



WHITESTONE
solar farm

WHITESTONE SOLAR FARM

Volume 1: Application Form

1.6 Section 55 Checklist

Application Document ref. EN0110020/APP/1.6
Revision 01
June 2026

Planning Act 2008
Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed
Forms and Procedure)
Regulations 2009
Regulation 5(2)(q)

SECTION 55 CHECKLIST

Document status					
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Whitestone Net Zero Ltd		1 June 2026

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Prepared for:

Whitestone Net Zero Ltd



Section 55

Acceptance of Applications Checklist

Appendix 2 of [Advice on the preparation and submission of application documents](#)

Version: May 2025

Section 55 Acceptance of Applications Checklist

Relevant sections of the Planning Act 2008 can be viewed at legislation.gov.uk, here: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/>

All other secondary legislation referred to in this checklist is searchable, here: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/>

DISCLAIMER: This checklist is a non-statutory checklist for the Planning Inspectorate to complete. Completion or self-assessment by the applicant does not hold weight at the acceptance stage. Unless specified, all references to the Planning Inspectorate are made in relation to functions being carried out on behalf of the Secretary of State for the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.

Section 55(2) Acceptance of Applications				
1	Within 28 days (starting day after receipt) the Planning Inspectorate must decide whether or not to accept the application for Examination.	Date received	28-day due date	Date of decision
Section 55(3) – the Planning Inspectorate may only accept an application if it concludes that:		Planning Inspectorate comments		
Section 55(3)(a) and s55(3)(c): It is an application for an order granting development consent				
2	In accordance with sections(s) 14 to 30 of the Planning Act 2008 (the PA2008), is the development a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) (or does it form part of an NSIP); and does the application state on the face of it that, in	<p>Yes. The proposed development set out in schedule 1 of the Draft DCO [EN0110020/APP/3.1] includes development that is defined as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project under Sections 14(1)(a) and 15(1) and 15(2) of the Planning Act 2008 (PA 2008) by virtue of the facts listed below:</p> <p>The Scheme comprises the construction of a generating station (Section 14(1)(a) of the PA 2008):</p>		

	<p>accordance with s31 of the PA2008, it is an application for a development consent order (DCO) under the PA2008, or equivalent words? Does the application specify the development to which it relates, meaning which category or categories in s14 to 30 does the proposed development fall)?</p> <p>If the development does not fall within the categories in s14 to 30, has a direction been given by the Secretary of State under s35 of the PA2008 for the development to be treated as development for which development consent is required?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It would be located in England (Section 15(2)(a) of the PA 2008) • It would not generate electricity from wind (Section 15(2)(aa) of the PA 2008) • It would not be an offshore generating station (Section 15(2)(b) of the PA 2008); and • Its capacity would be more than 50MW (Section 15(2)(c) of the PA 2008). <p>Confirmation as to why the Planning Inspectorate should receive the DCO Application is set out in the Application Form [EN0110020/APP/1.1] and explained further in the Explanatory Memorandum [EN0110020/APP/3.2] to the Draft DCO [EN0110020/APP/3.1]. The Application Cover Letter [EN0110020/APP/1.2] clearly states that this DCO Application is for a development consent order under the PA 2008. A non-technical description of the Proposed Development is included in Non-Technical Summary [EN0110020/APP/6.21]. A more detailed technical description of the Proposed Development is included in ES Volume 1, Chapter 5: The Proposed Development [EN0110020/APP/6.5].</p>
3	<p>Summary: Section 55(3)(a) and s55(3)(c)</p>	
<p>Section 55(3)(e): The Applicant in relation to the application made has complied with Chapter 2 of Part 5 (pre-application procedure)</p>		
4	<p>In accordance with regulation 8 of The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (the EIA regulations), did the applicant (prior to carrying out consultation in accordance with s42) either (a) request the Planning Inspectorate</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>A request for Scoping Opinion was submitted to the Planning Inspectorate in accordance with Regulation 10(1) of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (the EIA Regulations 2017) on 23 April 2025. The Scoping Opinion was received from the Planning Inspectorate on 3 June 2025 and is provided at ES Volume 3, Appendix 2.1: EIA Scoping Report [EN0110020/APP/6.20].</p>

