The Great Grid Upgrade

North Humber to High Marnham

NHHM-AEC-CNS-REP-0086

North Humber to High Marnham

Volume 6: Environmental Statement

Document 6.13.A1 Environmental Statement Appendix 13.1 - Regional and Local Planning Policy

Final Issue A

October 2026

Planning Inspectorate Reference: EN020034

Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 Regulation 5(2)(a)

nationalgrid

Contents

1. Regional and Local Planning Policy 1

1.1 Introduction 1

2. References 9

Table 1.1 – East Riding Local Plan Update 2020-2039 policies relevant to agriculture and soils 1
Table 1.2 – Ellerker Neighbourhood Plan 2024-2039 policies relevant to agriculture and soils 3
Table 1.3 – North Lincolnshire Local Development Framework Core Strategy 2006-2026 policies relevant to agriculture and soils 3
Table 1.4 – North Lincolnshire Local Plan policies relevant to agriculture and soils 4
Table 1.5 – Central Lincolnshire Local Plan (Adopted 2023) policies relevant to agriculture and soils 5
Table 1.6 – Nottinghamshire Minerals Local Plan (Adopted 2021) policies relevant to agriculture and soils 7
Table 1.7 – Bassetlaw Local Plan 2020-2038 policies relevant to agriculture and soils 8

1. Regional and Local Planning Policy

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 This appendix to **Application Document 6.13 Chapter 13 Agriculture and Soils** sets out the relevant regional and local plans listed in **Application Document 6.2 Legislation and Policy Context** which are considered relevant to the agriculture and soils assessment.

1.1.2 Policies within the following plans are considered relevant to agriculture and soils and have been detailed in Table 1.1 to Table 1.7.

- East Riding Local Plan Update 2020-2039, Adopted 2025 (East Riding of Yorkshire Council, 2025);
- Ellerker Neighbourhood Plan 2024-2039 (Ellerker Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan, Adopted 2026)
- North Lincolnshire Local Development Framework, Core Strategy 2006 – 2026, Adopted 2011 (North Lincolnshire Council, Adopted 2011);
- North Lincolnshire Local Plan (North Lincolnshire Council, 2024);
- Central Lincolnshire Local Plan, Adopted 2023 (North Kesteven District Council, Adopted 2023)
- Nottinghamshire Minerals Local Plan, Adopted 2021 (Nottinghamshire County Council, Adopted 2021); and
- Bassetlaw Local Plan 2020-2038, Adopted 2024 (Bassetlaw District Council, 2024).

East Riding Local Plan Update 2020-2039

1.1.3 The policies set out in Table 1.1 are considered relevant to agriculture and soils.

Table 1.1 – East Riding Local Plan Update 2020-2039 policies relevant to agriculture and soils

Policy	Where this is covered in the Application
Policy EC5: Supporting the renewable and low carbon energy sector *Proposals for the development of the energy sector, excluding mineral extraction, but including all other types of development listed in Table 13, will be supported where any significant adverse impacts are addressed satisfactorily, and the residual harm is outweighed by the wider benefits of the proposal. Developments*	The overall extent of land required by the Project has been minimised through the evolution of the design. The extent of best and most versatile (BMV) land within the Order Limits is reported in **Table 13.6 in Application Document 6.13 Chapter 13 Agriculture and Soils**. The assessment of the likely impact on BMV land is presented in section 13.9 of that same document and has been fully assessed accounting for mitigation measures aligned to

Policy	Where this is covered in the Application
and their associated infrastructure should be acceptable in terms of: *1. The cumulative impact of the proposal with other existing and proposed energy sector developments....* *3.The effects of development on...* *vii. The land, including land stability, contamination, best and most versatile agricultural land and soil resources...*	published guidance (set out to minimise the effects). The mitigation measures include the submission of **Application Document 7.5 Outline Soil Management Plan** which has been developed in accordance with published guidance. The inter-project cumulative effects on agriculture and soil receptors have been fully assessed in Application **Document 6.21 Chapter 21 Inter Project Cumulative Effects**.
Policy S2: Addressing climate change *Development proposals will be supported where they reduce the generation of additional greenhouse gas emissions and incorporate adaptation to the expected impacts of climate change. This will be accomplished by: ...* *b. efficiently using land, mineral, energy and water resources...* *o. exploiting carbon capture approaches through the protection and restoration of existing 'carbon sinks; such as peat bogs and coastal ecosystems, the creation and expansion of woodland, and the deployment of new technologies...*	The overall extent of land required by the Project has been minimised through the evolution of the design. The extent of BMV land within the Order Limits is reported in Table 13.11 in **Application Document 6.13 Chapter 13 Agriculture and Soils**. An assessment of the likely impact on BMV land is presented in section 13.9 of that same document and has been fully assessed accounting for mitigation measures aligned to published guidance (set out to minimise the effects). The mitigation measures include the submission of **Application Document 7.5 Outline Soil Management Plan** which has been developed in accordance with published guidance. The survey data presented in **Application Document 6.13.A2 Appendix 13.2 Agricultural Land Classification Survey Report** details the soil types found within the Order Limits. The presence of peat/peaty soils was confirmed on site primarily near Crowle. Additional mitigation measures to protect peat/peaty soil resources are included in **Application Document 7.5 Outline Soil Management Plan**.

