contamination or other environmental pollution	The ES and associated Outline Construction Environment Management Plan, Outline Operational Environment Management Plan and Outline Decommissioning Management Plan set out details regarding Environmental Pollution risks and management of	ES Chapter 11: Noise and Vibration [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.11] ES Chapter 15: Water Resources and Flood Risk [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.15]

Selby District Local Plan 2005 – Saved Policies

	including groundwater pollution will not be permitted unless satisfactory remedial or preventative measures are incorporated as an integral element in the scheme. Such measures should be carried out before the use of the site commences. B. Where there is a suspicion that the site might be contaminated, planning permission may be granted subject to conditions to prevent the commencement of development until a site investigation and assessment has been carried out and development has incorporated all measures shown in the assessment to be necessary.	construction, operational and decommissioning risks.	ES Appendix 15.02: Water Environment Regulations (Water Framework Directive) Assessment [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.15.02] Environmental Statement, Appendix 16.3: Ground Conditions Preliminary Risk Assessment [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.16.03] Outline Construction Environment Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.02] Outline Operational Environment Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.03] Outline Decommissioning Environment Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.04] Outline Pollution and Spillage Response Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.08] Outline Battery Safety Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.06]
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Selby District Local Plan 2005 – Saved Policies

			Outline Soil Resources Management Plan [EN110012/APP/LVS/07.14]
ENV3 Light Pollution	Proposals involving outdoor lighting will only be permitted where lighting schemes: 1. Represent the minimum level required for security and/or operational purposes; 2. Are designed to minimise glare and spillage; 3. Would not create conditions prejudicial to highway safety or which would have a significant adverse effect on local amenity; and 4. Would not detract significantly from the character of a rural area. Proposals for development involving outdoor lighting should incorporate details of lighting schemes as part of applications for development. Proposals for development involving outdoor lighting should incorporate details of lighting	Construction-based lighting will be temporary, while operational permanent lighting will be sensor-triggered. Embedded mitigation measures will be employed through an Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan such as reducing the risk of artificial lighting on species, such as the use of sensor-triggered lighting. A sensitive lighting strategy will also be implemented during construction, operation and replacement campaigns.	Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.02] Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.03]

Selby District Local Plan 2005 – Saved Policies

	schemes as part of applications for development.		
ENV9 Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation	Proposals for development which would harm a local nature reserve, a site of local importance for nature conservation or a regionally important geological/geomorphological site, will not be permitted unless there are no reasonable alternative means of meeting the development need and it can be demonstrated that there are reasons for the proposal which outweigh the need to safeguard the intrinsic local nature conservation value of the site or feature.	As set out in ES Chapter 6: Biodiversity, no significant effects are anticipated on the qualifying habitats of the designated sites within the Proposed Development study area (as applied for ecology) during the construction, operation and decommissioning phases. Similarly, no effects are anticipated for geological SSSIs or locally designated geodiversity sites, as there are none identified within 250 m of the Order Limits. Embedded mitigation includes trenchless techniques for the crossing of the River Ouse, main rivers and IDB watercourses as well as ditches connected to SSSI and SINCs within the Cable Route Corridor to avoid impacts on ecologically important habitats.	ES Chapters 6: Biodiversity [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.06]
ENV12 River and Stream Corridors	Proposals for development likely to harm the natural features of or access to river, stream and canal corridors will not be permitted unless the importance of the development outweighs these interests, and adequate compensatory measures are provided.	Embedded mitigations measures include establishing 10 m buffer zones around watercourses (50 m from the River Ouse), avoiding Flood Zones 2 and 3 as much as possible through design development and a commitment to develop a suitable drainage strategy incorporating sustainable drainage systems (SuDS).	ES Chapters 6: Biodiversity [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.06] ES Chapter 15: Water Resources and Flood Risk [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.15]

