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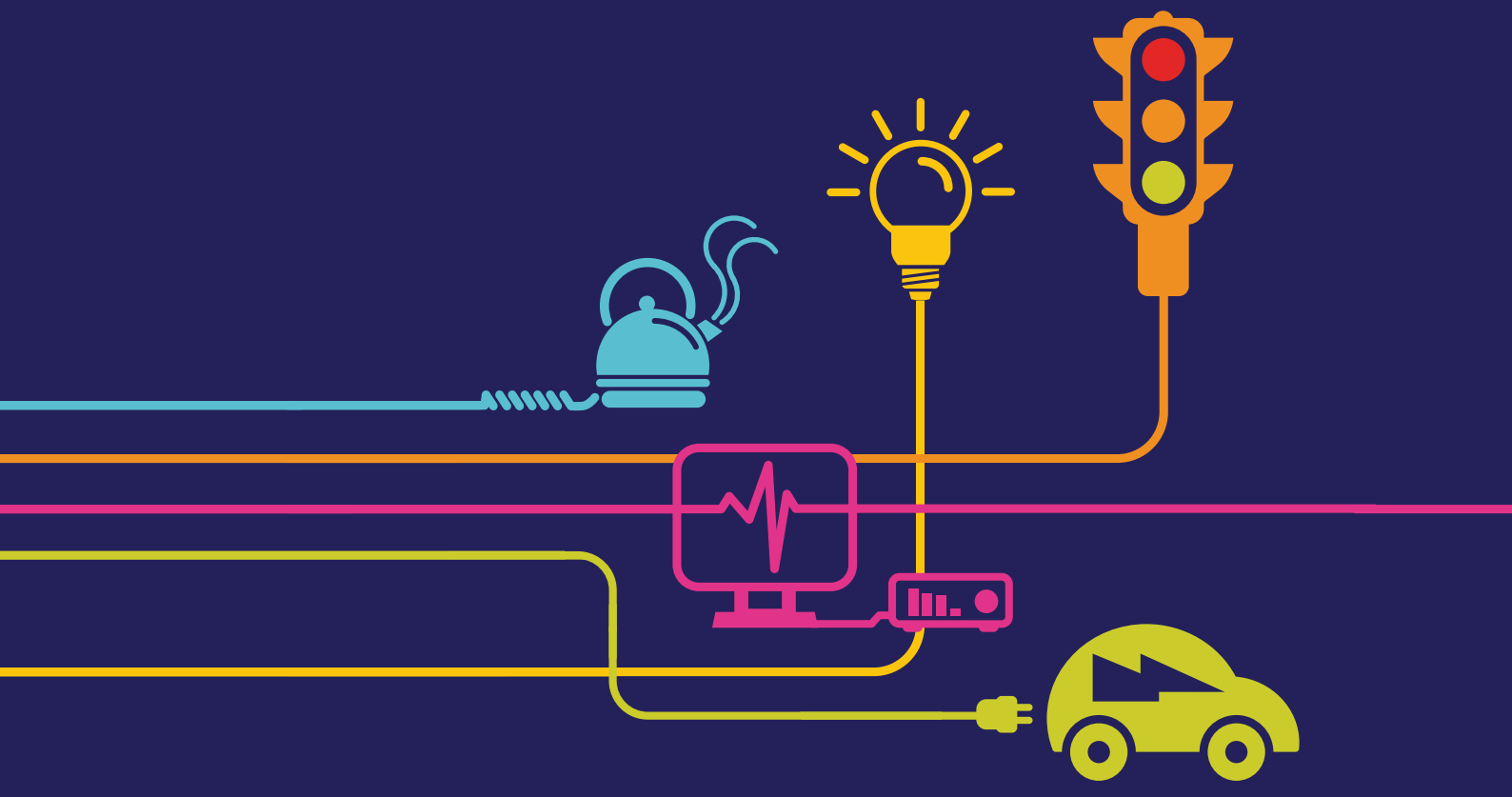
Environmental Statement Planning Policy Context

Hinkley Point C Connection Project

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



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Hinkley Point C Connection Project

ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT – MAY 2014

VOLUME 5.4.1, CHAPTER 4 – PLANNING POLICY CONTEXT

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APPENDICES (VOLUME 5.4.2)

4 PLANNING POLICY CONTEXT

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 This chapter of the Environmental Statement (ES) presents a summary of national and local planning policy relevant to the Proposed Development and explains how planning policy has framed National Grid's approach to identifying the environmental effects to consider and the significance of those effects. Specific planning policies relevant to the environmental topics covered in this ES are summarised in the specialist topic chapters.