	adopt a screening opinion in respect of the development to which the application relates, or (b) notify the Planning Inspectorate in writing that it proposed to provide an environmental statement in respect of that development?	The Applicant provided notification pursuant to Regulation 8(1)(b) of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 that the Scheme is an Environmental Impact Assessment development, as defined by the EIA Regulations and an Environmental Statement will be submitted as part of the DCO Application. The notification was given to the Planning Inspectorate before statutory consultation commenced on 16 September 2025 pursuant to Section 42 of the PA 2008. A copy of the notification letter is provided in Consultation Report Appendix C: Statutory Consultation Notification [EN0110020/APP/5.1] .
5	<p>Have any adequacy of consultation representations (AoCR) been received from 'A', 'B', 'C' and 'D' local authorities; and if so, do they confirm that the Applicant has complied with the duties under s42, s47 and s48?</p> <p>Section 55(4) of the PA2008 provides that the Planning Inspectorate must have regard to the consultation report, and any AoCRs received.</p>	<p>Yes. The Applicant engaged with the host authorities to complete the Adequacy of Consultation Milestone in advance of submitting the DCO Application. The Applicant agreed the timeline for completing the Adequacy of Consultation Milestone with the host authorities ongoing engagement.</p> <p>The Applicant submitted the final Adequacy of Consultation Report to the Planning Inspectorate ahead of submission of the DCO Application on 23 March 2025 and is provided in Consultation Report Appendix F: Adequacy of Consultation Milestone Report [EN0110020/APP/5.1].</p>
Section 42: Duty to consult		
Did the Applicant consult the applicable persons set out in s42 of the PA2008 about the proposed application?		
6	<p>Section 42(1)(a) persons prescribed?</p> <p>The persons prescribed are the statutory consultees set out in Schedule 1 of The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>The Applicant has provided a list of persons consulted under s42(1)(a) between 21 May 2025 and 9 July 2025 in Consultation Report Appendix E: Statutory Consultation Materials [EN0110020/ APP/5.2].</p>

	Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (the APFP Regulations).	This list of persons consulted was produced using Schedule 1 of APFP Regulations, as well as individuals who were identified specifically by the Secretary of State within the Scoping Opinion. Details of how the Applicant identified and consulted with prescribed consultees where their statutory function was relevant to the Scheme during statutory consultation is included in Chapter 6 of the Consultation Report [EN0110020/APP/5.1] . Appendix C1.1 of the Consultation Report [EN0110020/APP/5.1] sets out each consultee prescribed in Schedule 1 of the APFP Regulations
7	Section 42(1)(aa) the Marine Management Organisation (MMO)? The MMO must be consulted in any case where the proposed development would affect, or would be likely to affect, any of the areas specified in s42(2) of the PA2008.	Not applicable. The Applicant did not consult the Marine Management Organisation under Section 42(1)(aa) of the Act, as the Scheme will not affect any of the areas specified in subsection (2) of Section 42 (e.g. tidal or offshore areas) or Schedule 1 of the APFP Regulations.
8	Section 42(1)(b) each local authority within s43? Definition of 'local authority' in s43(3) of the PA2008: The 'B' authority where the application land is in the authority's area; the 'A' authority where any part of the boundary of A's area is also a part of the boundary of B's area; the 'C' authority (upper tier) where the application land is in that authority's area; the 'D' authority (upper tier) where such an authority shares a boundary with a 'C' authority.	Yes. Table 6.2: Relevant Local Authorities for the purposes of consultation under s42(1)(b) of the Consultation Report [EN0110020/APP/5.1] lists the relevant local authorities that were identified and consulted. Figure 6.3: Relevant C and D authorities for the purposes of consultation under s42(1)(b) of the Consultation Report [EN0110020/APP/5.1] identifies the relevant C and D authorities that were consulted. The Applicant wrote to the consultees under section 42(1)(b) of the PA 2008 on 8 September 2025 providing an overview of the Scheme, explaining that the Scheme is an NSIP requiring a DCO application and is EIA development; that the party to whom it was addressed was being formally consulted under the requirements of Section 42(1)(b) of the PA 2008; the documents being provided as part of the consultation; and setting out how to respond to the consultation. A copy of the section 48 notice was also provided in accordance with Regulation 13 of the EIA Regulations. A sample copy of this letter and the enclosed section