Ellerker Neighbourhood Plan 2024-2039

1.1.4 The policies set out in Table 1.2 considered relevant to agriculture and soils.

Table 1.2 – Ellerker Neighbourhood Plan 2024-2039 policies relevant to agriculture and soils

Policy	Where this is covered in the Application
Section 2: National and East Riding Local Plan Policies *2.6: Ellerker is not included in the ERLP Settlement Network. In East Riding Local plan update terms Ellerker is determined as a 'Village' – a place with basic services where appropriate development offers opportunities for villages to grow organically to support the vitality of the Village. Development will be supported (ERLP Policy S4) where it:…* • *Does not involve a significant loss of best and most versatile agricultural land.*	The overall extent of land required by the Project has been minimised through the evolution of the design. The extent of BMV land within the Order Limits is reported in **Table 13.11 of Application Document 6.13 Chapter 13 Agriculture and Soils**. An assessment of the likely impacts on BMV land is presented in section 13.9 that same document and has been fully assessed accounting for mitigation measures aligned to published guidance (set out to minimise the effects).

North Lincolnshire Local Development Framework Core Strategy 2006 – 2026

1.1.5 The policies set out in Table 1.3 are considered relevant to agriculture and soils.

Table 1.3 – North Lincolnshire Local Development Framework Core Strategy 2006-2026 policies relevant to agriculture and soils

Policy	Where this is covered in the Application
Spatial Objective 7: Efficient Use and Management of Resources *To ensure the efficient use of resources, maximising recycling of minerals and waste products, minimising pollution, maintaining and improving air, soil and water quality, and employing sustainable building practices in new development.*	The overall extent of land required by the Project has been minimised through the evolution of the design. The extent of BMV land within the Order Limits is reported in **Table 13.11 of Application Document 6.13 Chapter 13 Agriculture and Soils**. An assessment of the likely impacts on BMV land is presented in section 13.9 that same document and has been fully assessed accounting for mitigation measures aligned to published guidance (set out to minimise the effects). The mitigation measures include the submission of **Application Document 7.5 Outline Soil Management Plan** which has been developed in accordance with published guidance.

Policy	Where this is covered in the Application
CS2: Delivering More Sustainable Development *... All future development in North Lincolnshire will be required to contribute towards achieving sustainable development. Proposals should comply with the overall spatial strategy together with the following sustainable development principles:...* • *Take account of local environmental capacity and to improve air, water and soil quality and minimise the risk and hazards associated with flooding,...* *All change will be managed in an environmentally sustainable way by avoiding/minimising or mitigating development pressure on the area's natural and built environment, its existing utilities and associated infrastructure and areas at risk of flooding. Environmental impacts to or from development that cannot be avoided should be adequately mitigated for it to be acceptable*	The overall extent of land required by the Project has been minimised through the evolution of the design. The extent of BMV land within the Order Limits is reported in Table 13.6 of **Application Document 6.13 Chapter 13 Agriculture and Soils**. An assessment of the likely impacts on BMV land is presented in section 13.9 of that same document and has been fully assessed accounting for mitigation measures aligned to published guidance (set out to minimise the effects). The mitigation measures include the submission of **Application Document 7.5 Outline Soil Management Plan** which has been developed in accordance with published guidance. The overall extent of land required by the Project has been minimised through the evolution of the design. The soil types and associated sensitivities have been detailed in Table 13.11 and Table 13.12 of **Application Document 6.13 Chapter 13 Agriculture and Soils**.