National Policy

4.1.2 National Policy Statements (NPS) are of primary importance to the decision–making process when Development Consent Order (DCO) applications are under consideration. Section 104 of the Planning Act 2008 states:

(2) In deciding the application the Secretary of State must have regard to –

> *(a) any national policy statement which has effect in relation to development of the description to which the application relates (a "relevant national policy statement")*

(3) The Secretary of State must decide the application in accordance with any relevant national policy statement, except to the extent that one or more of subsections (4) to (8) applies.

4.1.3 For energy-related Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs), there are two NPSs, designated on 19 July 2011, that are relevant to the Proposed Development: Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy (EN-1) (Ref 4.1); and National Policy Statement for Electricity Networks Infrastructure (EN-5) (Ref 4.2). Summaries of these policies, and an analysis of how they are addressed in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and in this ES, are set out in section 4.2 of this chapter.

4.1.4 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) published in March 2012 sets out the Government's planning policies for England and replaces the majority of planning policy guidance notes including all Planning Policy Guidance (PPG) and most Planning Policy Statements (PPS). Some PPSs remain in place such as PPS10. Where applicable to the Proposed Development, relevant aspects of the NPPF are summarised in section 4.3 of this chapter.

Local Policy

4.1.5 The NPSs form the basis for decision making for NSIPs; the NSIPs are not subject to s38(6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, which states that determination of a planning application must be made in accordance with a local development plan, unless other material considerations indicate otherwise. Local planning policy does not therefore set the tests for the acceptability of NSIPs. However, some local plan policies may be relevant considerations where they inform the assessment of potential effects e.g. by identifying land allocations and environmentally sensitive areas. If there is a conflict between NPS and local policies, the NPS takes precedence.

4.1.6 The Proposed Development lies in the south west of England and crosses the administrative areas of Bristol City Council, North Somerset Council, Somerset

County Council, Sedgemoor District Council, South Gloucestershire Council and West Somerset Council. These are 'Local Planning Authorities' (LPAs) as defined by Part 1(b) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (Ref 4.3).

4.1.7 The LPAs have been engaged during various stages of the pre-application consultation for the Proposed Development and, in particular, were consulted during the Statutory Stage 4 Consultation required under Sections 42 and 47 of the Planning Act 2008. Relevant local planning policies include the following:

- Bristol City Council Core Strategy (2011) and saved policies from the adopted Local Plan (1997);
- North Somerset Council Core Strategy – except to the extent that policies CS6, CS13, CS14, CS19, CS28, CS30, CS31, CS32 and CS33 have been remitted to the Planning Inspectorate for re-examination. Version following High Court Judgement (March 2013) and saved policies from North Somerset Replacement Local Plan (2007);
- Sedgemoor District Council Core Strategy (2011) and saved policies from the Sedgemoor District Local Plan (2004);
- South Gloucestershire Core Strategy (2013) and saved policies from the Local Plan 2006; and
- saved policies from the West Somerset District Local Plan (2006).

4.1.8 There are also a number of Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD) and Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) notes that have been produced by the LPAs to help support policies within these Local Development Plans.

4.1.9 **Volume 5.4.2, Appendix 4A** provides a summary of the local planning policies relevant to the Proposed Development. Key themes from these policies have been identified and are provided at section 4.4 of this chapter, together with an analysis of how they are addressed through the EIA.

4.2 National Policy Statements for Energy Infrastructure

4.2.1 A separate Planning Statement (**Volume 7.1**), prepared to accompany the DCO Application, sets out how the Proposed Development meets the requirements of EN-1 and EN-5 with respect to the overarching strategy for the provision of electricity infrastructure.

4.2.2 The tables below set out the specific requirements of NPS EN-1 and EN-5 with respect to Environmental Assessment and Statements and how this ES complies with the requirements.

Table 4.1 Compliance with NPS EN-1 Requirements

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
Part 4: Assessment Principles			
4.2.1	All proposals for projects that are subject to the European Environmental Impact Assessment Directive must be accompanied by ES describing the aspects of the environment likely to be significantly affected by the project.	Volume 5.1.1, section 1.8 and Volume 5.5.1, section 5.6	This ES describes the aspects of the environment likely to be significantly affected by the project in line with the requirements of the EIA Directive and relevant UK regulations.

