



MORGAN AND MORECAMBE OFFSHORE WIND FARMS: TRANSMISSION ASSETS

South Ribble Borough Council SoCG



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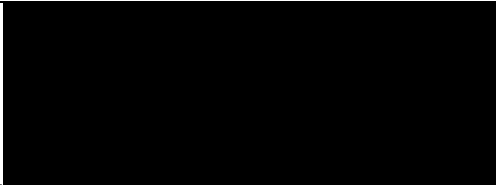



Morgan Offshore Wind Limited,
Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Ltd

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Glossary

Term	Meaning
Applicants	Morgan Offshore Wind Limited (Morgan OWL) and Morecambe Offshore Wind Limited (Morecambe OWL)
Development Consent Order	An order made under the Planning Act 2008 granting development consent for one or more Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP).

Acronyms

Acronym	Meaning
CoCP	Code of Construction Practice
DCO	Development Consent Order
EnBW	Energie Baden-Württemberg AG
ExA	Examining Authority
FRA	Flood Risk Assessment
SoCG	Statement of Common Ground
SRBC	South Ribble Borough Council

1 Initial Statement of Common Ground between Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms: Transmission Assets and South Ribble Borough Council

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 Overview

1.1.1.1 This Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) has been prepared between Morgan Offshore Wind Limited and Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Ltd (hereafter referred to as ‘the Applicants’) and South Ribble Borough Council (SRBC), together the parties. The SoCG sets out the areas of agreement and disagreement between the parties in relation to the proposed Development Consent Order (DCO) application for the Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms: Transmission Assets (hereafter referred to as ‘the Transmission Assets’).

1.1.1.2 The need for a SoCG between the Applicants and South Ribble Borough Council is set out in section 1 of Appendix F of the Rule 6 letter issued by the Planning Inspectorate on 28 March 2025.

1.1.1.3 This document is intended to provide the Examining Authority (ExA) with an overview of the level of common ground between the parties. The SoCG will identify where agreement has been reached, where differences lie and the reasons for disagreement or outstanding matters. The SoCG will also specify the actions needed to address the issues and will facilitate further discussion between the parties. The SoCG will be updated during the Transmission Assets Examination and submitted at the Deadlines indicated in the Rule 6 letter.

1.1.2 Transmission Assets elements under South Ribble Borough Council’s remit

1.1.2.1 The elements of the Transmission Assets which may affect the interests of SRBC include Morgan and Morecambe’s 400kV connection with National Grid and the River Ribble crossing. These are detailed in Schedule 1 (Authorised Project), Part 1 (Authorised Development) of the Draft DCO (AS-004).

1.1.2.2 This SoCG covers the following topics of relevance to South Ribble Borough Council:

- Geology, Hydrogeology and Ground Conditions;
- Hydrology and Flood Risk;
- Landscape and Visual Resources;
- Onshore Ecology and Nature Conservation;
- Noise and Vibration;
- Air Quality; and

-
- DCO

1.1.3 Overview of Transmission Assets

- 1.1.3.1 The design philosophy for the Transmission Assets is for the Morgan Offshore Wind Project: Generation Assets and the Morecambe Offshore Windfarm: Generation Assets (referred to as ‘the Generation Assets’) to be electrically independent. Therefore, each offshore wind farm will have its own separate set of transmission assets (e.g., cable and substation infrastructure). However, the location of the infrastructure will be aligned (where practicable), for example within aligned offshore and onshore cable corridors to minimise impacts to environment and the community.
- 1.1.3.2 Morgan OWL and Morecambe OWL (the Applicants), are jointly seeking a single consent for their electrically separate transmission assets comprising aligned offshore export cable corridors to landfall and aligned onshore export cable corridors to separate onshore substations (and associated infrastructure), and onward connection to the National Grid at Penwortham, Lancashire.
- 1.1.3.3 The key components of the Transmission Assets include the following.
- Offshore elements:
 - offshore export cables: these export cables will bring the electricity generated by the Generation Assets to the landfall for onward transmission.
 - Landfall:
 - landfall site: this is where the offshore export cables are jointed to the onshore export cables via the transition joint bays. This term applies to the entire area between Mean Low Water Springs and the transition joint bays.
 - Onshore elements:
 - onshore export cables: these export cables will be jointed to the offshore export cables via the transition joint bays at the landfall site, and will bring the electricity generated by the Generation Assets to the onshore substations;
 - onshore substations: the two electrically separate onshore substations will contain the components for transforming the power supplied via the onshore export cables up to 400 kV;
 - 400 kV grid connection cables: these export cables will bring the electricity generated by the Generation Assets from the two electrically separate onshore substations to the existing National Grid substation at Penwortham;
 - environmental mitigation areas: temporary and/or permanent areas, including accesses identified to provide environmental mitigation only; and

- biodiversity benefit areas: temporary and/or permanent areas, including accesses identified to provide biodiversity benefit only.

1.1.4 Approach to SoCG

- 1.1.4.1 This initial SoCG has been developed during the pre-examination phase and will be progressed during the examination phases of the Transmission Assets. In accordance with discussions between the parties, the SoCG is focused on those issues raised by SRBC within its response to Scoping, Section 42 consultation and as raised through the Evidence Plan process that has underpinned the pre-application consultation between the parties. This SoCG also includes those issues raised by SRBC during the post-application phase (i.e. relevant representations and pre-examination meetings).
- 1.1.4.2 The structure of this SoCG is as follows:
- Section 1.1: Introduction
 - Section 1.2: Summary of SoCG
 - Section 1.3: Summary of consultation
 - Section 1.4: Agreement log.

1.2 Summary of SoCG

1.2.1 Overview

- 1.2.1.1 This SoCG outlines the consultation that has taken place between the parties during the pre-application and post-application phase of the Transmission Assets. The agreement logs present the position reached on 20 May 2025 (Deadline 1).

1.2.2 Summary of those matters agreed, ongoing points of discussion and not agreed

- 1.2.2.1 Table 1.1 provides a summary of those matters agreed, an ongoing point of discussion or not agreed between the parties.

Table 1.1: Summary of those matters agreed, ongoing points of discussion and not agreed

Topic	Agreement status
Historic Environment	Agreed
Geology, Hydrogeology and Ground Conditions	Agreed
Hydrology and Flood Risk	Agreed
Landscape and Visual Resources	Agreed
Onshore Ecology and Nature Conservation	Ongoing point of discussion
Noise and Vibration	Ongoing point of discussion

Topic	Agreement status
Air Quality	Ongoing point of discussion

1.3 Summary of Consultation

- 1.3.1.1 Table 1.2 below provides an overview of the consultation undertaken by the Applicants with SRBC during the pre-application phases of the Transmission Assets. Table 1.3 below provides a summary of the consultation undertaken by the Applicants with SRBC during the post-application phases of the Transmission Assets. The consultation presented is not exhaustive but provides an indication of aspects of key discussions undertaken. All attendees at the meetings listed in Table 1.2 are provided in the Technical Engagement Plan (APP-189) and Consultation Report (APP-170), however for the avoidance of doubt, this SoCG is limited to matters between SRBC and the Applicants.
- 1.3.1.2 This initial SoCG makes reference to other documents submitted with the Transmission Assets applications that set out, in greater detail, the discussions that have taken place between SRBC and the Applicants. These documents are:
- The Technical Engagement Plan (APP-041) and appendices (APP-190, APP-191 and APP-192)
 - The Consultation Report (APP-170) and annexes (APP-187 and APP-188)
 - SRBC Relevant Representation (RR-2027)
 - The Applicants' response to SRBC Relevant Representation at the Procedural Deadline.