North Lincolnshire Local Plan

1.1.6 The policies set out in Table 1.4 are considered relevant to agriculture and soils.

Table 1.4 – North Lincolnshire Local Plan policies relevant to agriculture and soils

Policy	Where this is covered in the Application
Policy M5: Best and Most Versatile Agricultural Land *Applications for new mineral working on the best and most versatile agricultural land (grades 1, 2 and 3a) will be allowed only where it can be shown that restoration and after-care will preserve the long-term potential of the land as a national, high quality, agricultural resource. Where non-agricultural uses are proposed as after-uses on the best and most versatile agricultural land, the methods used in restoration and after-care should enable the land to retain its longer-term capacity to be farmed to its former land-classification potential, thus retaining a high-quality resource for the future.*	Whilst the policy primarily refers to new mineral workings the policy still applies as it is government policy to protect BMV land, as such land is regarded as being a nationally important resource. The overall extent of land required by the Project has been minimised through the evolution of the design. The extent of BMV land within the Order Limits is reported in **Table 13.6 of Application Document 6.13 Chapter 13 Agriculture and Soils.** An assessment of the likely impacts on BMV land is presented in section 13.9 of that same document and has been fully assessed accounting for mitigation measures aligned to published guidance (set out to minimise the effects).

Policy	Where this is covered in the Application
	The mitigation measures include the submission of **Application Document 7.5 Outline Soil Management Plan** which has been developed in accordance with published guidance. The overall extent of land required by the Project has been minimised through the evolution of the design. The soil types and associated sensitivities have been detailed in **Table 13.11 and Table 13.12 of Application Document 6.13 Chapter 13 Agriculture and Soils.**

Central Lincolnshire Local Plan (Adopted 2023)

1.1.7 The policies set out in Table 1.5 considered relevant to agriculture and soils.

Table 1.5 – Central Lincolnshire Local Plan (Adopted 2023) policies relevant to agriculture and soils

Policy	Where this is covered in the Application
Policy S67: Best and Most Versatile Agricultural Land *Proposals should protect the best and most versatile agricultural land so as to protect opportunities for food production and the continuance of the agricultural economy.* *With the exception of allocated sites, significant development resulting in the loss of the best and most versatile land will only be supported if:* *a) The need for the proposed development has been clearly established and there is insufficient lower grade land available at that settlement (unless development of such lower grade land would be inconsistent with other sustainability considerations); and* *b) The benefits and/or sustainability considerations outweigh the need to protect such land, when taking into account the economic and other benefits of the best and most versatile agricultural land; and* *c) The impacts of the proposal upon ongoing agricultural operations have been minimised*	The overall extent of land required by the Project has been minimised through the evolution of the design. The extent of BMV land within the Order Limits is reported in **Table 13.6 of Application Document 6.13 Chapter 13 Agriculture and Soils.** The presence of Provisionally graded BMV land formed part of the initial siting assessment as detailed in **Application Document 6.3 Chapter 3 Main Alternatives Considered**. An assessment of the likely impacts on BMV land is presented in section 13.9 of that same document and has been fully assessed accounting for mitigation measures aligned to published guidance (set out to minimise the effects). The assessment has been informed through site data collected as part of the ALC surveys that have been undertaken in line with the ALC Guidelines (Defra & Welsh Government, 2025). Mitigation measures include those proposed to be set out in an SMP in line with published guidance. **Application Document 7.5 Outline Soil Management Plan** has been included in the application for development consent; this would be updated pre-construction, in line with all Project requirements to detail the