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
4.2.1	The Directive specifically refers to effects on human beings, fauna and flora, soil, water, air, climate, the landscape, material assets and cultural heritage, and the interaction between them.	Generic: Volume 5.1.1, section 1.8 and Volume 5.5.1, section 5.6; Effects on human beings: Volumes 5.7.1, 5.12.1, 5.13.1, 5.14.1, 5.15.1, 5.16.1; Fauna and flora: Volume 5.8 Soil: Volume 5.9.1 and 5.15.1; Water: Volume 5.10.1; Air: Volume 5.13; Climate: Volume 5.6 to 5.16, section X.5 Landscape: Volume 5.6.1; Material assets: Volume 5.3.1; 5.26.2 Cultural heritage: Volume 5.11; the interaction between them: all volumes 5.6 to 5.16, section X.6 Inter relationship of Effects *Nb 'X' used in several places this table to denote all volumes' section 5*	These particular topics are all addressed in the ES. Specific effects on human beings have been addressed in the ES as follows: effects on people's views; traffic impacts on communities (Volume 5.12.1); effects on local air quality (Volume 5.13.1), especially in relation to dust during construction; noise effects (Volume 5.14.1); social and economic effects (Volume 5.15.1); and the potential effect of EMFs from overhead lines on health. Effects on fauna and flora, soil, water, air, landscape and cultural heritage have been addressed throughout topic specific ES chapters which identify the elements of the Proposed Development that are anticipated to have an effect on those topics and set out the sources of effect(s) during construction, operation and decommissioning phases, which are considered for each topic specific set of receptors.

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
			Material Assets have been considered as part of the overall Project Description with an identification of materials likely to be used in the construction of the Proposed Development. The Outline Waste Management Plan (Outline WMP) identifies the likely waste arisings during the construction of the Proposed Development. Climate has been considered in all ES topic specific chapters in the Assessment of effects section. Each topic chapter includes an 'Inter-relationship of Effects; section which identifies the potential for the effects identified to affect another topic, e.g. water quality issues (Volume 5.10.1) affecting aquatic ecology (Volume 5.8.1)
4.2.1	The Directive requires an assessment of the likely significant effects of the proposed project on the environment, covering the direct effects and any indirect, secondary, cumulative, short, medium and long-term, permanent and temporary, positive and negative effects at all stages of the project, and also of the measures envisaged for avoiding or mitigating significant adverse effects.	Volume 5.5.1; 5.6.1 to 5.16.1; Volume 5.17.1	The generic method, as set out in Volume 5.5.1, section 5.6 and the topic specific methods in Volumes 5.6 to 5.16, include a description of how the assessment of the likely significant effects of the proposed project on the environment will be carried out; the subsequent assessments (section X.5 apart from Noise and Vibration, at sections 14.4 and 14.12) cover the direct effects and any indirect, secondary, cumulative, short, medium and long-term, permanent and temporary, positive and negative effects at all stages of the project; the measures envisaged for avoiding or mitigating significant adverse effects are described in section X.7 (in Visual Effects, section 7.8 and Noise and Vibration, sections 14.6 and 14.14).

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
4.2.2	PINS (previously IPC) will find it helpful if the applicant sets out information on the likely significant social and economic effects of the development, and shows how any likely significant negative effects would be avoided or mitigated. This information could include matters such as employment, equality, community cohesion and well-being.	Volume 5.15.31, section 15.5	Volume 5.15 provides an assessment of the likely significant social and economic effects of the development, and shows how any likely significant negative effects would be avoided or mitigated.
4.2.3	The ES should cover the environmental, social and economic effects arising from pre-construction, construction, operation and decommissioning of the project.	Volume 5.6 to 5.16	Volumes 5.6 to 5.16 include an assessment of the environmental, social and economic effects arising from pre-construction, construction, operation and decommissioning of the project. These are separated out in each topic chapter. Pre-construction effects are included in each chapter under the heading 'construction effects'.
4.2.4	When considering a proposal PINS should satisfy itself that likely significant effects, including any significant residual effects taking account of any proposed mitigation measures or any adverse effects of those measures, have been adequately assessed. In doing so PINS should also examine whether the assessment distinguishes between the project stages and identifies any mitigation measures at those stages.	Volumes 5.6.1 to 5.16.1, section X.8; apart from Volume 5.14.1, which is sections 14.7 and 14.15	All topic chapters of the ES address residual effects, taken as significant effects remaining following implementation of mitigation or avoidance measures.