Table 1.2: Summary of pre-application consultation with South Ribble Borough Council

Date	Form of consultation	Statutory or non-statutory engagement	Summary of consultation
Scoping Opinion			
21 November 2022	Scoping Opinion	Statutory engagement	<p>Specific comments raised by SRBC related to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact on agricultural land, particularly Grade 2 land from route to Penwortham substation. • Visual amenity and visual impact- residents raising concerns and the impact could be large. <p>Query as to whether electricity upgrades would be sufficient and whether substation would draw on existing supplies.</p>

Date	Form of consultation	Statutory or non-statutory engagement	Summary of consultation
Steering Group			
11 May 2023	Meeting 1	Non-statutory engagement	Matters discussed included timeline of activities, site selection process, cable corridor selection process and designated site interactions.
16 July 2024	Meeting 2	Non-Statutory engagement	Matters discussed included project and survey updates, route planning refinement post-PEIR, evidence plan process update and next steps.
Section 42 Consultation			
20 November 2023	Section 42 Statutory Consultation Response	Statutory engagement	<p>SRBC identified the need for the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HRA required for potential impacts on European designated sites, which should include functionally linked land. Development should closely follow mitigation hierarchy. Assessments should not rely on available data but surveys should also be required. Scheme should deliver overall BNG.
Evidence Plan Process, Historic Environment EWG			
18 January 2023	EWG01	Non-statutory engagement	Matters discussed included an agreement of the study area buffer being 500m, geoarchaeological deposit modelling with topographical surveys.
09 August 2023	EWG02	Non-statutory engagement	Matters discussed included site selection, non-statutory consultation, project programme update and assessment update.
08 February 2024	EWG03	Non-statutory engagement	Matters discussed included site selection update, agreement log review, Section 42 responses, survey update and commitments.
Evidence Plan Process, Onshore Ecology and Nature Conservation EWG			
23 March 2023	EWG01	Non-statutory engagement	Matters discussed included an overview of the Transmission Assets, Project programme, overview of the Expert Working Groups and Evidence Plan Process, Onshore Route Planning and Site Selection, the scoping opinion and summary of impact in relation to onshore ecology and onshore and intertidal ornithology.
13 September 2023	EWG02	Non-statutory engagement	<p>Matters discussed included updates on the onshore ecology assessment and the onshore and intertidal ornithology assessment including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Methodology for construction scenarios; Assessment update; Approach to cumulative assessment

Date	Form of consultation	Statutory or non-statutory engagement	Summary of consultation
			• Initial identification of mitigation
18 December 2023	EWG03	Non-statutory engagement	Matters discussed included an update on the Projects Programme, Onshore Route Planning and Site Selection and the Projects approach to Biodiversity Net Gain (including an agreement on the methodology and existing schemes and projects for collaboration).
26 January 2024	EWG04	Non-statutory engagement	Matters discussed included site selection update, survey coverage for the application update and strategy, Section 42 responses, use of trenchless techniques, scope of wintering bird data, commitments and mitigation and wider application documents .
31 May 2024	EWG05	Non-statutory engagement	Matters discussed included an update site selection and on surveys coverage and the proposed strategy in regard to surveys.
19 June 2024	EWG06A	Non-statutory engagement	Matters discussed focussed on onshore ecology and included an update relating to the proposed works at landfall, survey update, summary of mitigation strategy, approach on reducing adverse effects, pre-construction surveys and monitoring of proposed mitigation areas.
27 June 2024	EWG06B	Non-statutory engagement	Matters discussed focussed on onshore and intertidal ornithology and included a site selection update, proposed works in the intertidal area, survey update, summary of mitigation strategy, approach on reducing adverse effects, pre-construction surveys and monitoring of proposed mitigation areas.
Evidence Plan Process: Landscape and Visual Impacts EWG			
22 February 2024	EWG01	Non-Statutory engagement	Matters discussed included reducing the scope of the assessment (from seascape and Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) to just LVIA, agreement of representative viewpoints, and grey photomontage presentation of main infrastructure. SRBC deem viewpoints acceptable but ask if some alterations are possible.
24 September 2024	Design Principles and Landscape management meeting	Non-statutory engagement	Matters discussed included the Outline Landscape Management Plan and Outline Design Principles document.
Evidence Plan Process, Noise and Vibration EWG			

Date	Form of consultation	Statutory or non-statutory engagement	Summary of consultation
21 April 2023	EWG01	Non-statutory engagement	Matters discussed included an overview of the project and process, defining area of interest for noise surveys, study area, and general methodology.
25 January 2024	EWG02	Non-statutory engagement	Matters discussed included programme, update, site selection update, statutory consultation, Section 42 responses, assessment update and commitments/mitigation.
18 July 2024	EWG03	Non-statutory engagement	Matters discussed include the noise assessment updates for the baseline, natural tranquillity and operational noise, and the assessment approaches for these.

Table 1.3: Summary of post-application consultation with South Ribble Borough Council

Date	Form of consultation	Statutory or non-statutory engagement	Summary of consultation
27 January 2025	Relevant Representation	Statutory engagement	Provision of South Ribble Borough Council's Relevant Representation (RR-2027)
14 May 2025	Meeting	Non-statutory engagement	Discussion on the initial SoCG including clarification on which matters SRBC should be consulted.

1.4 Agreement log

1.4.1.1 This section of the SoCG sets out the level of agreement between the parties. For each matter the status is identified as being either agreed, not agreed or an ongoing point of discussion, according to the criteria set out in Table 1.4 below.

Table 1.4: Position definitions and colour coding

Position and colour coding	Definition of position
Agreed	The matter is considered to be agreed between the parties.
Ongoing point of discussion	The matter is neither agreed or not agreed, and is a matter where further discussion is required between the parties.
Not agreed, but not material	The matter is not considered to be agreed between the parties, but is not deemed material
Not agreed	The matter is not considered to be agreed between the parties.

1.4.1.2 Table 1.5 to Table 1.12 set out the level of agreement between the parties for each relevant component of the application (as identified in section 1.1.1.2).