Policy	Where this is covered in the Application
through the use of appropriate design solutions; and *d) Where feasible, once any development which is supported has ceased its useful life the land will be restored to its former use (this condition will be secured by planning condition where appropriate).* *Where proposals are for sites of 1 hectare or larger, which would result in the loss of best and most versatile agricultural land, an agricultural land classification report should be submitted, setting out the justification for such a loss and how criterion b has been met.*	sustainable management measures which would be implemented to ensure adequate volumes of material for restoration, as well as minimising any surplus soil materials. The final SMP submitted before construction will set out details of disposal routes should there be a surplus of soil materials. Land required temporarily is committed to being returned to its pre-construction condition, including ALC grade, as referenced in Code of Construction Practice (CoCP) items GG06, GG30 and AS01 GG08 (**Application Document 7.3 Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments**).
Policy S17: Carbon Sinks *Existing carbon sinks, such as peat soils, must be protected, and where opportunities exist they should be enhanced in order to continue to act as a carbon sink.* *Where development is proposed on land containing peat soils or other identified carbon sinks, including woodland, trees and scrub; open habitats and farmland; blanket bogs, raised bogs and fens; and rivers, lakes and wetland habitats, the applicant must submit a proportionate.* *There will be a presumption in favour of preservation of peat and other carbon sinks in-situ. Proposals that will result in unavoidable harm to, or loss of, peat soils or other identified carbon sinks will only be permitted if it is demonstrated that:* *a) the site is allocated for development; or* *b) there is not a less harmful viable option to development of that site.* *In any such case, the harm caused must be shown to have been reduced to the minimum possible and appropriate, satisfactory provision will be made for the evaluation, recording and interpretation of the peat soils or other form of carbon sink before commencement of development.* *For peat soils that are to be removed, the soils must be temporarily stored and then used in a*	The presence of sensitive features such as peat(y) soils formed part of the initial siting assessment as detailed in **Application Document 6.3 Chapter 3 Main Alternatives Considered**. The overall extent of land required by the Project has been minimised through the evolution of the design. The soil types and associated sensitivities have been detailed in Table 13.11 and Table 13.12 of **Application Document 6.13 Chapter 13 Agriculture and Soils**. The survey data presented in **Application Document 6.13.A2 Appendix 13.2 Agricultural Land Classification Survey Report** details the soil types found within the Order Limits. The presence of peat/peaty soils was confirmed on site primarily near Crowle. Additional mitigation measures to protect peat/peaty soil resources are included in **Application Document 7.5 Outline Soil Management Plan**.

Policy	Where this is covered in the Application
way that will limit carbon loss to the atmosphere. *Proposals to enhance peat soils and protect its qualities will be supported. Proposals to help strengthen existing, or create new, carbon sinks will be supported.*	

Nottinghamshire Minerals Local Plan (Adopted 2021)

1.1.8 The policies set out in Table 1.6 considered relevant to agriculture and soils.

Table 1.6 – Nottinghamshire Minerals Local Plan (Adopted 2021) policies relevant to agriculture and soils

Policy	Where this is covered in the Application
Policy DM3: Agricultural Land and Soil Quality ***Agricultural Land*** *1. Proposals for mineral development located on the best and most versatile agricultural land (grades 1, 2 and 3a) will be supported where it can be demonstrated that:* *a. Proposals will not affect the long-term agricultural potential of the land or soils; or* *b. There is no available alternative and the need for development outweighs the adverse impact upon agricultural land quality.* *2. Where alternative options are limited to varying grades of best and most versatile land, the development should be located within the lowest grade.* ***Soil quality*** *3. Measures will be taken to ensure that soil quality will be adequately protected and maintained throughout the life of the development and, in particular, during stripping, storage, management and final placement of soils, subsoils and overburden arising's as a result of site operations.*	Whilst the policy primarily refers to new mineral workings the policy still applies as it is government policy to protect BMV land, as such land is regarded as being a nationally important resource. The overall extent of land required by the Project has been minimised through the evolution of the design. The extent of BMV land within the Order Limits is reported in **Table 13.6 of Application Document 6.13 Chapter 13 Agriculture and Soils**. The presence of Provisionally graded BMV land formed part of the initial siting assessment as detailed in **Application Document 6.3 Chapter 3 Main Alternatives Considered**. An assessment of the likely impacts on BMV land is presented in section 13.9 of that same document and has been fully assessed accounting for mitigation measures aligned to published guidance (set out to minimise the effects). The mitigation measures include the submission of **Application Document 7.5 Outline Soil Management Plan** which has been developed in accordance with published guidance. The overall extent of land required by the Project has been minimised through the evolution of the design. The soil types and associated sensitivities have been detailed in **Table 13.11 and Table 13.12 of Application**

Policy	Where this is covered in the Application
	Document 6.13 Chapter 13 Agriculture and Soils.