		48 notice is provided in Appendix C: Statutory Consultation Notification of the Consultation Report [EN0110020/APP/5.1] .
9	Section 42(1)(c) the Greater London Authority (if in Greater London area)?	Not applicable. The Applicant did not consult the Greater London Authority ('the GLA') under Section 42(1)(c) of the Act, as the Scheme is not located within Greater London and therefore the GLA is not a relevant consultee.
10	<p>Section 42(1)(d) each person in one or more of s44 categories?</p> <p>Category 1: owner, lessee, tenant or occupier of land</p> <p>Category 2: person interested in the land or has power to sell and convey the land or to release the land</p> <p>Category 3: persons who would or might be entitled to make a relevant claim.</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>In line with Section 42(1)(d) of the PA 2008, the Applicant consulted with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • landowners, lessees, tenants or occupiers (Category 1 persons, Section 44(1)); • and those with an interest in the land or certain powers with respect to the land (Category 2 persons, Section 44(2)); and • Category 3 interests (those who the Applicant thinks that, if an order for development consent were to be made and fully implemented, would or might be entitled to make a relevant claim for compensation (s44(4))). <p>Landowners, lessees, tenants, or occupiers (Category 1 persons, per Section 44(1)) were identified via a diligent inquiry process covering research methods, title information, land interest questionnaire, and internet-based research. Further details on the methodology of this diligent inquiry process are provided in Section 6.2 of the Consultation Report [EN0110020/APP/5.1].</p> <p>Individuals who have certain powers or an interest in the relevant land, requests for information and collaboration with the wider project team to identify any interests not identified through the land referencing process. A sample letter for s42(1)(d) is included in Appendix C1.4 of the Consultation Report [EN0110020/APP/5.1].</p> <p>A list of the Category 1, 2 and 3 interests is provided in the Book of Reference [EN110020/APP/4.3].</p> <p>The full feedback and Applicant response are in Appendix E: Statutory Feedback (Part 1 and 2) of the Consultation Report [EN0110020/APP/5.1].</p>

Section 45: Timetable for s42 consultation		
11	<p>Did the applicant notify s42 consultees of the deadline for receipt of consultation responses; and if so was the deadline notified by the applicant 28 days or more starting with the day after receipt of the consultation documents?</p>	<p>Yes. The Applicant wrote to all consultees identified under s42 of the PA 2008 to notify them of the consultation. The Applicant wrote by first class post to consultees identified as falling within s42(1)(a), s42(1)(b), and s42(1)(d) of the PA 2008 on 8 September 2025, providing information on the Proposed Development, explaining the Applicant’s intention to submit the Application, listing the documents being provided as part of the consultation, explaining how to respond to the consultation and providing the deadline for submitting feedback.</p> <p>Paragraph 6.2.19 of the Consultation Report [EN0110020/APP/5.1] explains that the Applicant provided notification on 8 September 2025 that consultation responses were due by 28 October 2025, which is more than 28 days.</p> <p>Copies of the letters sent to the relevant consultees under s42 are provided at Appendix C: Statutory Consultation Notification of the Consultation Report [EN0110020/APP/5.1].</p> <p>In response to feedback from the statutory consultation and other project developments, the Applicant identified locations where the draft Order Limits needed to be increased to address potential issues. The Applicant conducted a targeted consultation from 4 March – 3 April 2026 on these changes. To notify the consultees of the consultation, the Applicant wrote to the consultees by post and included a pre-paid envelope and questionnaire to provide feedback. The notice described that the consultees could find more information on the proposed changes through a leaflet located on the project website. Copies of the leaflet, questionnaire and website are included in Appendix G: Targeted Consultation of the Consultation Report [EN0110020/APP/5.1].</p> <p>Further details of these targeted consultations are provided in Chapter 9 of the Consultation Report [EN0110020/APP/5.1].</p>
Section 46: Duty to notify the Planning Inspectorate of proposed application		

12	Did the Applicant supply information to notify the Planning Inspectorate of the proposed application; and if so, was the information supplied to the Planning Inspectorate on or before the date it was sent to the s42 consultees? Was this done on or before commencing consultation under s42?	<p>Yes.</p> <p>Section 4.3 of the Consultation Report [EN0110020/APP/5.1] sets out that the Applicant supplied information to notify the Planning Inspectorate in accordance with s46 on 8 September 2025, which was (i) on the same date as the notification to the s42 consultees and (ii) before the commencement of the s42 consultation on 16 September 2025.</p> <p>A copy of the s46 notification letter is provided at Appendix C2.1 of the Consultation Report [EN0110020/APP/5.1] and a copy of the s46 notification acknowledgement letter from the Planning Inspectorate is provided at Appendix C2.2 of the Consultation Report [EN0110020/APP/5.1].</p>
Section 47: Duty to consult local community		
13	Did the applicant prepare a statement of community consultation (SoCC) on how it intended to consult people living in the vicinity of the land?	<p>Yes.</p> <p>As required by section 47(1) of the PA 2008, the Applicant prepared a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) setting out how it proposed to consult people living in the vicinity of the Proposed Development.</p> <p>A copy of the Applicant's final Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) is provided at Appendix B: SoCC Development of the Consultation Report [EN0110020/APP/5.1].</p>
14	Were 'B' and (where relevant) 'C' authorities consulted about the content of the SoCC; and if so, was the deadline for receipt of responses 28 days beginning with the day after the day that 'B' and, where applicable, 'C' authorities received the consultation documents?	<p>Yes.</p> <p>In accordance with section 47(2) of the PA 2008, the Applicant consulted each local authority within section 43(1) of the PA 2008 (i.e. the host authorities) on the contents of the draft SoCC.</p> <p>Paragraph 5.4.1 of the Consultation Report [EN0110020/APP/5.1] describes that relevant local authorities were consulted from 24 July – 22 August 2025.</p>