1.4.2 Historic Environment

Table 1.5: Agreement Log between the parties on Historic Environment

Reference Number	Discussion point	Applicants' position	South Ribble Borough Council position	Status
SRBC.HE1	Consultation	The Application documents have had regard to matters raised by SRBC via statutory and non-statutory consultation activities in relation to historic environment	SRBC is satisfied with the engagement with respect to heritage assets. Defer to Lancashire County Council and Historic England on onshore archaeology	Agreed
SRBC.HE.2	Study Area	The EIA study area is appropriate for the impacts and receptors assessed.	SRBC is satisfied with respect to heritage assets. Defer to Lancashire County Council and Historic England on onshore archaeology	Agreed
SRBC.HE.3	Surveys	The survey approach is appropriate for the site, impacts and receptors assessed. The site-specific surveys have been undertaken in accordance with agreed methodologies.	SRBC is satisfied with respect to heritage assets. Defer to Lancashire County Council and Historic England on onshore archaeology	Agreed
SRBC. HE.4	Surveys	The approach and contents of the Desk Based Assessment is appropriate for the wider assessment.	SRBC is satisfied with respect to heritage assets. Defer to Lancashire County Council and Historic England on onshore archaeology	Agreed
SRBC.HE.5	Baseline environment	Sufficient primary and secondary data (including site-specific surveys) have been collated to appropriately characterise the onshore archaeology and heritage baseline environment for the purposes of EIA within Volume 3, Chapter 5: Historic environment (APP-096).	SRBC is satisfied with respect to heritage assets. Defer to Lancashire County Council and Historic England on onshore archaeology	Agreed

Reference Number	Discussion point	Applicants' position	South Ribble Borough Council position	Status
SRBC.HE.6	Assessment Methodology	The sensitivity and significance of the onshore archaeology receptors has been appropriately and adequately described within Volume 3, Chapter 5: Historic environment (APP-096).	Defer to Lancashire County Council and Historic England on onshore archaeology	Agreed
SRBC.HE.7	Assessment Methodology	The methodologies used in within Volume 3, Chapter 5: Historic environment (APP-096) are appropriate for assessing the potential impacts the Transmission Assets on onshore archaeology and heritage assets.	SRBC is satisfied with respect to heritage assets. Defer to Lancashire County Council and Historic England on onshore archaeology	Agreed
SRBC.HE.8	Project design envelope	The assessment has appropriately defined the Maximum Design Scenario (MDS) for the purposes of EIA.	SRBC is satisfied with respect to heritage assets. Defer to Lancashire County Council and Historic England on onshore archaeology	Agreed
SRBC.HE.9	Assessment of the effects from the project alone	The potential impacts identified within Volume 3, Chapter 5: Historic environment (APP-096) represent a comprehensive list of the potential impacts in relation to onshore archaeology and heritage assets.	SRBC is satisfied with respect to heritage assets. Defer to Lancashire County Council and Historic England on onshore archaeology	Agreed
SRBC.HE.10	Assessment of the effects from the project alone	The likely significant adverse residual effects (in EIA terms) identified within Volume 3, Chapter 5: Historic environment (APP-096) represent a comprehensive list of the likely significant adverse residual effects on onshore archaeology.	Defer to Lancashire County Council and Historic England on onshore archaeology	Agreed
SRBC.HE.11	Assessment of the effects from the project	The likely significant adverse residual effects (in EIA terms) which are predicted to arise from the development of the Transmission Assets cumulatively with	SRBC is satisfied with respect to heritage assets. Defer to Lancashire County Council and Historic England on onshore archaeology	Agreed

Reference Number	Discussion point	Applicants' position	South Ribble Borough Council position	Status
	cumulatively with other projects	other project and plans identified within Volume 3, Chapter 5: Historic environment (APP-096) represent a comprehensive list of the likely significant adverse residual effects on the historic environment.		
SRBC.HE.12	Mitigation	The mitigation measures identified in Volume 3, Chapter 5: Historic environment (APP-096) are considered appropriate and adequate for the Transmission Assets.	SRBC is satisfied with respect to heritage assets. Defer to Lancashire County Council and Historic England on onshore archaeology	Agreed
Other Documents and Plans				
SRBC.HE.13	Outline Onshore Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI)	The Outline Onshore and Intertidal WSI (APP-214) is secured under Requirement 11 of the draft DCO (AS-004) and is considered appropriate with regard to proposed monitoring and management principles	SRBC is satisfied with respect to heritage assets. Defer to Lancashire County Council and Historic England on onshore archaeology	Agreed

1.4.3 Geology, Hydrogeology and Ground Conditions

Table 1.6: Agreement log between the parties on Geology, Hydrogeology and Ground Conditions

Reference Number	Discussion point	Applicants' position	South Ribble Borough Council position	Status
EIA				
SRBC.GHGC.1	Consultation	The Applicant has undertaken adequate consultation with SRBC on the potential impacts of the Transmission Assets on geology, hydrogeology and ground conditions		Agreed

Reference Number	Discussion point	Applicants' position	South Ribble Borough Council position	Status
SRBC.GHGC.2	Consultation	The Application documents have had due regard to matters raised by SRBC through statutory and non-statutory consultation on geology, hydrogeology and ground conditions.		Agreed
SRBC.GHGC.3	Policy and planning	The Application documents have identified and considered the most up-to-date plans and policies as relevant to geology, hydrogeology and ground conditions, within SRBC's remit		Agreed
SRBC.GHGC.4	Surveys	Agreement that desk -based information is adequate to characterise the geology, hydrogeology and ground conditions baseline and that site-specific surveys are not required		Agreed
SRBC.GHGC.5	Baseline environment	The geology, hydrogeology and ground conditions baseline has been appropriately characterised in Volume 3, Chapter 1: Geology, Hydrogeology and Ground Conditions (APP-068).		Agreed
SRBC.GHGC.6	Study area	The geology, hydrogeology and ground conditions study area is appropriate for the impacts and the receptors assessed.		Agreed
SRBC.GHGC.7	Assessment methodology	The sensitivity and significance of the geology, hydrogeology and ground conditions receptors have been appropriately and adequately described within Volume 3, Chapter 1: Geology, Hydrogeology and Ground Conditions (APP-068).		Agreed

Reference Number	Discussion point	Applicants' position	South Ribble Borough Council position	Status
SRBC.GHGC.8	Assessment methodology	The potential impacts identified within Volume 3, Chapter 1: Geology, Hydrogeology and Ground Conditions (APP-068) represent a comprehensive list of the potential impacts in relation to hydrogeology		Agreed
SRBC.GHGC.9	Assessment of the effects from the project alone	No significant residual effects on geology, hydrogeology and ground conditions are predicted to arise from the development of the Transmission Assets		Agreed
SRBC.GHGC.10	Assessment of the effects from the project cumulatively with other projects	No significant adverse effects on geology, hydrogeology and ground conditions are predicted to arise from the development of the Transmission Assets cumulatively with other projects and plans.		Agreed
SRBC.GHGC.11	Mitigation	The mitigation measures outlined in Volume 3, Chapter 1: Geology, Hydrogeology and Ground Conditions (APP-068) are appropriate and will ensure significant effects are avoided		Agreed
Other Documents and Plans				
SRBC.GHGC.12	Outline management plans	The Outline Code of Construction Practice (CoCP) (APP-193) and the accompanying management plans are appropriate and secured through Requirement 8 of the draft DCO.		Agreed