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
4.2.5	When considering cumulative effects, the ES should provide information on how the effects of the applicant's proposal would combine and interact with the effects of other development (including projects for which consent has been sought or granted, as well as those already in existence)	Volume 5.17.1.	Volume 5.17.1 provides an assessment of cumulative effects for all of the ES topics (as set out in Volume 5.5) and includes information on how the effects of the Proposed Development would combine and interact with the effects of other development (including projects for which consent has been sought or granted, as well as those already in existence).
4.2.6	PINS should consider how the accumulation of, and interrelationship between, effects might affect the environment, economy or community as a whole, even though they may be acceptable when considered on an individual basis with mitigation measures in place.	Volumes 5.6.1 to 5.16.1, section X.6; apart from Volume 5.14.1, which is section 14.5 and 14.13	All topic chapters of the ES address the accumulation of and inter-relationship between effects within the Proposed Development.
4.2.7	In some instances it may not be possible at the time of the application for development consent for all aspects of the proposal to have been settled in precise detail. Where this is the case, the applicant should explain in its application which elements of the proposal have yet to be finalised, and the reasons why this is the case	Volume 5.3.1, section 3.7	Not all aspects of the design of the Proposed Development can be determined at this stage. Where this is the case, 'typical' designs have been assessed (e.g. bellmouths). Also, lateral, longitudinal and vertical Limits of Deviation have been set and assessed and, where construction activity may move within the order limits this has been assessed. These assessments have been carried out on a 'reasonable worst case scenario'; the maximum extent of the Proposed Development in terms of site and plant specifications and location.
4.2.8	Where some details are still to be finalised the ES should set out, to the best of the applicant's knowledge, what the maximum extent of the proposed development may be in terms of site and plant specifications, and assess, on that basis, the effects which the project could have to ensure that the impacts of the project as it may be constructed have been properly assessed		
Habitats and Species Regulations			

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
4.3.1	Prior to granting a DCO, PINS must, under the Habitats and Species Regulations, (which implement the relevant parts of the Habitats Directive and the Birds Directive in England and Wales) consider whether the project may have a significant effect on a European site, or on any site to which the same protection is applied as a matter of policy, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects.	Volume 5.20.1, section 3.3	This section discusses the number of potential effects that could influence the designated features of the European sites which may arise during the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Proposed Development. In-combination effects with other plans or projects are also discussed in section 3.9 of The Applicant's Report to Support Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) at Volume 5.20.
4.3.1	The applicant should seek the advice of Natural England and/or the Countryside Council for Wales, and provide PINS with such information as it may reasonably require to determine whether an Appropriate Assessment is required.	Volume 5.20.1, section 1.5	National Grid has engaged Natural England (NE) and Natural Resources Wales (formerly CCW) in the process of HRA since 2009. A summary of the process is provided at Volume 5.20.2, Appendix 20C of the HRA.
4.3.1	In the event that an Appropriate Assessment is required, the applicant must provide PINS with such information as may reasonably be required to enable it to conduct the Appropriate Assessment. This should include information on any mitigation measures that are proposed to minimise or avoid likely effects.	Volume 5.20.1	This document has been produced to inform the HRA process for the Hinkley Point C Connection project. It provides the relevant information required by the Competent Authority to understand the implications of the Proposed Development (defined in Section 2) on European sites of nature conservation importance. The report provides the information sought by PINS for Stages 1 and 2 of HRA. The report also considers whether climate changes may affect the assessment, in line with general EC guidance.

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
Alternatives			
4.4	Applicants are obliged to include in their ES, as a matter of fact, information about the main alternatives they have studied. This should include an indication of the main reasons for the applicant's choice, taking into account the environmental, social and economic effects and including, where relevant, technical and commercial feasibility	Volume 5.2.1	Volume 5.2.1 describes the development of design to date and the alternatives considered, including whether a new connection was needed; route options; connection options (e.g. sub-sea, underground, overhead line); pylon design options. All options were assessed against technical, financial, socio-economic and environmental criteria.
4.4	In some circumstances there are specific legislative requirements, notably under the Habitats Directive, for PINS to consider alternatives. These should also be identified in the ES by the applicant.	Volume 5.20.1 and Volume 5.8.1.	Information derived from ecological surveys and the consultation process has been used, alongside other environmental survey data, to inform the strategic routing and subsequent design of the proposed route, substation and ancillary works. This is demonstrated through the Route Corridor selection process has been further refined through the Change Request process. Both of these approaches are outlined in the HRA and ES chapter and reported fully in the Route Corridor Study and Consultation Report.
Criteria for 'Good Design' for Energy Infrastructure			
4.5.1	Applying "good design" to energy projects should produce sustainable infrastructure sensitive to place, efficient in the use of natural resources and energy used in their construction and operation, matched by an appearance that demonstrates good aesthetic as far as possible.	Volume 7.2, Volume 5.5.1, section 5.2 and Volumes 5.6.1 to 5.16.1, section X.7, apart from Volume 5.14.1 which is sections 14.6 and 14.14; and Volume 5.7.1, at section 7.8.	Good design or 'embedded mitigation' is described in the DAS (Volume 7.2) and further discussed in all ES topic chapters either in the Assessment section as part of the Proposed Development or in the Mitigation section. In addition, changes to the design at a micro-level, e.g. siting of specific pylons, which have come about following environmental assessment, are