Selby District Local Plan 2005 – Saved Policies

ENV13 Development Affecting Ponds	Proposals for development which would harm the landscape, townscape, historical or wildlife value of a pond will not be permitted unless: 1. The need for a particular development outweighs the particular value of the pond; 2. An equivalent habitat can be created on site or elsewhere in the locality which will provide the same landscape, townscape or wildlife value of the existing pond; and 3. Appropriate management measures are incorporated in the scheme.	The Proposed Development is not likely to cause deterioration of a water body or its ability to achieve good status or good potential. ES Appendix 15.2: Water Environment Regulations (Water Framework Directive) Compliance Assessment concludes effects would be minor and negligible. Embedded mitigation detailed in the Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan ensures no additional pollution, above current levels, enters ponds within the vicinity of the Cable Route Corridor and Highways Improvement Area, protecting the flora and fauna present. As a results, there will be no impacts on this habitat during the construction of the cable. Provisions for water monitoring are included in the Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan, for example where works, including HDD, are close to a water body. The need for monitoring will be assessed on a case by case basis.	Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.02] Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 15.2: Water Environment Regulations (Water Framework Directive) Compliance Assessment [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.15.02]
ENV28 Other Archaeological Remains	A. Where development proposals affect sites of known for possible archaeological interest, the District Council will require an archaeological assessment/evaluation to be submitted as part of the planning application.	Chapter 8 of the ES: Cultural Heritage, supported by geophysical surveys, archaeological evaluations and Statements of Significance and Impact Assessments, includes a worst case assessment of impact against archaeological remains, Important Hedgerows, as well as heritage assets beyond the order limits (including views).	ES Chapter 8: Cultural Heritage [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.13.01] Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.02] Archaeological Mitigation Strategy [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.11]

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	B. Where development affecting archaeological remains is acceptable in principle, the Council will require that archaeological remains are preserved in situ through careful design and layout of new development. Where preservation in situ is not justified, the Council will require that arrangements are made by the developer to ensure that adequate time and resources are available to allow archaeological investigation and recording by a competent archaeological organisation prior to or during development.	No designated heritage asset will experience loss of significance as a result of the Proposed Development. Mitigation has been embedded into the Proposed Development by design including the avoidance of direct impact to archaeologically sensitive areas. Where appropriate, the installation of concrete feet or non-ground penetrative techniques for the panels will help to preserve archaeological remains in situ. Section 8 of the AMS states all archaeological features and deposits revealed will be excavated by hand in an archaeologically controlled and stratigraphic manner, in order to establish their extent, form, date, function and relationship to other features. A full written, drawn and photographic record will be made of all features revealed during the course of the archaeological mitigation works. No finds will be discarded without assessment. The provisions of the Treasure Act 1996 (as amended) (Ref 12), will be followed. All finds of gold and silver, and associated objects, will be reported to the coroner according to the procedures under the Treasure Act 1996 (as amended), after discussion with the Applicant, the landowner, the Archaeological Advisor to North Yorkshire Council and the Finds Liaison Officer.	
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Selby District Local Plan 2005 – Saved Policies

T1 and T2 Development in Relation to the Highway Network and Access to Roads	Development proposals should be well related to the existing highways network and will only be permitted where existing roads have adequate capacity and can safely serve the development, unless appropriate off-site highway improvements are undertaken by the developer. Development proposals which would result in the creation of a new access or the intensification of the use of an existing access will be permitted provided: 1. There would be no detriment to highway safety; and 2. The access can be created in a location and to a standard acceptable to the highway authority. Proposals which would result in the creation of a new access onto a primary road or district distributor road will not be permitted unless there is no feasible access onto a secondary road and the highway authority is satisfied that the proposal would not create	Chapter 14 of the ES: Traffic and Movement reviews the traffic and movement interventions and impacts on both the Solar Development Sites and Cable route corridor, including access. It assesses the potential impacts of construction on severance, driver and pedestrian delay, pedestrian and cyclist amenity, and fear and intimidation. An Outline Construction Management Plan and Transport Assessment have also been produced. The former sets out the embedded mitigation measures that will be implemented for the proposed development during the construction stage such as clear signage and regular debris clearance. Creation of new accesses onto a primary roads and district distributor roads has been avoided. An emergency only access off the A63 is proposed for SDS 2 but only for use in the event of an emergency where prevailing winds might prevent use of the existing access point from the A63 (main access) and Fryston Common Lane (emergency only).	ES Chapter 14: Traffic and Movement [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.14] Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.12] Transport Assessment [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.14.01]
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Selby District Local Plan 2005 – Saved Policies