1.4.4 Hydrology and Flood Risk

Table 1.7: Agreement log between the parties on Hydrology and Flood Risk

Reference Number	Discussion point	Applicants' position	South Ribble Borough Council position	Status
SRBC.HFR.1	Consultation	The Applicant has undertaken adequate consultation with SRBC on the potential impacts of the Transmission Assets on hydrology and flood risk	SRBC confirmed that they would defer to the Environment Agency (and the Local Lead Flood Authority where applicable) on matters relating to hydrology and flood risk	Agreed
SRBC.HFR.2	Consultation	The Application documents have had due regard to matters raised by SRBC through statutory and non-statutory consultation on hydrology and flood risk.		Agreed
SRBC.HFR.3	Policy and planning	The Application documents have identified and considered the most up-to-date plans and policies as relevant to hydrology and flood risk, within SRBC's remit		Agreed
SRBC.HFR.4	Surveys	Agreement that desk -based information is adequate to characterise the hydrology and flood risk baseline and that site-specific surveys are not required		Agreed
SRBC.HFR.5	Surveys	Sufficient data has been collated to appropriately characterise the hydrology and flood risk baseline environment for the purposes of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) within Volume 3, Chapter 2: Hydrology and Flood Risk (APP-070).		Agreed

Reference Number	Discussion point	Applicants' position	South Ribble Borough Council position	Status
SRBC.HFR.6	Baseline environment	<p>The hydrology and flood risk baseline has been appropriately characterised in Volume 3, Chapter 2: Hydrology and Flood Risk (APP-070).</p> <p>The Flood Risk Assessment will be updated with the new surface water flood risk extents (January 2025) and updated flood zones (March 2025) data from the Environment Agency. the updated FRA will be submitted at Deadline 1.</p>	SRBC confirmed that they would defer to the Environment Agency (and the Local Lead Flood Authority where applicable) on matters relating to hydrology and flood risk	Agreed
SRBC.HFR.7	Study area	The hydrology and flood risk study area is appropriate for the impacts and the receptors assessed.		Agreed
SRBC.HFR.8	Assessment methodology	The sensitivity and significance of the hydrology and flood risk receptors have been appropriately and adequately described within Volume 3, Chapter 2: Hydrology and Flood Risk (APP-070).		Agreed
SRBC.HFR.9	Assessment methodology	The methodologies used within Volume 3, Chapter 2: Hydrology and Flood Risk (APP-070) are appropriate for assessing the potential impacts of the Transmission Assets		Agreed
SRBC.HFR.10	Assessment of the effects from the project alone	No significant residual effects on hydrology and flood risk are predicted to arise from the development of the Transmission Assets		Agreed
SRBC.HFR.11	Assessment of the effects from the project cumulatively with other projects	No significant adverse effects on hydrology and flood risk are predicted to arise from the development of the Transmission Assets cumulatively with other projects and plans		Agreed

Reference Number	Discussion point	Applicants' position	South Ribble Borough Council position	Status
SRBC.HFR.12	Mitigation	The mitigation measures outlined in Volume 3, Chapter 2: Hydrology and Flood Risk (APP-070) are appropriate and will ensure significant effects are avoided	SRBC confirmed that they would defer to the Environment Agency (and the Local Lead Flood Authority where applicable) on matters relating to hydrology and flood risk	Agreed
Other Documents and Plans				
SRBC.HFR.13	Outline management plans	The CoCP and the accompanying management plans are secured through Requirement 8 of the draft DCO and are appropriate with regard to mitigation measures.	SRBC confirmed that they would defer to the Environment Agency (and the Local Lead Flood Authority where applicable) on matters relating to hydrology and flood risk	Agreed

1.4.5 Landscape and Visual Resources

Table 1.8: Agreement log between the parties on Landscape and Visual Resources

Reference Number	Discussion point	Applicants' position	South Ribble Borough Council position	Status
EIA				
SRBC.LVR.1	Consultation	The Applicants have undertaken adequate consultation with SRBC on potential impacts on landscape and visual resources.		Agreed
SRBC.LVR.2	Consultation	The EIA has had due regard to matters raised by SRBC through statutory and non-statutory consultation on potential impacts on landscape and visual resources.		Agreed
SRBC.LVR.3	Policy and planning	The Application has identified and considered the plans and policies relevant to landscape and visual resources, within SRBC's remit.		Agreed
SRBC.LVR.4	Surveys	The location of the representative viewpoints was appropriate and the photographic survey was undertaken in accordance with the appropriate methodologies.		Agreed
SRBC.LVR.5	Baseline environment	The Applicants have adequately characterised the baseline environment for landscape and visual resources.		Agreed
SRBC.LVR.6	Scoping	Agreement to the scoping of impacts for the EIA for landscape and visual resources.		Agreed
SRBC.LVR.7	Study area	The EIA study area is appropriate for the receptors, sites and impacts assessed.		Agreed

Reference Number	Discussion point	Applicants' position	South Ribble Borough Council position	Status
SRBC.LVR.8	Project design envelope	The EIA chapter has identified, described and assessed the maximum design scenario for the EIA.		Agreed
SRBC.LVR.9	Assessment methodology.	The sensitivity of the landscape and visual resources has been correctly identified and sufficiently described within the EIA.		Agreed
SRBC.LVR.10	Assessment methodology	The assessment methodology for landscape and visual resources is appropriate.		Agreed
SRBC.LVR.11	CEA assessment methodology	The list of projects screened into the CEA in the EIA is appropriate.		Agreed
SRBC.LVR.12	Assessment of the effects from the Transmission Assets alone.	Significant residual effects are predicted on landscape character during the construction and decommissioning phases. However, there will be no significant residual effects on landscape character during the operation of the Transmission Assets following the establishment of landscape mitigation planting. Noting there are no residential effects relating to South Ribble Borough Council.		Agreed
SRBC.LVR.13	Assessment of the effects from the Transmission Assets alone.	Significant residual effects are predicted on visual amenity at some viewpoint locations during the construction and decommissioning phases. However, there will be no significant residual visual effects during the operation of the Transmission Assets following the establishment of landscape mitigation planting. Noting there are no residential effects relating to South Ribble Borough Council.		Agreed