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
4.5.3	PINS needs to be satisfied that energy infrastructure developments are sustainable and, having regard to regulatory and other constraints, are as attractive, durable and adaptable (including taking account of natural hazards such as flooding) as they can be.		described in Volume 5.2.1, and include changes to avoid bat roosts; badger setts; GCN ditches; and lower height pylons to reduce visual effects. All flooding hazards are considered, with specific comment included on being adaptable (related to building in adaptive capacity) in the event of (1) climate change being different from what may currently be anticipated; (2) current flood risk management plans and strategies changing over the lifetime of the development; (3) the need for continued operation at various sites beyond the currently planned 40 year operational life.
4.5.3	In so doing, PINS should satisfy itself that the applicant has taken into account both functionality (including fitness for purpose and sustainability) and aesthetics (including its contribution to the quality of the area in which it would be located) as far as possible.		
4.5.3	Whilst the applicant may not have any or very limited choice in the physical appearance of some energy infrastructure, there may be opportunities for the applicant to demonstrate good design in terms of siting relative to existing landscape character, landform and vegetation.	Volume 5.6.1, section 6.7	Landscape character, landform and vegetation were taken into account in the design evolution of the Proposed Development. In addition, changes to the design at a micro-level, e.g. siting of specific pylons, which have come about following environmental assessment, are described in Volume 5.2.1, and include changes to avoid bat roosts; badger setts; GCN ditches; and lower height pylons to reduce visual effects.

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
4.5.3	Furthermore, the design and sensitive use of materials in any associated development such as electricity substations will assist in ensuring that such development contributes to the quality of the area.	DAS at Volume 7.2, Volume 5.2.1; Volume 5.5.1, section 5.2; Volumes 5.6.1 and 5.7.1 at sections 6.7 and 7.7	The siting of Sandford substation and the cable sealing end (CSE) compounds, at Bridgwater Tee and South of Mendip Hills, were subject to siting studies, which are summarised in Volume 5.2.1. The siting studies included an assessment of effects on the environment and subsequent detailed design of the substation and compounds has reduced visual effects and included areas for wildlife and surface water attenuation (pond).
4.5.3	For PINS to consider the proposal for a project, applicants should be able to demonstrate in their application documents how the design process was conducted and how the proposed design evolved.	Volume 7.2, Volume 5.5.1, section 5.2 and Volumes 5.6.1 to 5.16.1, section X.7, apart from Volume 5.14.1 which is sections 14.6 and 14.14; and Volume 5.7.1, at section 7.8.	Please refer to response to 4.5.1
4.5.3	Where a number of different designs were considered, applicants should set out the reasons why the favoured choice has been selected.		
Climate Change Adaptation			

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
4.8.5	The ES should set out how the proposal will take account of the projected impacts of climate change. While not required by the EIA Directive, this information will be needed by PINS.	Volumes 5.6.1 to 5.16.1, section X.5, apart from Volume 5.14.1 which is at sections 14.4 and 14.12; and Volume 5.23.	All topic chapters include, within their Assessment sections, an assessment of the potential effects of climate change on the results of the assessment, taking into account the possible change to future baselines. Volume 5.8.2 Biodiversity Appendices includes Appendix 8P which focuses specifically on the potential effects of climate change on the assessment for the ES and HRA. The FRAs take account of projected climate change with regard to rising sea levels, increases in river flows, and increased rainfall intensity. The impacts are addressed through designing for the future at present, as well as building in adaptive capacity for any further future adaptations in line with the precautionary principle so as to NOT affect the ability to make future adaptations.
4.8.6	PINS should be satisfied that applicants for new energy infrastructure have taken into account the potential impacts of climate change using the latest UK Climate Projections available at the time the ES was prepared to ensure they have identified appropriate mitigation or adaptation measures. This should cover the estimated lifetime of the new infrastructure.	Volumes 5.6.1 to 5.16.1, section X.5, apart from Volume 5.14.1 which is at sections 14.4 and 14.12; and Volume 5.23.	The topic chapters have based their Climate Change assessments on the latest UK Climate Projections (Ref. 4.4) and work carried out by the South West Climate Group to interpret the scenarios for the South West of England (Ref.4.5). For the FRAs, UKCP09 projections have been used for sea level rise and rainfall intensity. For fluvial flows, climate change scenarios from various existing models (including SFRA level 2 assessments) have been used.

