



**Canal &
River Trust**

Making life better by water

National Infrastructure Planning
Temple Quay House
2 The Square
Bristol, BS1 6PN

Your Ref EN0110012

Our Ref IPP – 250

Thursday 27th April

EN0110012 – Light Valley Solar Scheme

Deadline 3 – Response to ExQ1 (PD-008) – Our Registration Reference: F943E32F3

Waterway: River Ouse

Q1.15.17 – Watercourse Crossing Depth

The Canal and River Trust is to: a) provide further reasoning for requesting, in its relevant representation [RR-0177], a minimum 5m cable crossing depth for the River Ouse including the risk and implications if lower depths were used

The Trust is Navigation Authority for the River Ouse, with responsibilities for maintain safe vessel passage.

Our request for Horizontal Directional Drilling to take place 5m below the bed of the River Ouse is to reduce the risk of any pipeline becoming exposed in the river channel. We consider that an appropriate depth (of at least 3m) is also required to provide a suitable buffer should any accidental deviation from the planned route occur during its installation.

Riverbeds are susceptible to scour and erosion as they are natural watercourses with higher rates of flow, which could expose shallow laid pipelines over time. Any exposed pipeline would be more vulnerable to Collision from river debris or to damage from any dredging activities. Any damage could result in new hazards for river users or the need for closures for maintenance and repair. A 5m depth for the cable would limit the potential for scour and erosion to expose any pipeline over time.

A 5m depth would provide appropriate confidence that the potential for the pipeline to be exposed over time would be limited. We consider that a reduced depth of less than 5m would increase the risk of exposure over time.

In addition to the comments above, there is the need for pipelines being laid at an appropriate depth to account for any accidental deviation during installation, to limit the potential for any breach into the river channel. A minimum depth of 3m is normally considered appropriate to limit this risk.

Manmade waterways, such as canals, are less susceptible to erosion and scour. As a result, 3m threshold is normally considered appropriate in these waterways, unlike for rivers.

I hope that the above is of assistance. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any queries you may have.

Yours sincerely,

[Redacted]
Area Planner

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Fradley Junction, Alrewas, Burton-upon-Trent, Staffordshire DE13 7DN

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