Reference Number	Discussion point	Applicants' position	South Ribble Borough Council position	Status
SRBC.LVR.14	Assessment of the effects from the Transmission Assets cumulatively with other projects	Significant residual effects are predicted on visual amenity during the construction of the onshore cable route for impacts from the Transmission Assets when considered cumulatively with other projects. However, there will be no other significant residual effects on landscape and visual resources.		Agreed
SRBC.LVR.15	Mitigation and monitoring	The mitigation measures and monitoring outlined in Volume 3, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual Resources (APP-123), the Commitments Register (AS-030) and the Outline Landscape Management Plan (APP-208) are appropriate and will ensure significant effects are avoided.		Agreed
Other Documents and Plans				
SRBC.LVR.17	Outline Management Plans	The measures set out in the Outline Landscape Management Plan (APP-208) are secured in the draft DCO (AS-004) and are appropriate with regard to proposed mitigation measures and monitoring.		Agreed

1.4.6 Onshore Ecology and Nature Conservation

Table 1.9: Agreement Log between the parties on Onshore Ecology and Nature Conservation

Reference Number	Discussion point	Applicants' position	South Ribble Borough Council position	Status
EIA				
SRBC.OE.1	Consultation	The Applicants have undertaken adequate consultation with SRBC on potential impacts on onshore ecology and nature conservation.		Agreed
SRBC.OE.2	Consultation	The EIA has had due regard to matters raised by SRBC through statutory and non-statutory consultation on potential impacts on onshore ecology and nature conservation.		Agreed
SRBC.OE.3	Policy and planning	The Application has identified and considered the plans and policies relevant to onshore ecology and nature conservation, within SRBC's remit.		Agreed
SRBC.OE.4	Surveys	The scope of the onshore ecology surveys (including species, survey coverage and survey effort) was appropriate. The surveys were undertaken in accordance with the appropriate methodologies.		Agreed
SRBC.OE.5	Baseline environment	Sufficient site-specific and desktop data has been collated to appropriately characterise the baseline for onshore ecology and nature conservation to inform the EIA.		Agreed
SRBC.OE.6	Baseline environment	The Applicants have adequately characterised the baseline environment	Generally yes, although there are some errors in habitat descriptions and some areas have been omitted	Agreed

Reference Number	Discussion point	Applicants' position	South Ribble Borough Council position	Status
		for onshore ecology and nature conservation.	from survey – both issues are non-material	
SRBC.OE.7	Scoping	Agreement to the scoping of impacts for the EIA for onshore ecology and nature conservation.		Agreed
SRBC.OE.8	Biodiversity Net Gain	The approach for determining the BNG baseline and the areas to be omitted from the BNG baseline is appropriate.	The overall approach is acceptable but full BNG baseline information is not yet available (habitat condition assessments) and some areas of land have not been surveyed / assessed	Not agreed, but not material
SRBC.OE.9	Study area	The EIA study area is appropriate for the receptors, sites and impacts assessed.		Agreed
SRBC.OE.10	Project design envelope	The EIA chapter has identified, described and assessed the maximum design scenario for the EIA.	Mostly agree, although I would disagree with the description of the majority of the works as 'temporary'	Not agreed, but not material
SRBC.OE.11	Assessment methodology.	The sensitivity of the onshore ecology and nature conservation receptors has been correctly identified and sufficiently described within the EIA.		Agreed
SRBC.OE.12	Assessment methodology	The assessment methodology for onshore ecology and nature conservation is appropriate.		Agreed
SRBC.OE.13	CEA assessment methodology	The list of projects screened into the CEA in the EIA is appropriate.		Agreed
SRBC.OE.14	Assessment of the effects from the Transmission Assets alone.	There will be no significant residual effects on nationally designated ecological sites for the impacts from the Transmission Assets alone.	Not yet agreed, there are doubts concerning the mitigation and (possibly required) compensation measures for disturbance to qualifying bird species and	Not agreed

Reference Number	Discussion point	Applicants' position	South Ribble Borough Council position	Status
			temporary losses of functionally linked land.	
SRBC.OE.15	Assessment of the effects from the Transmission Assets alone.	There will be no significant residual effects on Local Nature Reserves, Ecological Networks and the majority of Biological Heritage Sites (BHS) for the impacts from the Transmission Assets alone. However, significant residual effects are predicted at the Mill Brook Valley BHS.		Agreed
SRBC.OE.16	Assessment of the effects from the Transmission Assets alone.	There will be no significant residual effects on priority habitats, ancient woodland or veteran trees for the impacts from the Transmission Assets alone. However, significant residual effects are predicted for impacts on good quality semi-improved grassland.		Agreed
SRBC.OE.17	Assessment of the effects from the Transmission Assets alone.	There will be no significant residual effects on protected species for the impacts from the Transmission Assets alone.		Agreed
SRBC.OE.18	Assessment of the effects from the Transmission Assets cumulatively with other projects	There will be no significant effects on the majority of onshore ecology and nature conservation receptors for the impacts from the Transmission Assets when considered cumulatively with other projects. However significant effects are predicted for the Mill Brook Valley BHS and good quality semi-improved grassland.		Agreed
SRBC.OE.19	Mitigation and monitoring	The mitigation measures and monitoring outlined in Volume 3, Chapter 3: Onshore Ecology and Nature Conservation (APP-		Agreed

Reference Number	Discussion point	Applicants' position	South Ribble Borough Council position	Status
		075), the Commitments Register (AS-030) and the Outline Ecological Management Plan (APP-212) are appropriate and will ensure significant effects are avoided.		
Other Documents and Plans				
SRBC.OE.20	Outline Management Plans	The measures set out in the Outline Ecological Management Plan (APP-075) are secured in the draft DCO (AS-004) and are appropriate with regard to proposed mitigation measures and monitoring.		Agreed

1.4.7 Noise and Vibration

Table 1.10: Agreement log between the parties on Noise and Vibration

Reference Number	Discussion point	Applicants' position	South Ribble Borough Council position	Status
SRBC.NV.1	Consultation	<p>The Applicant has undertaken adequate consultation with SRBC on the potential impacts of the Transmission Assets on noise and vibration.</p> <p>The Applicants to provide record of invitation or attendance of N&V EWGs to SRBC.</p>	SRBC agree that adequate consultation has been undertaken in relation to noise and vibration. SRBC do not have a record of being invited to or attending N&V EWGs. SRBC to check.	Agreed
SRBC.NV.2	Consultation	The Application documents have had due regard to matters raised by SRBC through statutory and non-statutory consultation on noise and vibration.	<p>SRBC have raised construction working hours as an issue and therefore do not agree that the Applicants have had due regard.</p> <p>SRBC request removal of mobilisation hours from the scope of the project and for construction hours to align with typical project construction hours in SRBC (0800 – 1800 weekdays and 0900 – 1300 on Saturdays, no works on Sundays and bank holidays)</p> <p>100m cutoff for the vibration buffer raised has been satisfactorily addressed.</p>	Not Agreed
SRBC.NV.3	Policy and planning	<p>The Application has identified and considered the most up-to-date plans and policies as relevant to noise and vibration, within SRBC's remit.</p> <p>The Applicants will review the Central Lancashire Local Plan and provide a</p>	<p>SRBC to review that list is comprehensive.</p> <p>SRBC refer to the submission of the emerging Central Lancashire Local</p>	Not Agreed, but not material