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
4.8.7	Applicants should apply as a minimum, the emissions scenario that the Independent Committee on Climate Change suggests the world is currently most closely following – and the 10%, 50% and 90% estimate ranges. These results should be considered alongside relevant research which is based on the climate change projections.	Volumes 5.6.1 to 5.16.1, section X.5, apart from Volume 5.14.1 which is at sections 14.4 and 14.12; and Volume 5.23.	The emission scenario followed was the high emissions scenario, in line with National Grid's published policy on this matter and as a 'worst case scenario'. For the FRAs, for rainfall intensity the 50th percentile has been used, plus the 95th percentile as sensitivity. The topic chapters have based their Climate Change assessments on the latest UK Climate Projections (Ref.4.6) and work carried out by the South West Climate Group to interpret the scenarios for the South West of England (Ref.4.7).
4.8.8	PINS should be satisfied that there are no features of the design of new energy infrastructure critical to its operation which may be seriously affected by more radical changes to the climate beyond that projected in the latest set of UK climate projections, taking account of the latest credible scientific evidence on, for example, sea level rise (for example by referring to additional maximum credible scenarios – i.e. from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change or EA) and that necessary action can be taken to ensure the operation of the infrastructure over its estimated lifetime.	Volume 5.23	National Grid's electricity infrastructure is designed taking into account the highest emission scenario. In addition the FRAs for the Proposed Development include mitigation measures to protect essential infrastructure from potential flood events which take account of climate change scenarios (e.g. flood wall around Seabank Substation).

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
4.8.9	Where energy infrastructure has safety critical elements (for example parts of new fossil fuel power stations or some electricity sub-stations), the applicant should apply the high emissions scenario (high impact, low likelihood) to those elements.	Volume 5.23	The emission scenario followed was the high emissions scenario, in line with National Grid's published policy on this matter and as a 'worst case scenario'. In addition the FRAs for the Proposed Development include mitigation measures to protect essential infrastructure from potential flood events which take account of climate change scenarios (e.g. flood wall around Seabank Substation).
4.8.11	Any adaptation measures should be based on the latest set of UK Climate Projections, the Government's latest UK Climate Change Risk Assessment, when available and in consultation with the EA.	Volume 5.23	Please refer to response to requirements 4.8.6 and 4.8.7, regarding UK Climate Projections. Only the FRAs identified any requirement for adaption measures in response to projected climate change scenarios. The FRAs for the Proposed Development include mitigation (adaptation) measures to protect essential infrastructure from potential flood events which take account of climate change scenarios (e.g. flood wall around Seabank Substation).

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
4.8.12	Adaptation measures can be required to be implemented at the time of construction where necessary and appropriate to do so. However, where they are necessary to deal with the impact of climate change, and that measure would have an adverse effect on other aspects of the project and/or surrounding environment (for example coastal processes), the IPC may consider requiring the applicant to ensure that the adaptation measure could be implemented should the need arise, rather than at the outset of the development (for example increasing height of existing, or requiring new, sea walls).	Volume 5.23	All adaptation measures proposed in the FRAs are to be implemented at the time of construction to take account of climate change over the proposed lifetime of the development (40 years). In the event that the sites continue to be used beyond 40 years, further adaptive measures could be implemented. There are no adverse effects of these measures on other aspects of the Proposed Development.
4.10.7	Working in close cooperation with EA and/or the pollution control authority, and other relevant bodies, such as the MMO, Natural England, IDBs, PINS should be satisfied before consenting any potentially polluting developments that: the relevant pollution control authority is satisfied that potential releases can be adequately regulated under the pollution control framework; and the effects of existing sources of pollution in and around the site are not such that the cumulative effects of pollution when the proposed development is added would make that development unacceptable, particularly in relation to statutory environmental quality limits.	Volumes 5.9.1, 5.10.1 and 5.13.1	Relevant topic chapters of the ES have assessed the likely requirement for environmental permits and other consents; NG has liaised with the regulatory authorities involved.
Health			

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
4.13.2	Where the proposed project has an effect on human beings, the ES should assess these effects for each element of the project, identifying any adverse health impacts, and identifying measures to avoid, reduce or compensate for these impacts as appropriate.	Volumes 5.12.1, 5.13.1, 5.15.1,section X.5; Volume 5.14.1, section 14.4 and 14.12	the potential effects of the Proposed Development on local communities, pedestrians, motorists and users of public rights of way (PRoW) have been assessed in Traffic and Transport (Volume 5.12.1); the potential effects of the Proposed Development on local air quality have been assessed in Air Quality and Emissions (5.13.1); the potential effects on background noise levels and as a result of any vibrations during construction have been assessed in Noise and Vibration (Volume 5.14.1); the potential effects on employment, amenity, local services, land use and business interests have been assessed in Socio-Economics and Land Use (Volume 5.15.1); the potential EMF discharges from the Proposed Development and any adverse effects on health effects, in accordance with international guidelines, have been assessed in EMF (Volume 5.16.1).
4.13.2	The impacts of more than one development may affect people simultaneously, so the applicant and the PINS should consider the cumulative impact on health.	Volume 5.17.1	Cumulative effects of the topics which may affect health have been assessed; as such, the potential cumulative effect on health is considered.
4.13.3	The direct impacts on health may include increased traffic, air or water pollution, dust, odour, hazardous waste and substances, noise, exposure to radiation, and increases in pests.	Volumes 5.12.1, 5.13.1, 5.15.1, section X.5; Volume 5.14.1, section 14.4 and 14.12	Please refer to response to requirement 4.13.2

