



WHITESTONE
solar farm

WHITESTONE SOLAR FARM

Volume 6: Environmental Statement

6.18 Chapter 18: Summary of Significant Effects

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whitestonesolarfarm.co.uk

ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

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Glossary

Term	Meaning
<i>Cable Corridors</i>	Corridors within which the high voltage cables would be constructed.
<i>Environmental Statement (ES)</i>	The Environmental Statement which presents the environmental information relating to the Proposed Development. The ES has been prepared to present information for formal consultation in accordance with current EIA regulation.
<i>Order Limits</i>	Maximum extent of the Proposed Development comprising the Site and Cable Corridors.
<i>Scoping Opinion</i>	The opinion in response from the relevant consenting authority to an EIA Scoping Report adopted by the Secretary of State on 3 June 2025 which sets out the aspects to be assessed within an EIA. Informed by consultation with the relevant statutory bodies.
<i>The Applicant</i>	Whitestone Net Zero Ltd.
<i>The Application</i>	The Application submitted to the Secretary of State for a Development Consent Order.
<i>The Proposed Development</i>	The proposed Whitestone Solar Farm.
<i>The Site</i>	The land planned to be used for solar PV array and associated infrastructure, BESS, substation, landscaping and habitat enhancement. The Site is split into W1, W2, and W3.
<i>Whitestone 1 (W1)</i>	The northern parcels of the Whitestone Solar Farm.
<i>Whitestone 2 (W2)</i>	The middle parcels of the Whitestone Solar Farm.
<i>Whitestone 3 (W3)</i>	The southern parcels of the Whitestone Solar Farm.

Acronyms

Acronym	Meaning
<i>BMV</i>	Best and Most Versatile
<i>BESS</i>	Battery Energy Storage System
<i>DEMP</i>	Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan

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Acronym	Meaning
<i>EIA</i>	Environmental Impact Assessment
<i>ES</i>	Environmental Statement
<i>GHG</i>	Greenhouse Gas
<i>LCA</i>	Landscape Character Area
<i>LEMP</i>	Landscape and Ecology Management Plan
<i>LWS</i>	Local Wildlife Site
<i>oCEMP</i>	Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan
<i>OEMP</i>	Operational Environmental Management Plan
<i>oLEMP</i>	Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan
<i>W1</i>	Whitestone 1
<i>W2</i>	Whitestone 2
<i>W3</i>	Whitestone 3

18 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT EFFECTS

18.1 Introduction

- 18.1.1 This Chapter of the Environmental Statement (ES) summarises the Significant residual effects presented in the technical assessments of this Environmental Statement (**ES Volume 2, Chapters 6-17 [EN0110020/APP/6.6-6.17]**) relating to the construction, operation and maintenance, and decommissioning of Whitestone Solar Farm (the Proposed Development). The Proposed Development is described in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 5: The Proposed Development [EN0110020/APP/6.5]**.
- 18.1.2 **ES Volume 1, Chapter 2: EIA Methodology [EN0110020/APP/6.2]** describes the basis of EIA assessment, including the iterative process for proposing additional mitigation where initial assessment concludes likely significant effects. In some cases, additional mitigation is not sufficient to reduce Significant Adverse effects to Not Significant. The effects presented in this Chapter are the Significant residual effects (after the application of additional mitigation) predicted as a result of the Proposed Development.

18.2 Summary of Significant Residual Effects during Construction and Decommissioning

- 18.2.1 Due to the nature of activities decommissioning, the impacts are expected to be similar or less than those expected during construction. Therefore, these phases have been summarised together in **Table 18.1**.

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Table 18.1 Summary of Significant Residual Effects during Construction and Decommissioning phases

Activity	Receptor	Description of Effect	Mitigation Proposed	Residual Effect
Chapter 6: Biodiversity and Nature Conservation				
Construction and Decommissioning	Designated Sites – Brampton Common Local Wildlife Site (LWS)	Habitat Loss to LWS from construction / decommissioning activities	Embedded: Management via outline Construction Environmental Management Plan (oCEMP) [EN0110020/APP/5.9] and design principles	Low Magnitude, Adverse
Construction and Decommissioning	Priority Habitats – Native Hedgerows	Habitat Loss of priority habitat as a result of construction / decommissioning activities within the Order Limits	Embedded: Management via oCEMP [EN0110020/APP/5.9] and outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN0110020/APP/5.13]	Low Magnitude, Adverse
Construction and Decommissioning	Priority Habitats – Wet Woodland	Disturbance and/or harm to priority habitats from construction / decommissioning activities	Embedded: Management via oCEMP [EN0110020/APP/5.9]	Low Magnitude, Adverse
Chapter 7: Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment				
Construction and Decommissioning	Landscape Character Area (LCA) 8: Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland	Temporary change to landscape Character within Order Limits result of construction / decommissioning activities	Embedded: management via oCEMP [EN0110020/APP/5.9] and Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan (DEMP)	Major/Moderate Adverse
Construction and Decommissioning	LCA A1: Conisbrough and Denaby Coalfield Farmlands	Temporary change to landscape Character within Order Limits result of construction / decommissioning activities	Embedded: management via oCEMP [EN0110020/APP/5.9] and DEMP	Moderate Adverse
Construction and Decommissioning	Viewpoints 4, 14, 15, 16, 35, 37, 39, 40, 44, 47, 48, 59, and 60	Construction / decommissioning activity and equipment within view, ranging from immediate to mid-view impacts	Embedded: management via oCEMP [EN0110020/APP/5.9] and DEMP	Major, Major/Moderate Adverse