Reference Number	Discussion point	Applicants' position	South Ribble Borough Council position	Status
		response regarding its consideration as part of the noise & vibration assessment.	Plan submitted into Examination and that this needs to be considered.	
SRBC.NV4	Surveys	The site-specific surveys for noise and vibration have been undertaken in accordance with agreed methodologies	SRBC agree this have been undertaken in accordance with agreed methodologies.	Agreed
SRBC.NV.5	Surveys	Sufficient primary and secondary data (including site-specific surveys) has been collated to appropriately characterise the noise and vibration baseline environment for the purposes of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) within Volume 3, Chapter 8: Noise and Vibration (APP-117).	SRBC agree that sufficient data has been collated to appropriately characterise the baseline environment.	Agreed
SRBC.NV.6	Baseline environment	The baseline environment for noise and vibration is appropriately characterised in Volume 3, Chapter 8: Noise and Vibration (APP-117).	SRBC agree that the baseline environment has been appropriately characterised.	Agreed
SRBC.NV.7	Study area	The noise and vibration study area is appropriate for the impacts and the receptors assessed.	SRBC agree that the study area is appropriate for the noise and vibration assessment.	Agreed
SRBC.NV.8	Assessment methodology	The sensitivity and significance of the noise and vibration receptors has been appropriately and adequately described within Volume 3, Chapter 8: Noise and Vibration (APP-117).	SRBC agree that the sensitivity and significance of noise and vibration receptors has been appropriately and adequately described.	Agreed
SRBC.NV.9	Assessment methodology	The methodologies used in within Volume 3, Chapter 8: Noise and Vibration (APP-117) are appropriate for assessing the potential impacts of the Transmission Assets	SRBC agree that methodologies used for noise and vibration assessment are appropriate.	Agreed

Reference Number	Discussion point	Applicants' position	South Ribble Borough Council position	Status
SRBC.NV.10	Assessment methodology – construction noise	The methodologies used in within Volume 3, Chapter 8: Noise and Vibration (APP-117) are appropriate for assessing the potential impacts of the Transmission Assets in respect of construction noise.	SRBC agree that methodologies used for noise and vibration assessment are appropriate.	Agreed
SRBC.NV.11	Assessment methodology – construction vibration	The methodologies used in within Volume 3, Chapter 8: Noise and Vibration (APP-117) are appropriate for assessing the potential impacts of Transmission Assets in respect of construction vibration.	SRBC agree that methodologies used for noise and vibration assessment are appropriate.	Agreed
SRBC.NV.12	Project design envelope	The appropriate Maximum Design Scenario has been used in the Volume 3, Annex 8.2: Construction Noise and Vibration technical report (APP-119). The Applicants will provide additional information to SRBC in relation to information provided on construction scenarios to date.	SRBC will consider this point further upon provision of information from the Applicants in relation to concurrent v sequential construction scenarios.	Not Agreed, but not material
SRBC.NV.13	Assessment of the effects from the project alone – construction noise and vibration	There will be no significant residual effects on noise and vibration sensitive receptors from the development of the Transmission Assets.	SRBC do not agree that there will not be significant residual effects on noise and vibration due to the proposed construction working hours.	Not Agreed
SRBC.NV.15	Assessment of the effects from the project cumulatively with other projects	There will be no significant residual effects on noise and vibration sensitive receptors from the development of the Transmission Assets when considered cumulatively with other projects.	SRBC do not agree that there will not be significant residual effects on noise and vibration due to the proposed construction working hours.	Not Agreed
Other Documents and Plans				
SRBC.NV.16	Outline Construction Noise and Vibration	The Outline Code of Construction Practice (APP-193) and the accompanying Outline	SRBC to review and confirm response.	Agreed

Reference Number	Discussion point	Applicants' position	South Ribble Borough Council position	Status
	Management Plan (APP-215)	<p>Construction Noise and Vibration Management Plan (APP-196) are secured through the dDCO (AS-0064 and are appropriate with regard to proposed mitigation and monitoring measures.</p> <p>The Applicants to review the oCNVMP 1.5.2 in relation to commitment to low noise level plant:</p> <p>Draft wording:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Materials will be handled in a manner which minimises noise and vibration, for example involving placement of items rather than throwing, drop heights of materials will be minimised and trucks with rubber lined payload areas will be used where practicable.</i> <i>Low vibration equipment (including non-vibratory compaction plant), or the use of equipment in low vibration modes, will be considered where practicable.</i> 	SRBC have a requested a commitment to low-noise and emission running plant as mandatory.	

1.4.8 Air Quality

Table 1.11: Agreement log between the parties on Air Quality

Reference Number	Discussion point	Applicants' position	South Ribble Borough Council position	Status
EIA				
SRBC.AQ.1	Consultation	<p>The Applicant has undertaken adequate consultation with SRBC on the potential impacts of the Transmission Assets on air quality.</p> <p>Please see the Technical Engagement Plan for the record of engagement with SRBC (APP189)</p> <p>Minutes of EWG meeting provided separately</p>	SRBC agree that adequate consultation has been undertaken in relation air quality. SRBC do not have a record of being invited to or attending air quality EWGs. SRBC to check.	Agreed
SRBC.AQ.2	Consultation	The Application documents have had due regard to matters raised by SRBC through statutory and non-statutory consultation on air quality.	<p>SRBC have raised construction working hours as an issue and therefore do not agree that the Applicants have had due regard.</p> <p>SRBC request removal of mobilisation hours from the scope of the project and for construction hours to align with typical project construction hours in SRBC (0800 – 1800 weekdays and 0900 – 1300 on Saturdays, no works on Sundays and bank holidays)</p>	Not Agreed