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
4.13.4	New energy infrastructure may also affect the composition, size and proximity of the local population, and in doing so have indirect health impacts, for example if it in some way affects access to key public services, transport or the use of open space for recreation and physical activity.	Volume 5.15.1, section 15.5 and 15.6.	The effects of the construction and operation of the Proposed Development on local services and amenity have been assessed.
4.13.5	PINS will want to take account of health concerns when setting requirements relating to a range of impacts such as noise.	Volumes 5.12.1, 5.13.1, 5.15.1,section X.5; Volume 5.14.1, section 14.4 and 14.12	Please refer to response to requirement 4.13.2
Common Law Nuisance and Statutory Nuisance			
4.14.2	It is very important that, at the application stage of an energy NSIP, possible sources of nuisance under section 79(1) of the 1990 Act and how they may be mitigated or limited are considered by PINS so that appropriate requirements can be included in any subsequent order granting development consent.	Volume 5.24	The Statement of Statutory Nuisance provides an assessment of the likelihood of the Proposed Development causing any of the statutory nuisance matters described in Section 79(1) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990. It concludes that, once proposed mitigation measures are implemented, there would be no breach of Section 79(1) of the Environmental and Protection Act 1990 from the Proposed Development.
Generic Impacts			
Air Quality and Emissions			
5.2.2	Any ES on air emissions will include an assessment of CO2 emissions, but the policies set out in Section 2, including the EU ETS, apply to these emissions.	Volume 5.13.1, section 13.5	Construction, operational and decommissioning phase CO2 emissions have been assessed.
5.2.7	The ES should describe any significant air emissions, their mitigation and any residual effects distinguishing between the project stages and taking account of any significant emissions from any road traffic generated by the project	Volume 5.13.1, sections 13.5 to 13.8	Significant emissions, mitigation and residual effects, including road traffic emissions have been assessed and are described.

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
5.2.7	The ES should describe the predicted absolute emission levels of the proposed project, after mitigation methods have been applied	Volume 5.13.1, section 13.8	The risk and significance of potentially significant emissions to air, with and without effective mitigation have been assessed.
5.2.7	The ES should describe existing air quality levels and the relative change in air quality from existing levels	Volume 5.13.1, sections 13.4 and 13.5	Existing air quality is described in section 13.4. Effects are described in section 13.5.
5.2.7	The ES should describe any potential eutrophication impacts	N/A	No significant eutrophication impacts are anticipated.
5.2.11	PINS should consider whether mitigation measures are needed both for operational and construction emissions over and above any which may form part of the project application. A construction management plan may help codify mitigation at this stage.	Volume 5.13.1, section 13.7 Volume 5.26.1	Best practice air quality mitigation measures are committed to in the ES and through the Draft Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) the implementation of which will be the subject of a DCO requirement. In addition, related mitigation measures for traffic and transport are provided in that chapter and in the Draft Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP), which is an Appendix to the Draft CEMP at Volume 5.26.5.
5.2.13	The mitigations identified in Section 5.13 on Traffic and Transport impacts will help mitigate the effects of air emissions from transport.	Volume 5.12.1, section 12.8; Volume 5.13.1, section 13.5 to 13.8; Volume 5.26.5, section 6	
Biodiversity and Geological Conservation			

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
5.3.3	The applicant should ensure that the ES clearly sets out any effects on internationally, nationally and locally designated sites of ecological or geological conservation importance, on protected species and on habitats and other species identified as being of principal importance for the conservation of biodiversity.	Volume 5.8.1, section 8.5 and Volume 5.20.1	There are no sites of geological conservation importance within the Order Limits. In Volume 5.8, Biodiversity, effects on designated sites are set out in Appendix 8A. Effects on protected species, habitats and other species of principal importance are discussed in the noted sections. Section 8.4: Baseline Environment describes the area within which the Proposed Development would occur. section 8:5 Prediction and Assessment of Significant Effects prior to Mitigation, identifies the elements of the Proposed Development that are anticipated to have an effect on biodiversity and nature conservation, and sets out the sources of effect(s) during construction, operation and decommissioning phases, which are considered individually for each receptor – sites, habitats and species. The HRA section 3 also discusses effects on designated sites and protected species.
5.3.4	The applicant should show how the project has taken advantage of opportunities to conserve and enhance biodiversity and geological conservation interests.	Volume 5.8.1, section 8.7 and 8.9, Volume 5.26.3 and Volume 5.25	Opportunities to conserve and enhance biodiversity are described throughout the chapter, specifically within the mitigation sections. The Off-site Planting and Enhancement Strategy (OSPES) details a package of enhancement measures for off-site planting. The Biodiversity Mitigation Strategy (BMS) also describes habitat reinstatement and enhancement measures.