Bassetlaw Local Plan 2020-2038

1.1.9 The policies set out in Table 1.7 are considered relevant to agriculture and soils.

Table 1.7 – Bassetlaw Local Plan 2020-2038 policies relevant to agriculture and soils

Policy	Where this is covered in the Application
Policy ST49: Renewable Energy Generation *Development that generates, shares, transmits and/or stores zero carbon and/or low carbon renewable energy including community energy schemes will be supported subject to the satisfactory resolution of all relevant site specific and cumulative impacts upon: ... e) the best and most versatile agricultural land...* *Proposals must take into account operational and approved developments, as well as any proposed intensification to operational or approved proposals*	The overall extent of land required by the Project has been minimised through the evolution of the design. The extent of BMV land within the Order Limits is reported in Table 13.16 of **Application Document 6.13 Chapter 13 Agriculture and Soils**. And assessment of the likely impact on BMV land is presented in section 13.9 of that same document and has been fully assessed accounting for mitigation measures aligned to published guidance (set out to minimise the effects). The mitigation measures include the submission of **Application Document 7.5 Outline Soil Management Plan** which has been developed in accordance with published guidance. The inter-project cumulative effects on agriculture and soil receptors have been fully assessed in **Application Document 6.21 Chapter 21 Inter Project Cumulative Effects**.
Policy ST1: Bassetlaw's Spatial Strategy *The spatial strategy for Bassetlaw will be delivered over the plan period 2020-2038 through: ... 1. a) promoting the efficient and effective use of land and the re-use of previously developed land in sustainable locations, unless there are overriding amenity, biodiversity or heritage matters that preclude such use; and by seeking to minimise the use of the most versatile Grade 1-3 agricultural land, where practicable...*	The overall extent of land required by the Project has been minimised through the evolution of the design. The extent of BMV land within the Order Limits is reported in Table 13.16 of **Application Document 6.13 Chapter 13 Agriculture and Soils** An assessment of the likely impact on BMV land is presented in section 13.9 of this chapter and has been fully assessed accounting for mitigation measures aligned to published guidance (set out to minimise the effects). The mitigation measures include the submission of **Application Document 7.5 Outline Soil Management Plan** which has been developed in accordance with published guidance.

2. References

Bassetlaw District Council. (2024). *Bassetlaw District Local Plan 2020-2038 -29 May 2024.* Retrieved from bassetlaw.gov.uk: https://www.bassetlaw.gov.uk/media/gn1kjm1b/adopted-bassetlaw-local-plan-2020-2038.pdf

Defra & Welsh Government. (2025). Agricultural Land Classification for England and Wales. Guidelines for grading the quality of agricultural land (JP069). Retrieved from https://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/6257050620264448

East Riding of Yorkshire Council. (2025). *Local Plan Update 2020-2039 Strategy Update April 2025.* Retrieved from eastriding.org.uk: https://downloads.eastriding.org.uk/corporate/pages/east-riding-local-plan-update/adoption-docs/LPU%20-%20Strategy%20Document%20Update%20Adopted%202025.pdf

Ellerker Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan. (Adopted 2026). *Ellerker Neighbourhood Development Plan (2024-2039).* Retrieved October 7, 2026, from eastriding.org.uk: https://downloads.eastriding.org.uk/corporate/pages/ellerker-neighbourhood-plan/development-plan/Ellerker%20Neighbourhood%20Plan%202024-2039%20-%20Adoption%20Version%20January%202026.pdf

North Kesteven District Council. (Adopted 2023). *Central Lincolnshire Local Plan.* Retrieved October 7, 2026, from https://www.n-kesteven.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2023-04/Local%20Plan%20for%20adoption%20Approved%20by%20Committee.pdf

North Lincolnshire Council. (2024). *Saved Polcies of the North Lincolnshire Local Plan 2003 Updated 2024*. Retrieved from northlincs.gov.uk: https://www.northlincs.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/planning-policy-the-north-lincolnshire-local-plan/#1593095254001-ec189f5a-67c8

North Lincolnshire Council. (Adopted 2011, June). *North Licolnshire Local Development Framework Core Strategy Adopted June 2011.* Retrieved from www.northlincs.gov.uk: https://www.northlincs.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/planning-policy-local-development-framework/#1591178700859-b856fc83-069

Nottinghamshire County Council. (Adopted 2021). *Nottinghamshire Minerals Local Plan.* Retrieved October 7, 2026, from https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/media/5079375/adoptedmineralslocalplancompressed.pdf

National Grid plc
National Grid House,
Warwick Technology Park,
Gallows Hill, Warwick.
CV34 6DA United Kingdom

Registered in England and Wales
No. 4031152
nationalgrid.com