	conditions prejudicial to highway safety.		
T8 Public Rights of Way	Development which would have a significant adverse effect on any route in the district's public rights of way network will not be permitted unless the following can be achieved: 1. Satisfactory and attractive alternative routes are provided; and 2. Adequate sign posting is provided; and 3. As far as is reasonable, the new route can make provision for walkers, horse riders, cyclists and people with sight or mobility problems; and 4. In the case of new reasonable development, such development must replace extinguished rights of way with attractive highway infrastructure which is equally capable of accommodating appropriate users of the original right of way.	During construction, local management and/or short- term, temporary closures of some PRow is anticipated. Where a PRow runs directly through the Proposed Development, bespoke mitigation will be required as outlined in the outline Public Rights of Way Management Plan. Permissive paths are also proposed across the Solar Development Sites including SDS1, SDS4, SDS6 and SDS7. Further details regarding potential routes are shown in the outline Environmental Masterplan.	Outline Public Rights of Way Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.09] Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.05] Outline Environmental Masterplan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/02.12]
CS6 Development Contributions to	The District Council will expect developers to provide for or	The Applicant's Design Vision includes a commitment to " <i>leave a positive, enduring</i>	Outline Environmental Masterplan

Selby District Local Plan 2005 – Saved Policies

Infrastructure and Community Facilities	contribute to the provision of infrastructure and community facility needs that are directly related to a development, and to ensure that measures are incorporated to mitigate or minimise the consequences of that development.	<i>legacy for local communities through thoughtful, environmentally-led design and sustainable development”.</i> Provision is made for recreation routes and spaces, building on consultation feedback and policy provisions of NPS EN-1 and EN-3. Management of paths is secured through the outline Public Rights of Way Management Plan. The submitted Design Parameters and Commitments confirms that provisions will be secured in the draft Order for works number 9 to create and maintain green infrastructure, and works number 10 for creating permissive pathway for walkers, cyclists and equines. Opportunities for further environmental improvements are presented in the Outline Environmental Masterplan.	[EN0110012/APP/LVS/02.12] Design Parameters and Commitments [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.06] Outline Public Rights of Way Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.09]
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North Yorkshire County Council, North York Moors National Park Authority and City of York Council Minerals and Waste Joint Plan

Minerals and Waste Joint Plan (adopted 16 February 2022)

Policy	Policy Text	Assessment	Document Reference
S02	Within the Safeguarded Surface Minerals Resource areas shown	The Proposed Development is located within MSAs.	Planning Statement (Appendix C) [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.02]

Minerals and Waste Joint Plan (adopted 16 February 2022)

Safeguarded Surface mineral resources Developments proposed within Safeguarded Surface Mineral Resource areas	on the Policies Map, permission for development other than minerals extraction will be granted where: i. It would not sterilise the mineral or prejudice future extraction; or ii. The mineral will be extracted prior to the development (where this can be achieved without unacceptable impact on the environment or local communities), or iii. The need for the non-mineral development can be demonstrated to outweigh the need to safeguard the mineral; or iv. It can be demonstrated that the mineral in the location concerned is no longer of any potential value as it does not represent an economically viable and therefore exploitable resource; or v. It can be demonstrated that the mineral in the location concerned is no longer of any potential value as it	As set out in the Minerals Assessment in appendix C of the Planning Statement there will be a temporary and local sterilisation to minerals of brick clay and sand however the Proposed Development does not restrict the future extraction of these minerals after decommissioning. The need for the Proposed Development being classed as Critical National Priority and contributing to Clean Power 2030 Action Plan (December 2024) is considered to outweigh the need to safeguard the mineral for the operational lifetime of the Proposed Development.	
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Minerals and Waste Joint Plan (adopted 16 February 2022)