15	Has the applicant had regard to any responses received when preparing the SoCC?	<p>Yes. The Applicant updated the SoCC in response to feedback from the local authorities.</p> <p>Table 5.1 sets out the changes the Applicant made to the draft SoCC in response to feedback from the local authorities of the Consultation Report [EN0110020/APP/5.1]</p>
16	Has the SoCC been made available for inspection on a website maintained by or on behalf of the applicant; and has a notice been published in a newspaper circulating in the vicinity of the land which states where and when the SoCC can be inspected?	<p>Yes. The Applicant made the SoCC available for inspection and published the SoCC in accordance with section 47(6) of the PA 2008.</p> <p>Section 3.4 of the Consultation Report [EN0110020/APP/5.1] sets out that the SoCC was published on the Applicant's project website on 10 September 2025 and notices were published in local papers on 11 September 2025.</p> <p>A copy of the notices and the newspaper clippings are included in Appendix C: Statutory Consultation Notification of the Consultation Report [EN0110020/APP/5.1].</p>
17	In accordance with Regulation 12 of the EIA regulations, does the SoCC set out whether the development is EIA development; and does it set out how the applicant intends to publicise and consult on the preliminary environmental Information?	<p>Yes.</p> <p>Pages 8-9 of the final SoCC explain that the Proposed Development is EIA development for the purposes of the EIA Regulations and set out how the Applicant would publicise and consult on the preliminary environmental information and is provided at Appendix B: SoCC Development of the Consultation Report [EN0110020/APP/5.1].</p>
18	Has the applicant carried out the consultation in accordance with the SoCC?	<p>Yes.</p> <p>Section 5.5 of the Consultation Report [EN0110020/APP/5.1] sets out how the community consultation was carried out in line with the final SoCC. Appendix I: Compliance of the Consultation Report [EN0110020/APP/5.1] provides evidence that the commitments within the final SoCC have been carried out.</p>

Section 48: Duty to publicise the proposed application			
19	Did the applicant publicise the proposed application in the prescribed manner set out in Regulation 4(2) of the (as amended) APFP Regulations 2009?	Yes. Paragraphs 6.5.1-6.5.4 of the Consultation Report [EN0110020/APP/5.1] explain that the Applicant produced a combined s47/s48 notice. The notice and the newspaper clippings are included at Appendix C: Statutory Consultation Notification of the Consultation Report [EN0110020/APP/5.1] .	
	Newspaper(s)	Date	
a)	for at least two successive weeks in one or more local newspapers circulating in the vicinity in which the Proposed Development would be situated;	Doncaster Free Press, Rotherham Advertiser and Derbyshire Times. A copy of this notice as published, which confirms the name of the publication and the date it was published, is provided in Appendix C3.1-3.9: Statutory Consultation Notification of the Consultation Report [EN0110020/APP/5.1] .	11 September 2025 and 18 September 2025
b)	once in a national newspaper;	The Guardian. A copy of this notice as published, which confirms the name of the publication and the date it was published, is provided in Appendix C3.1-3.9: Statutory Consultation Notification of the Consultation Report [EN0110020/APP/5.1] .	15 September 2025
c)	once in the London Gazette and, if land in Scotland is affected, the Edinburgh Gazette; and	London Gazette. A copy of this notice as published, which confirms the name of the publication and the date it was published, is provided in Appendix C3.1-3.9: Statutory Consultation Notification of the Consultation Report [EN0110020/APP/5.1] . No land in Scotland is affected by the Proposed Development, and there was therefore no requirement to publish in the Edinburgh Gazette.	16 September 2025

d)	where the proposed application relates to offshore development – (i) once in Lloyds List; and (ii) once in an appropriate fishing trade journal?	N/A – the Proposed Development does not relate to offshore development.	N/A
20	Did the s48 notice include the required information set out in Regulation 4(3) of the (as amended) APFP Regulations 2009?	Yes. The published combined s47/s48 notice, supplied at Appendix C3.1 of the Consultation Report [EN0110020/APP/5.1] , contains the required information as set out below.	