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Activity	Receptor	Description of Effect	Mitigation Proposed	Residual Effect
Construction and Decommissioning	Viewpoints 1, 5, 7, 13, 14, 15, 39 and 40.	Construction / decommissioning activity and equipment within view, ranging from immediate to mid-view impacts	Embedded: management via oCEMP [EN0110020/APP/5.9] and DEMP	Moderate Adverse
Chapter 8: Cultural Heritage and Archaeology – No Significant residual effects identified				
Chapter 9: Ground Conditions and Land Quality – No Significant residual effects identified				
Chapter 10: Water Resources and Flood Risk - No Significant residual effects identified				
Chapter 11: Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Assessment – No Significant residual effects identified				
Chapter 12: Air Quality – No Significant residual effects identified				
Chapter 13: Traffic and Transport – No Significant residual effects identified				
Chapter 14: Noise and Vibration – No Significant residual effects identified				
Chapter 15: Socio-Economics, Tourism and Recreation, and Land Use				
Construction on best and most versatile (BMV) land	BMV Land	Construction of the Proposed Development on BMV land changing availability of this land for arable use	N/A due to use of land for the Proposed Development	Moderate Adverse
Chapter 16: Other Environmental Topics – No Significant residual effects identified				

18.3 Summary of Significant Residual Effects during Operation

18.3.1 Table 18.2 presents a summary of significant residual effects expected during operation

Table 18.2 Significant Residual Effects during Operation

Activity	Receptor	Description of Effect	Mitigation Proposed	Residual Effect
Chapter 6: Biodiversity and Nature Conservation				
Operation	Designated Site – Brampton Common LWS	Enhancement of habitat in LWS	Embedded: Enhancement via Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (LEMP) and Operational Environmental Management Plan (OEMP)	Moderate Beneficial
Operation	Priority Habitats – Native Hedgerow	Enhancement of priority habitat	Embedded: Enhancement via LEMP and OEMP	Moderate Beneficial
Operation	Priority Habitats – Wet Woodland	Enhancement of priority habitat	Embedded: Enhancement via LEMP and OEMP	Moderate Beneficial
Operation	Priority Species – Bat	Enhancement of habitat for Priority Species	Embedded: Enhancement via OEMP	Moderate Beneficial
Operation	Priority Species – Reptile	Enhancement of habitat for Priority Species	Embedded: Enhancement via OEMP	Moderate Beneficial
Operation	Breeding Bird Assemblage	Enhancement of habitat for Breeding Birds	Embedded: Enhancement via OEMP	Moderate Beneficial
Operation	Barn Owl	Enhancement of habitat for Barn Owl	Embedded: Enhancement via OEMP	Moderate Beneficial
Operation	Hobby	Enhancement of habitat for Hobby	Embedded: Enhancement via OEMP	Moderate Beneficial
Chapter 7: Landscape and Visual Effects				
Operation	LCA A1: Conisbrough to Denaby Coalfield Farmlands	Year 1 changes to Landscape Character as a result of the Proposed Development	Embedded: LEMP and OEMP	Major/Moderate Adverse
Operation	LCA 8: Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland	Year 1 changes to Landscape Character as a result of the Proposed Development	Embedded: LEMP and OEMP	Moderate Adverse

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Activity	Receptor	Description of Effect	Mitigation Proposed	Residual Effect
Operation	LCA A1: Conisbrough to Denaby Coalfield Farmlands	Year 15 changes to Landscape Character as a result of the Proposed Development	Embedded: LEMP and OEMP	Moderate Adverse
Operation	LCA 8: Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland	Year 15 changes to Landscape Character as a result of the Proposed Development	Embedded: LEMP and OEMP	Moderate Adverse
Operation	Viewpoints: 16, 35, 40, and 48	Year 1 changes to views due to components of the Proposed Development	Embedded: LEMP and OEMP	Major Adverse
Operation	Viewpoints 4, 15, 37, 39, 44, 47, 59, and 60	Year 1 changes to views due to components of the Proposed Development	Embedded: LEMP and OEMP	Major/Moderate Adverse
Operation	Viewpoints 1, 5, 7, 13, 14, 15, 16, 37 and 39	Year 1 changes to views due to components of the Proposed Development	Embedded: LEMP and OEMP	Moderate Adverse
Operation	Viewpoints 4, 35, 40 and 44	Year 15 changes to views due to components of the Proposed Development	Embedded: LEMP and OEMP	Major/Moderate Adverse
Operation	Viewpoints 1, 5, 7, 13, 15, 35, 44 and 47	Year 15 changes to views due to components of the Proposed Development	Embedded: LEMP and OEMP	Moderate Adverse
Chapter 8: Cultural Heritage and Archaeology – No Significant residual effects identified				
Chapter 9: Ground Conditions and Land Quality – No Significant residual effects identified				
Chapter 10: Water Resources and Flood Risk - No Significant residual effects identified				
Chapter 11: Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Assessment – No Significant residual effects identified				
Operation	Net Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions	Displacement of GHG emissions over the lifespan of the Development by the production of renewable energy	N/A	Beneficial, Significant
Chapter 12: Air Quality – No Significant residual effects identified				
Chapter 13: Traffic and Transport – No Significant residual effects identified				

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Activity	Receptor	Description of Effect	Mitigation Proposed	Residual Effect
Chapter 14: Noise and Vibration – No Significant residual effects identified				
Chapter 15: Socio-Economics, Tourism and Recreation, and Land Use – No Significant residual effects identified				
Chapter 16: Other Environmental Topics – No Significant residual effects identified				



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