	does not represent an economically viable and therefore exploitable resource; or vi. It constitutes 'exempt' development (as defined in the Safeguarding Exemption Criteria list), as set out in paragraph 8.55). Applications for development other than mineral extraction in Safeguarded Surface Minerals Resource areas should include an assessment of the effect of the proposed development on the mineral resource beneath or adjacent to the site of the proposed development		
S07 Consideration of applications in Consultation Areas	Where development, other than exempt development as defined in the Safeguarding Exemption Criteria list, as set out in paragraph 8.55, is proposed in an area safeguarded on the Policies Map for minerals resources, minerals transport infrastructure, minerals ancillary infrastructure and waste infrastructure, and the proposed development site is located outside the City of York and North York Moors National Park areas,	The Proposed Development is not within the Exemption List Criteria, Consultation can readily take place, and consultation has already occurred via EIA Scoping Opinion.	ES Appendix 1.2 EIA scoping opinion [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.01.02]

Minerals and Waste Joint Plan (adopted 16 February 2022)

	consultation with North Yorkshire County Council will be required before permission is granted.		
W01 Moving waste up the waste hierarchy	Proposals will be permitted where they would contribute to moving waste up the waste hierarchy through: 1. the minimisation of waste, or; 2. the increased re-use, recycling or composting of waste, or; 3. the provision of waste treatment capacity and small scale proposals for energy recovery (including advanced thermal treatment technologies), which would help to divert waste from landfill.	It is anticipated that the Proposed Development will result in 162,243 tonnes of waste generated through all phases. Targets are included for the diversion of resources from landfill of 70% by weight for non-hazardous construction waste. As set out in ES Chapter 9 GHG waste will be segregated and recycled where reasonably practicable based on the principles in the oMWMP. Where replacement of assets is needed, the Proposed Development will seek to minimize the creation of waste and maximise use of alternative materials with higher recycled content where feasible. Considering legislation, industry best practice and based on the information gathered about the types and quantities of materials likely to be generated, the example targets suggested for waste diversion (by weight) arising from the Proposed Development are up to 90% of the forecast construction waste from non-hazardous landfill and up too 95% from non-hazardous excavation activities.	Outline Materials and Waste Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.07] ES Chapter 9 GHG [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.09]

Minerals and Waste Joint Plan (adopted 16 February 2022)

		All waste will be managed in accordance with the duty of care requirements under Section 34 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1990 and the Hazardous Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2005</i> All hazardous waste, including asbestos containing materials (ACM), will be segregated from non-hazardous waste, stored separately, and managed in accordance with the Hazardous (England and Wales) Regulations 2005 .	
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Escrick Neighbourhood Development Plan 2021-2035

Escrick Neighbourhood Development Plan			
Policy	Policy Text	Assessment	Document Reference
ED4 Agriculture	Support will be given to proposals for diversification of agricultural or other land-based rural businesses providing the proposal: • Supports an existing agricultural or rural business • Does not have a significant impact on production or lead to the loss of best and most versatile agricultural land and	ES Chapter 5: Agricultural Land and Soils presents the assessment of the significant effects on agricultural land and soils. 54% of the land within SDS 1 (closest SDS to Escrick Village) is BMV land. The majority of this BMV land is good quality Subgrade 3a land (45%), with only 9% very good quality Grade 2 land.	ES Chapter 5: Agricultural Land and Soils [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.05 Outline Soil Resources Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.14

Escrick Neighbourhood Development Plan

	does not harm the character of the area Does not result in significant increase in traffic movements, particularly HGVs	Direct, temporary, long-term (lifetime of the Proposed Development) loss of use of agricultural land across all SDSs is approximately the equivalent of 1% of the likely BMV land in the Selby District and 0.089% of the likely BMV land in the Yorkshire and Humber Region. While the majority of the land under solar panels will remain permeable and available for some agricultural use, there will be a temporary loss of productive farmland during construction and operation, and some disturbance to soil quality. Mostly, the land will be used for pasture, which will deliver long term improvement to the soil quality The installation will be temporary and reversible, meaning that once removed, the vast majority of soils beneath will retain their existing quality and will be capable of being returned to agricultural use. The Proposed Development would offer a stable diversification option for agricultural businesses and provide financial security against volatility in wholesale food commodity markets and yields, protecting the remaining farm operations.	
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Escrick Neighbourhood Development Plan