Information		Paragraph	Information		Paragraph
a)	the name and address of the applicant.	Page 1, paragraph 1 of Appendix C3.1: Statutory Consultation Notification of the Consultation Report [EN0110020/APP/5.1]	b)	a statement that the applicant intends to make an application for development consent to the Secretary of State	Page 1, paragraph 1 of Appendix C3.1 : Statutory Consultation Notification of the Consultation Report [EN0110020/APP/5.1]
c)	a statement as to whether the application is EIA development	Page 2, paragraph	d)	a summary of the main proposals, specifying the location or route of the proposed development	Page 1, paragraph 4-6

		2 of Appendix C3.1: Statutory Consultation Notification of the Consultation Report [EN0110020/APP/5.1]			of Appendix C3.1 : Statutory Consultation Notification of the Consultation Report [EN0110020/A PP/5.1]
e)	<p>a statement that the documents, plans and maps were available on a website maintained by or on behalf of the Applicant. The statement must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the nature and location of the Proposed Development • the address of the website • the place on the website • a telephone number which can be used to contact the applicant for enquiries in relation to 	Page 1, paragraph 6 of Appendix C3.1: Statutory Consultation Notification of the Consultation Report [EN0110020/APP/5.1]	f)	the latest date on which those documents, plans and maps will be available for inspection	Page 2, paragraph 6 of Appendix C3.1: Statutory Consultation Notification of the Consultation Report [EN0110020/APP/5.1]

	the documents, plans and maps.			
g)	whether a charge will be made for copies of any of the documents, plans or maps and the amount of any charge	Page 2, paragraph 6 of Appendix C3.1: Statutory Consultation Notification of the Consultation Report [EN0110020/APP/5.1]	h)	details of how to respond to the publicity
i)	a deadline for receipt of those responses by the applicant, being not less than 28 days following the date when the notice is last published	Page 3, paragraph 2 of Appendix C3.1: Statutory Consultation Notification of the Consultation Report		Page 3, paragraph 2 of Appendix C3.1: Statutory Consultation Notification of the Consultation Report [EN0110020/APP/5.1]

		[EN0110020/APP/5.1]
21	Are there any observations in respect of the s48 notice provided above?	
22	Has a copy of the s48 notice been sent to the EIA consultation bodies and to any person notified to the applicant in accordance with regulation 13 of the EIA Regulations?	<p>Yes.</p> <p>A copy of the combined s47/s48 notice was sent to the relevant consultation bodies as part of the s42 consultation on 8 September 2025. A sample of the s42 consultation letter provided at Appendix C1.2: Statutory Consultation Notification of the Consultation Report [EN0110020/APP/5.1], confirms a copy of the combined s47/s48 notice was enclosed.</p>
s49: Duty to take account of responses to consultation and publicity		
23	Has the applicant had regard to any relevant responses to the s42, s47 and s48 consultation?	<p>Yes.</p> <p>Chapter 4 of Appendix F: Adequacy of Consultation Milestone Report in the Consultation Report [EN0110020/APP/5.1] describes how the Applicant has reviewed and taken account of the responses received during the statutory consultation to date.</p> <p>Further engagement with relevant prescribed consultees will continue and shape how this feedback is addressed in the Application documents. The detailed responses to feedback are included in the Consultation Report [EN0110020/APP/5.1] and its Appendix E: Statutory Consultation Feedback of the Consultation Report [EN0110020/APP/5.1].</p> <p>In response to feedback from the statutory consultation and other project developments, the Applicant identified locations where the draft Order Limits needed to be increased to address potential issues. The Applicant conducted a targeted consultation from 4 March – 3 April 2026 on these changes. To notify the consultees of the consultation, the Applicant wrote to the consultees by post and included a pre-paid envelope and questionnaire to provide feedback. The notice described that the consultees could find more information on the proposed changes</p>