Reference Number	Discussion point	Applicants' position	South Ribble Borough Council position	Status
SRBC.AQ.3	Policy and planning	<p>The Application documents have identified and considered the most up-to-date plans and policies as relevant to air quality within SRBC's remit</p> <p>The Applicants will review the Central Lancashire Local Plan and provide a response regarding its consideration as part of the noise & vibration assessment.</p>	<p>SRBC to review that list is comprehensive.</p> <p>SRBC refer to the submission of the emerging Central Lancashire Local Plan submitted into Examination and that this needs to be considered.</p>	Not agreed but not material
SRBC.AQ.4	Surveys	Agreement that desk -based information is adequate to characterise the air quality baseline and that site-specific surveys are not required	SRBC agree that sufficient data has been collated to appropriately characterise the baseline environment.	Agreed
SRBC.AQ.5	Baseline environment	The air quality baseline has been appropriately characterised in Volume 3, Chapter 9: Air quality (APP-121).	SRBC agree that the baseline environment has been appropriately characterised.	Agreed
SRBC.AQ.6	Study area	The air quality study area is appropriate for the impacts and the receptors assessed.	SRBC agree that the study area is appropriate for the air quality assessment.	Agreed
SRBC.AQ.7	Assessment methodology	The sensitivity and significance of the air quality receptors have been appropriately and adequately described within Volume 3, Chapter 9: Air quality (APP-121).	SRBC agree that the sensitivity and significance of air quality receptors has been appropriately and adequately described.	Agreed
SRBC.AQ.8	Assessment methodology	The potential impacts identified within Volume 3, Chapter 9: Air quality (APP-121) represent a comprehensive list of the potential impacts in relation to air quality	SRBC to review and confirm response.	Agreed
SRBC.AQ.9	Assessment of the effects from the project alone	There will be no significant residual effects on air quality receptors from the development of the Transmission Assets	SRBC do not agree that there will not be significant residual effects on air quality due to the proposed construction working hours.	Not Agreed

Reference Number	Discussion point	Applicants' position	South Ribble Borough Council position	Status
SRBC.AQ.10	Assessment of the effects from the project cumulatively with other projects	There will be no significant residual effects on air quality receptors from the development of the Transmission Assets when considered cumulatively with other projects	SRBC do not agree that there will not be significant residual effects on air quality due to the proposed construction working hours.	not agreed
SRBC.AQ.11	Mitigation	The mitigation measures outlined in Volume 3, Chapter 9: Air quality (APP-121) are appropriate and will ensure significant effects are avoided	SRBC do not agree that there will not be significant residual effects on air quality due to the proposed construction working hours.	Not Agreed
Other Documents and Plans				
SRBC.AQ.12	Outline management plans	<p>The Outline Code of Construction Practice (APP-193) and the accompanying Outline Dust Management Plan (APP-195) are secured through the dDCO (AS-0064 and are appropriate with regard to proposed mitigation and monitoring measures.</p> <p>Commitment in updated OCNVMP 1.5.2 To be submitted at Deadline 6. This is the draft wording:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Materials will be handled in a manner which minimises noise and vibration, for example involving placement of items rather than throwing, drop heights of materials will be minimised and trucks with rubber lined payload areas will be used where practicable.</i> 	<p>SRBC to review and confirm response.</p> <p>SRBC have requested a commitment to low-noise and emission running plant as mandatory.</p>	Agreed

Reference Number	Discussion point	Applicants' position	South Ribble Borough Council position	Status
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Low vibration equipment (including non-vibratory compaction plant), or the use of equipment in low vibration modes, will be considered where practicable.</i> 		

1.4.9 Green Belt and Area of Separation

Table 1.12: Agreement log between the parties on Green Belt and Area of Separation

Reference Number	Discussion point	Applicants' position	South Ribble Borough Council position	Status
Green Belt				
Site Selection				
SRBC.GB.1	Site Selection	The Applicants have undertaken a robust site selection exercise which demonstrates that the Green Belt cannot be avoided in its entirety due to the Point of Interconnection to the Grid at Pentwortham Substation.	This is agreed.	Agreed
Policy				
SRBC.GB.2	Policy and Planning	The Applicants have appropriately identified and considered all plans and policies relevant to the Green Belt within SRBC's remit in the Application.	This is agreed.	Agreed
SRBC.GB.3	Policy and Planning	The Application falls to be determined under s104 of the Planning Act 2007 and that NPS EN-1, along with the relevant technology specific NPSs (in this case, EN-3 and EN-5) will be the primary policy for decision making by the Secretary of State.	This is agreed.	Agreed
SRBC.GB.4	Policy and Planning	Whilst the Application must be determined in accordance with the relevant NPSs under s104, regard must also be had to any other matters of importance and relevance. This may include relevant policies, guidance and strategy documents within the NPPF and local development plans.	This is agreed.	Agreed

Reference Number	Discussion point	Applicants' position	South Ribble Borough Council position	Status
SRBC.GB.5	Policy and Planning	The fundamental aim of Green Belt, namely 'to prevent urban sprawl by keeping land permanently open' and the essential characteristics of 'openness and permanence' as set out in paragraph 142 of NPPF 2025 are clear and agreed.	This is agreed.	Agreed
SRBC.GB.6	Policy and Planning	Green Belt is a land use and spatial policy designation. It is not a landscape designation for an area that has been identified as a landscape of higher value than an 'ordinary, everyday landscape', as per guidance set out in GLVIA3.	This is agreed.	Agreed
SRBC.GB.7	Policy and Planning	The 'openness' of Green Belt is capable of having both spatial and visual elements.	This is agreed.	Agreed
SRBC.GB.8	Policy and Planning	When considering 'spatial' openness, the relevant factors are the scale, form and density of built development.	This is agreed.	Agreed
SRBC.GB.9	Policy and Planning	When considering 'visual' openness, consideration is given to the role of topography, vegetation, buildings, linear features in maintaining or screening open views of the wider Green Belt.	This is agreed.	Agreed
SRBC.GB.10	Policy and Planning	The Supreme Court in <i>Samuel Smith Old Brewery (Tadcaster) and Others v North Yorkshire County Council [2020]</i> held that the consideration of the visual impacts of a development on openness '...is a matter not of legal principle, but of planning judgement' (paragraph 25) and that, whilst decision makers are not obliged by law to consider	This is agreed.	Agreed

Reference Number	Discussion point	Applicants' position	South Ribble Borough Council position	Status
		visual impacts, they may form a material consideration.		
SRBC.GB.11	Policy and Planning	To this end, the presence of vegetation and landform are capable of providing visual enclosure to a development which can mitigate its impacts on spatial and visual openness; and by extension, reduce/ mitigate harm by inappropriateness and any other harm (in relation to landscape and visual effects), on the Green Belt through design.	This is agreed.	Agreed
Function and Purposes of the Green Belt				
SRBC.GB.12	Policy and Planning	The five purposes of the Green Belt are as defined in paragraph 143 of the NPPF 2025.	This is agreed.	Agreed
SRBC.GB.13	Policy and Planning	The purposes of Green Belt that have relevance to this Application are a) <i>'to check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas'</i> and c) <i>'to safeguard the countryside from encroachment'</i> .	This is agreed.	Agreed
SRBC.GB.14	Policy and Planning	Purpose c) <i>'to safeguard the countryside from encroachment'</i> is the principal issue to be addressed.	This is agreed.	Agreed