		An Outline Soil Resources Management Plan is submitted with the application which contains commitments with respect to mitigating impacts to soil resources. These measures will ensure that the agricultural land use will be protected in the long term.	
MT1 Traffic flow along A19	Development proposals within the Parish that will result in a major increase in the volume of traffic on the A19, will not be supported unless evidence is provided by the Applicant and/ or District and County Council that measures to address traffic safety and congestion will be part of any proposal made.	Access into SDS 1 would be required to facilitate construction, as well as allow ongoing maintenance access from the local highway network. It is anticipated that access would be from existing accesses wherever possible. HGV access to SDS1 1 will be routed to avoid vehicles passing through the centre of Escrick. Chapter 14 of the ES: Traffic and Movement includes an assessment of traffic and movement impacts during construction across in various categories like driver/pedestrian delay, pedestrian/cyclist amenity, accidents and safety. These can be readily mitigated by embedded methods outlined in the Outline Construction Management Plan. During the operation and maintenance phase of the Proposed Development, each Solar Development Site is expected to receive approximately five maintenance	ES Chapter 14: Traffic and Movement [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.14] Outline Construction Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.12]

Escrick Neighbourhood Development Plan

		visits per month, which is expected to generate less than a 1% increase of daily traffic volume.	
NE1 Green infrastructure	New development will be expected to: - include provision of multi-functional green infrastructure, and where possible, connect with the existing provision of green infrastructure, including Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation and existing woodlands; - not to sever existing green infrastructure networks, and must avoid areas of high ecological value; - achieve Biodiversity net gain of at least 10%; - replace any trees which are proposed to be removed due to development at a ratio of at least 1:1. Where new or replacement tree planting cannot be achieved within the site, a suitable location within the Plan area should be sought. Replacement planting should consist of native	Permissive paths are proposed across the Solar Development Sites including SDS1. Further details regarding potential routes are shown in the Outline Environmental Masterplan and details set out in the Outline Public Rights of Way Management Plan. During construction, local management and/or short- term, temporary closures of some PRow is anticipated. Where the PRow runs directly through the Proposed Development, bespoke mitigation will be required and outlined in the Outline Public Rights of Way Management Plan. A BNG assessment has been completed for the Proposed Development to describe the expected biodiversity change post development. Methods for enhancement and monitoring of biodiversity are outlined in the Outline Landscape and Environmental Management Plan and Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan. The southern portion of SDS 1 is being dedicated to create of a Bird Mitigation Area	Outline Public Rights of Way Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.09] ES Chapter 6: Biodiversity [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.06] Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.05] Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) Report [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.09] outline Bird Mitigation Area Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.19]

Escrick Neighbourhood Development Plan

	species and be consistent with guidance provided by SDC and/or Natural England; - ensure that the design and management of green infrastructure respects and enhances the character and distinctiveness of an area with regard to habitats and landscape types; - include space for community food growing such as allotments or orchards, where possible.	and further details are set out in the outline Bird Mitigation Area Management Plan.	
NE2 Green space connectivity	Proposals for the creation, enhancement or re-wilding of green spaces to provide leisure, recreational, carbon sequestration or biodiversity benefits to the local area are encouraged and will be supported.	Buffer zones and areas within the Solar Development Sites will comprise habitat creation, specifically for the benefit of wildlife and to provide net gain in biodiversity which is set out in the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan.	Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.05]
BEH1 Drainage & flood prevention	New development should not add to the overall level of flood risk in the Parish. Applications should demonstrate how flood mitigation and water management will be achieved and should follow the principles below: Surface water management measures will be required for	ES Chapter 15: Water Resources and Flood Risk assesses water resources and flood risk. The Proposed Development is classified as Essential infrastructure which is allowed within Flood Zone 3 where it is designed to be operational and safe at all times, and will not increase the risk of flood risk elsewhere.	Environmental Statement, Volume 1, Chapter 15: Water Resources and Flood Risk [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.15] Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 15.1a: Flood Risk Assessment [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.15.01a]