		<p>through a leaflet located on the project website. Copies of the leaflet, questionnaire and website are included in Appendix G1.1-1.3 of the Consultation Report [EN0110020/APP/5.1].</p> <p>Further details of these targeted consultations are provided in Chapter 9 of the Consultation Report [EN0110020/APP/5.1].</p>
<p>S50(3) Regard to guidance about pre-application procedure</p>		
<p>24</p>	<p>To what extent has the applicant had regard to statutory guidance ‘Planning Act 2008: Pre-application stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects’?</p> <p>The Planning Inspectorate must have regard to the extent to which the applicant has had regard to guidance issued under s50.</p>	<p>Appendix B: SoCC Development of the Consultation Report [EN0110020/APP/5.1] demonstrates that the Applicant conducted its consultation in compliance with the “Planning Act 2008: Pre-application stage for Nationally Significant infrastructure Projects” issued in April 2024 under Section 50 of the PA 2008.</p> <p>At each stage in preparing the DCO Application, the Applicant has also had full regard to the following Government guidance which relates to pre-application procedure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MHCLG and DLUHC Guidance ‘Planning Act 2008: Content of a Development Consent Order required for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects’ (April 2024) in preparing the draft DCO [EN0110020/APP/3.1] • MHCLG and DLUHC Guidance ‘Guidance related to procedures for the compulsory acquisition of land’ (September 2013) in preparing the Statement of Reasons [EN0110020/APP/4.1] • MHCLG and DLUHC Guidance ‘Introduction to National Infrastructure Planning Guidance’ (April 2024) • MHCLG Guidance ‘Planning Act 2008: Application form guidance’ (June 2013) in preparing the Application Form [EN0110020/APP/1.1] • MHCLG and DLUHC Guidance ‘Guidance on procedural requirements for major infrastructure projects’ (updated December 2020); and • MHCLG Guidance ‘Associated development applications for major infrastructure projects’ (April 2013). <p>Although not pre-application guidance, for completeness, the Applicant has also had regard to relevant updated Planning Inspectorate advice:</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: 2024 Pre-application Prospectus’ (updated March 2026) in preparing the Pre-application Programme Document [EN0110020/APP/1.5]; and • ‘Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: Advice on the Preparation and Submission of Application Documents’ (updated January 2025).
25	Summary: Section 55(3)(e)	
s55(3)(f) and s55(5A): The application (including accompaniments) achieves a satisfactory standard having regard to the extent to which it complies with section 37(3) (form and contents of application) and with any standards set under section 37(5) and follows any applicable guidance under section 37(4)		
26	<p>Is it made in the prescribed form as set out in Schedule 2 of the APFP Regulations, and does it include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a brief statement which explains why it falls within the remit of the Planning Inspectorate; and • a brief statement that clearly identifies the location of the application site, or the route if it is a linear scheme? 	<p>Yes. The DCO Application is made in the prescribed form as set out in Schedule 2 of the APFP Regulations.</p> <p>The Application Cover Letter [EN0110020/APP/1.2] provides a brief statement as to why the Scheme falls within the remit of the Planning Inspectorate, as well as Section 4 of the Application Form [EN0110020/APP/1.1] and the Explanatory Memorandum [EN0110020/APP/3.2]. Section 5 of the Application Form [EN0110020/APP/1.1] provides a brief non-technical description of the Scheme and Section 6 provides the location of the Site. A Explanatory Memorandum [EN0110020/APP/3.2] has been provided with the Application to show the location of the Proposed Development.</p>
27	Is it accompanied by a consultation report?	Yes. The DCO Application is accompanied by a Consultation Report [EN0110020/APP/5.1] .
28	In accordance with regulation 5(4) of the APFP Regulations, where a plan comprises three or more separate sheets, has a key plan been provided	<p>Yes. Several plans comprise of three or more separate sheets.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location plans [EN0110020/APP/2.1] • Land Plans [EN0110020/APP/2.2]

	showing the relationship between the different sheets?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Works Plans [EN0110020/APP/2.3] • Rights of Way, Streets and Access Plans [EN0110020/APP/2.4] • Traffic Regulations Plans [EN0110020/APP/2.5] • Statutory and Non-Statutory Ecological Sites [EN0110020/APP/2.6] • Statutory and Non-Statutory Historic Assets [EN0110020/APP/2.7] • Crown Land Plan [EN0110020/APP/2.8] • Vegetation Removal Plan [EN0110020/APP/2.9] 												
29	Is it accompanied by the documents and information set out in APFP Regulation 5(2)?	Yes. The documents and information required by the APFP Regulation 5(2) are set out as listed below. The Guide to the Application [EN0110020/APP/1.3] lists the documents submitted and accompanying APFP Regulation references.												
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 25%;"></th> <th style="width: 25%; text-align: center;">Information</th> <th style="width: 25%; text-align: center;">Document</th> <th style="width: 25%;"></th> <th style="width: 25%; text-align: center;">Information</th> <th style="width: 25%; text-align: center;">Document</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;">a)</td> <td style="vertical-align: top;">Where applicable, the environmental statement required under the EIA regulations and any scoping or screening opinions or directions</td> <td style="vertical-align: top;">Yes. The DCO Application is accompanied by an Environmental Statement [EN0110020/AP P/6.1 – 6.18] and supporting Figures [EN0110020/AP P/6.19] and Appendices [EN0110020/AP P/6.20] have been submitted</td> <td style="vertical-align: top;">b)</td> <td style="vertical-align: top;">The draft development consent order (DCO)</td> <td style="vertical-align: top;">Yes. The DCO Application includes a draft DCO [EN0110020/APP/3.1].</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				Information	Document		Information	Document	a)	Where applicable, the environmental statement required under the EIA regulations and any scoping or screening opinions or directions	Yes. The DCO Application is accompanied by an Environmental Statement [EN0110020/AP P/6.1 – 6.18] and supporting Figures [EN0110020/AP P/6.19] and Appendices [EN0110020/AP P/6.20] have been submitted	b)	The draft development consent order (DCO)	Yes. The DCO Application includes a draft DCO [EN0110020/APP/3.1] .
	Information	Document		Information	Document									
a)	Where applicable, the environmental statement required under the EIA regulations and any scoping or screening opinions or directions	Yes. The DCO Application is accompanied by an Environmental Statement [EN0110020/AP P/6.1 – 6.18] and supporting Figures [EN0110020/AP P/6.19] and Appendices [EN0110020/AP P/6.20] have been submitted	b)	The draft development consent order (DCO)	Yes. The DCO Application includes a draft DCO [EN0110020/APP/3.1] .									