Reference Number	Discussion point	Applicants' position	South Ribble Borough Council position	Status
SRBC.GB.15	Policy and Planning	<p>The remaining purposes set out in paragraph 143 of the NPPF, namely:</p> <p>b) <i>'to prevent neighbouring towns merging together'</i></p> <p>d) <i>'to preserve the setting and special character of historic towns'</i> and</p> <p>e) <i>'to assist in urban regeneration, be encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land'</i></p> <p>are not considered to be of material relevance to this Application.</p>	This is agreed.	Agreed
SRBC.GB.16	Function and Purpose	<p>The area of Green Belt in South Ribble to be impacted by the Transmission Assets forms part of a much larger policy area which extends over the majority of the Borough.</p> <p>The main objective of the designation is to ensure control of development in certain areas, primarily open land in rural areas, to protect it from development, maintain the openness and character of the area and to restrict urban sprawl.</p>	This is agreed.	Agreed
Harm to Green Belt				
SRBC.GB.17	Policy and Planning	Development must be within Green Belt to harm it. Green Belt does not have a setting or a buffer zone of influence.	This is agreed.	Agreed
Inappropriate Development				
SRBC.GB.18	Policy and Planning	Inappropriate development is, by definition, harmful to the Green Belt and should not be approved except in very special circumstances. 'Very special circumstances' will not exist unless the potential harm to the	This is agreed.	Agreed

Reference Number	Discussion point	Applicants' position	South Ribble Borough Council position	Status
		Green Belt by reason of inappropriateness, and any other harm resulting from the proposal, is clearly outweighed by other considerations (paragraph 153 of NPPF 2025).		
SRBC.GB.19	Policy and Planning	Paragraphs 154 and 155 of the NPPF provide specific exceptions where development in the Green Belt will not be considered to be inappropriate.	This is agreed.	Agreed
SRBC.GB.20	Planning and Policy	The exceptions in paragraph 154 h) [where they apply to the Transmission Assets development] only apply where the development proposed will preserve the openness and not conflict with the purposes of the Green Belt.	This is agreed.	Agreed
SRBC.GB.21	Assessment	The underground onshore export cables and 400kv grid connection cables of the Transmission Assets which would in part traverse areas of Green Belt comprise ' <i>engineering operations</i> ' for the purposes of paragraph 154 h) ii) and are not considered to be 'inappropriate development' in the Green Belt.	This is agreed.	Agreed
SRBC.GB.22	Assessment	Temporary construction compounds are also considered to be ' <i>engineering operations</i> ' for the purposes of NPPF paragraph 154. However, as such development must also preserve the openness and not conflict with the purposes of Green Belt in order to benefit from the exception under paragraph 154, temporary construction compounds are considered to be inappropriate development as the scale and duration of the works may result in temporal harm to the openness of the Green Belt and represent some encroachment	<p>This is agreed.</p> <p>SRBC note that temporary compounds should be installed only when reasonably necessary to facilitate the works in South Ribble and removed as soon as reasonably practicable as soon as works in South Ribble are complete.</p>	Agreed

Reference Number	Discussion point	Applicants' position	South Ribble Borough Council position	Status
		into the countryside, contrary to purpose c) of NPPF paragraph 143.		
Assessment Methodology				
SRBC.GB.23	Assessment	The methodology used to assess the current performance of each area of the Green Belt to be impacted by the Transmission Assets, as set out in Appendix B of the Green Belt Technical Note (F02) submitted at D4 (REP4-092) is suitable.	This is agreed.	Agreed
SRBC.GB.24	Assessment	The methodology used to assess the extent to which (if any) the Transmission Assets will impact upon the openness and purposes of each area of the Green Belt, by reason of inappropriateness or any other harm, during both the construction and operational phases of the projects, as set out in Appendix C of the Green Belt Technical Note (F02) submitted at D4 (REP4-092) is suitable.	This is agreed.	Agreed
Scale of Harm				
SRBC.GB.25	Assessment	As land used for temporary compounds will be fully reinstated upon completion, the significance of the harm to be caused to the Green Belt by these elements, is mitigated by the transitory and fully reversible nature of the impacts.	This is agreed.	Agreed
SRBC.GB.26	Assessment	As the construction compounds will cause no permanent harm to the openness and purposes of the Green Belt, the relatively short-term harm to be caused by the construction compounds should be given	This is agreed, subject to comments made above at SRBC.GB.22.	Agreed

Reference Number	Discussion point	Applicants' position	South Ribble Borough Council position	Status
		limited, if any, weight in the determination of the Application.		
SRBC.GB.27	Assessment	'Other harms' are considered to principally comprise the following: landscape and visual impacts and impacts to amenity, biodiversity and highways.	This is agreed.	Agreed
SRBC.GB.28	Assessment	The harm to the Green Belt in South Ribble principally relates to the reduction in openness and encroachment into the countryside (contrary to purpose c)) as a result of the temporary construction compounds required to install the 400kV grid connection cables. These impacts will be temporary for the duration of construction, and will not result in lasting impacts to the openness or purpose of the Green Belt.	This is agreed.	Agreed
SRBC.GB.29	Assessment	As the installation of the 400kV grid connection cables in South Ribble leading to the Penwortham Substation will be laid below ground, and all temporary compounds are to be reinstated as soon as reasonably practicable once the cable installation works are complete, there would be negligible lasting harm to the relevant purposes of the Green Belt in this area.	This is agreed in respect of the installation of the 400kV grid connection cables.	Agreed
Critical National Priority Infrastructure				
SRBC.GB.30	Policy and Planning	The Transmission Assets can be considered to comprise Critical National Priority Infrastructure as defined in NPS EN-1.	This is agreed.	Agreed

Reference Number	Discussion point	Applicants' position	South Ribble Borough Council position	Status
SRBC.GB.31	Policy and Planning	The Applicants have applied the mitigation hierarchy in relation to the rigorous site selection process which demonstrates that Green Belt cannot be avoided in its entirety. The outline design principles which seek to minimise the impact of the Transmission Assets, and proposed landscaping and biodiversity mitigation which seeks to mitigate the impacts which cannot be avoided.	This is agreed.	Agreed
SRBC.GB.32	Policy and Planning	The starting point for decision making by the Secretary of State in relation to CNP Infrastructure is that the test of very special circumstances is presumed to be met if the mitigation hierarchy has been applied.	This is agreed.	Agreed
Very Special Circumstances				
SRBC.GB.33	Assessment	Very special circumstances exist to justify the location of elements of the Transmission Assets in the Green Belt which include the wider environmental benefits associated with increased production of energy from renewable sources for the purposes of NPPF 2025 Paragraph 160.	This is agreed.	Agreed
SRBC.GB.34	Assessment	The very significant benefits of increased production of energy from renewable sources outweigh the significant weight of any temporary harm to be caused to the Green Belt by virtue of inappropriate development.	This is agreed. As noted in SRBC.GB.29, if the installation of the 400kV grid connection cables in South Ribble will be laid below ground, and all temporary compounds are to be reinstated as soon as reasonably practicable once the cable installation works are complete, there would be negligible lasting harm to the relevant purposes of the Green Belt in this area.	Agreed