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	development proposals to ensure that the risk of flooding both on-site and downstream is not increased. • Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) as an alternative to conventional drainage is preferred and will be supported, provided that they can be shown to be suitable in the intended location and that such systems will be properly maintained. • Unnecessary culverting and the constriction of watercourses and their immediate environs will not be supported. • Enhancements should be made to the existing local sewerage system/ or water distribution network and to provide additional capacity where required.	All flood sensitive assets such as the BESS, substations and Inverter Conversion Units have been located outside of Flood Zone 3 where possible. Embedded mitigations measures include establishing 10 m buffer zones around watercourses. The design includes the incorporation of sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) and the implementation of a site wide Flood Evacuation Plan covering all phases of the Proposed Development. The Proposed Development requires two new permanent culverts on Solar Development Sites (SDS) 2 and 4, and a single temporary culvert (less than 2 years) on SDS1, plus seventeen temporary culverts within the Cable Route Corridor to allow construction access. Culverts will be designed in accordance with CIRIA C786, with sizing based on upstream catchment assessments, anticipated flows, and existing upstream and downstream control structures. Each crossing will be supported by detailed design information and standard drawings, including culvert dimensions, headwall details, and erosion protection.	
BEH3 Historic rural environment	Proposals for developments that have an undue adverse effect on the historic rural character of the Parish will not be supported.	Chapter 8 of the ES: Cultural Heritage, supported by geophysical surveys, archaeological evaluations and Statements of Significance and Impact Assessments,	Environmental Statement, Chapter 8: Cultural Heritage [EN0110012/APP/06.01.08]

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	Any proposals for development outside of current development limits must be of a suitable scale, sensitively designed, particularly where it is visible in open landscapes, and should utilise appropriate planting and screening to minimise visual intrusion.	includes an assessment of impact on heritage assets and conservation areas beyond the Order Limits, archaeological remains, and Important Hedgerows. The Design Approach Document (DAD) also confirms that the Order Limits of the Proposed Development were reduced to respond to archaeological assets.	Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 8.3: Geophysical surveys [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.08.03] Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 8.4: Trial Trenching Reports [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.08.04]. Design Approach Document (DAD) [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.05] Statements of Significance and Impact Assessments [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.08.05]
BEH4 Streets & street scene	All development proposals should be strongly focussed on the provision of safe pedestrian walkways enabling access to all local amenities and facilities. Improvements to ensure the provision and implementation of these safety measures include, but are not limited to; The provision of, and where necessary, improvements to footpaths, pavements, paths and street lighting to facilitate safe and convenient movement for pedestrians;	During construction, local management and/or short- term, temporary closures of some PRow are anticipated. Where the PRow runs directly through the Proposed Development, bespoke mitigation will be required as set out in the Outline Public Rights of Way Management Plan. Three permanent PRow diversions are proposed within Solar Development Site (SDS) 1, affecting bridleways 35.28/1/1 and 35.67/6/1, and footpath 35.28/3/1, to accommodate site infrastructure. Full details of the diversions are set out in the Outline Public Rights of Way Management Plan.	Outline Public Rights of Way Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.09] Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.05] for SD1, 1 and 6. Ref 5

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	- Limiting and reducing unnecessary street signage where it is safe and practical to do so; and - Ensuring that streets, footpaths and pavements are accessible and safe for all, including those with mobility issues or users of wheelchairs or prams and opportunities to enhance or extend walking and cycling routes have been included.	Measures are also included in the Outline Public Rights of Way Management Plan and Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan to target managing driving behaviours and timings of vehicles to reduce the volume of traffic. Permissive paths to create new access routes are detailed in the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan for SDSs 1, SDS4, SDS6 and SDS7.	
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