		with the Application.			
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?			Is this of a satisfactory standard?	
c)	An explanatory memorandum explaining the purpose and effect of provisions in the draft DCO	Yes. The DCO Application includes an Explanatory Memorandum [EN0110020/AP P/3.2] which explains the purpose and effect of the draft DCO [EN0110020/AP P/3.1] .	d)	Where applicable, a book of reference	Yes. A Book of Reference [EN0110020/APP/4.3] is provided and meets the requirements of DCLG's Planning Act 2008: guidance related to procedures for the compulsory acquisition of land.
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?			Is this of a satisfactory standard?	
e)	A copy of any flood risk assessment	Yes. The DCO Application includes a Technical Appendix 10.3 - Flood Risk Assessment	f)	A statement whether the proposal engages one or more of the matters set out in section 79(1) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 (statutory nuisances)	Yes. A Statutory Nuisance Statement [EN0110020/APP/5.2] is provided with the Application in accordance with Regulation 5(2)(f) of the APFP Regulations.

				and if so how the Applicant proposes to mitigate or limit them	
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?			Is this of a satisfactory standard?	
h)	A statement of reasons and a funding statement (where the application involves any compulsory acquisition)	Yes. The DCO Application includes a Statement of Reasons [EN0110020/AP P/4.1] and a Funding Statement [EN0110020/AP P/4.2] .	i)	A land plan identifying:- (ii) the land required for, or affected by, the proposed development; (iii) where applicable, any land over which it is proposed to exercise powers of compulsory acquisition or any rights to use land; (iv) any land in relation to which it is proposed to extinguish easements, servitudes and	Yes. The DCO Application includes a Land Plans [EN0110020/APP/2.2] in accordance with Regulation 5(2)(i) of the APFP Regulations. Plots and descriptions listed within the Book of Reference [EN0110020/APP/4.3] are consistent with the plots shown on the Land Plan.

			other private rights; and	
			(v) any special category land and replacement land	
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?		Is this of a satisfactory standard?	
j)	A works plan showing, in relation to existing features:- (i) the proposed location or (for a linear scheme) the proposed route and alignment of the development and works; and (ii) the limits within which the development and works	Yes. The DCO Application includes a Works Plans [EN0110020/AP P/2.3] . The Works Plan accord with APFP Regulation 5(2)(j) and show the proposed location of the development and the limits within which the works are proposed to be carried out.	k) Where applicable, a plan identifying any new or altered means of access, stopping up of streets or roads or any diversions, extinguishments or creation of rights of way or public rights of navigation	Yes. The DCO Application includes a Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans [EN0110020/APP/2.4] . These plans are in accordance with Regulations 5(2)(k) and 5(2)(o) of the APFP Regulations respectively.

	may be carried out and any limits of deviation provided for in the draft DCO				
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?			Is this of a satisfactory standard?	
l)	<p>Where applicable, a plan with accompanying information identifying:-</p> <p>(i) any statutory or non-statutory sites or features of nature conservation, for example sites of geological or landscape importance;</p> <p>(ii) habitats of protected species, important</p>	<p>Yes. The DCO Application includes a Statutory and Non-Statutory Ecological Sites [EN0110020/APP/2.6]</p>	m)	<p>Where applicable, a plan with accompanying information identifying any statutory or non-statutory sites or features of the historic environment, (for example scheduled monuments, world heritage sites, listed buildings, archaeological sites and registered battlefields) together with an assessment of any effects on such sites, features or structures likely to be caused by the proposed development</p>	<p>Yes. The DCO Application includes a Statutory and Non-Statutory Historic Assets [EN0110020/APP/2.7]</p>

n)	habitats or other diversity features; and (iii) water bodies in a river basin management plan, together with an assessment of any effects on such sites, features, habitats or bodies likely to be caused by the proposed development			
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?			Is this of a satisfactory standard?
	Where applicable, a plan with any accompanying information identifying any Crown land	Yes. This DCO includes a Crown Land Plan [EN0110020/APP/2.8]	o)	Any other plans, drawings and sections necessary to describe the development consent proposal showing details of design, external appearance, and the preferred layout of buildings, structures,

			drainage, surface water management, means of vehicular and pedestrian access, any car parking and landscaping	
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?		Are they of a satisfactory standard?	
p)	Any of the documents prescribed by regulation 6 of the APFP regulations:	Yes. The DCO Application includes a Grid Connection Statement [EN0110020/APP/7.1]	q) Any other documents considered necessary to support the application	The following documents have been included in support of the DCO Application: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application Form [EN0110020/APP/1.1] • Application Cover Letter [EN0110020/APP/1.2] • Guide to the Application [EN0110020/APP/1.3] • Copies of Newspaper Notices [EN0110020/APP/1.4] • Pre-Application Programme Document [EN0110020/APP/1.5] • Draft DCO Validation Report [EN0110020/APP/3.3] • Land and Rights Negotiations Tracker [EN0110020/APP/4.4] • Policy Compliance Document [EN0110020/APP/5.5] • Potential Main Issues for Examination [EN0110020/APP/5.6]

					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design Approach Document [EN0110020/APP/5.7] • Statement of Need [EN0110020/APP/5.8] • Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan (oCEMP) [EN0110020/APP/5.9] • Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan (oOEMP) [EN0110020/APP/5.10] • Outline Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan (oDEMP) [EN0110020/APP/5.11] • Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (oCTMP) [EN0110020/APP/5.12] • Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP) [EN0110020/APP/5.13] • Outline Public Rights of Way Management Plan (oPROWMP) [EN0110020/APP/5.14] • Outline Battery Safety Management Plan (oBSMP) [EN0110020/APP/5.15] • Outline Written Scheme of Investigation (oWSI) [EN0110020/APP/5.16] • Outline Surface Water Drainage Strategy [EN0110020/APP/5.17]
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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outline Skills and Supply Chain Management Plan [EN0110020/APP/5.18] • Outline Cable Construction Method Statement [EN0110020/APP/5.19]
	Are they of a satisfactory standard?			Are they of a satisfactory standard?	
30	Are there any observations in respect of the documents provided at Box 29 (a) to (q) above?				
31	In accordance with Regulation 5(2)(g) of the APFP regulations, is the application accompanied by a report identifying any European site(s) to which regulation 48 of The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 applies; or any Ramsar site(s), which may be affected by the proposed development, together with sufficient information that will enable the Secretary of State to make an appropriate assessment of the implications for the site if required by regulation 48(1)?	Yes. A Technical Appendix 6.2 - UK Habitat Survey Report [EN0110020/APP/6.20] is provided at as a stand-alone document. The Technical Appendix 6.2 - UK Habitat Survey Report [EN0110020/APP/6.20] identifies relevant European sites and the likely effect on those sites. The Technical Appendix 6.2 - UK Habitat Survey Report [EN0110020/APP/6.20] provides sufficient information for the Secretary of State to undertake an appropriate assessment to determine whether the Scheme would have an adverse effect on the integrity of any European site.			

32	In accordance with regulation 5(2)(r) of the APFP regulations, if requested by the Planning Inspectorate, have two paper copies of the application form and other supporting documents and plans been provided?	The Planning Inspectorate confirmed to the Applicant that no hard copies of the DCO Application are required at the point of the submission. The Applicant has not been advised that any documents are required in hard copy.
33	Has the applicant had regard to statutory guidance 'Planning Act 2008: Application form guidance'?	The DCLG guidance 'Planning Act 2008: Application Form Guidance' has been used to prepare the Application Form [EN0110020/APP/1.1] , The Applicant considers that the Application submission has been provided in the form set out by this guidance.
34	Summary - s55(3)(f) and s55(5A)	
The Infrastructure Planning (Fees) Regulations 2010 (as amended)		
Pre-application fee		
35	<p>Were all pre-application fees paid before the application was made?</p> <p>Pre-application services for which a fee can be charged is defined in regulation 2A(8) and includes services listed within schedule 1 of the Infrastructure Planning (Fees) Regulations 2010. Fees for pre-application services apply to all proposed applications, from the inception meeting. These fees must be paid within 28 days</p>	Yes. The pre-application fees were paid on 26/05/2026.

	<p>of the notice. If the applicant fails to pay the fee within 28 days, the Planning Inspectorate will not provide the applicant with any further pre-application services or take any further steps in relation to the proposed application.</p>	
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Fees to accompany an application

36	<p>Was the fee paid at the same time that the application was made?</p> <p>The Planning Inspectorate must charge the applicant a fee in respect of the decision by the Planning Inspectorate under section 55 of the PA2008. If the applicant fails to pay the fee, the Planning Inspectorate need not consider the application until payment is received. The fee must be paid at the same time that the application is made</p>	<p>The fee payment of £ 9,286.00 was made on 27/05/2026 by a BACS transfer, in advance of the Application submission. This was confirmed as received by the Planning Inspectorate on 03/06/2026.</p>
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Role	Electronic signature	Date
Case Manager		

Acceptance Inspector		
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