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
5.3.4	As a general principle, and subject to the specific policies in Part 5.3 of NPS EN-1, development should aim to avoid significant harm to biodiversity and geological conservation interests, including through mitigation and consideration of reasonable alternatives; where significant harm cannot be avoided, then appropriate compensation measures should be sought.	Volume 5.8.1, section 8.7 and Volume 5.26.3	The mitigation sections of Volume 5.8 detail the mitigation measures proposed in order to avoid significant harm to biodiversity. Section 8.9 also details proposals for compensatory offsetting measures. The BMS describes how the mitigation measures will be implemented.
5.3.9	For the purposes of considering development proposals affecting them, as a matter of policy the Government wishes pSPAs to be considered in the same way as if they had already been classified. Listed Ramsar sites should, also as a matter of policy, receive the same protection	Volume 5.8.1, section 8.4	All proposed or candidate designated sites have been considered as fully designated in Volume 5.8. Further, in line with local draft planning policy we have considered proposed offset land for development at Avonmouth & Severnside (Hallen Marsh) as equivalent status to the Severn Estuary SPA Ramsar.
5.3.10	Many SSSIs are also designated as sites of international importance and will be protected accordingly. Those that are not, or those features of SSSIs not covered by an international designation, should be given a high degree of protection. All National Nature Reserves are notified as SSSIs.	Volume 5.8.1, section 8.5	The assessment at section 8.5 also summarises how scheme design has sought to avoid adverse effects both at the strategic route selection phase, and later by design refinements to avoid or reduce habitat losses and disturbance. In line with the EN-1 hierarchy, particular attention was focussed on avoiding adverse effects on internationally and nationally-designated sites

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
5.3.11	Where a proposed development on land within or outside an SSSI is likely to have an adverse effect on an SSSI (either individually or in combination with other developments), development consent should not normally be granted. Where an adverse effect, after mitigation, on the site's notified special interest features is likely, an exception should only be made where the benefits (including need) of the development at this site101, clearly outweigh both the impacts that it is likely to have on the features of the site that make it of special scientific interest and any broader impacts on the national network of SSSIs.		
5.3.14	Ancient woodland is a valuable biodiversity resource both for its diversity of species and for its longevity as woodland. Once lost it cannot be recreated. PINS should not grant development consent for any development that would result in its loss or deterioration unless the benefits (including need) of the development, in that location outweigh the loss of the woodland habitat. Aged or 'veteran' trees found outside ancient woodland are also particularly valuable for biodiversity and their loss should be avoided. Where such trees would be affected by development proposals the applicant should set out proposals for their conservation or, where their loss is unavoidable, the reasons why.	Volume 5.8.1, section 8.5, Volume 5.21.1	Section 8.5 describes how the Proposed Development would result in modification of ancient woodland at the most north western part of Mogg's Wood. The assessment notes that the wood has already been modified due to the presence of the F Route and W Route 132kV overhead lines. The assessment describes and quantifies the modification of ancient woodland that would arise from the Proposed Development and explains that there are specific benefits in using this alignment, in minimising the scale of effect in respect of landscape and views. . The Arboricultural Impact Assessment (Volume 5.21.1) quantifies the loss of veteran trees and explains why their loss is unavoidable.

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
5.3.15	Development proposals provide many opportunities for building-in beneficial biodiversity or geological features as part of good design. When considering proposals, PINS should maximise such opportunities in and around developments, using requirements or planning obligations where appropriate.	Volume 5.7.1, section 7.8; Volume 5.7.3 Figures 7.34.1 – 7.34.5; Volume 5.8.1, section 8.5	The Proposed Development has relatively little permanent infrastructure, but the site-specific landscape proposals, notably for Sandford Substation (Volume 5.7, section 7.8, Figures 7.34.1 – 7.34.5), demonstrate the use of native-species woodland, creation of ditch and pool habitats. Section 8.5 provides more detail on the habitats created as a result of the Proposed Development.
5.3.16	Many individual wildlife species receive statutory protection under a range of legislative provisions	Volume 5.8, section 8.5	Section 8.5 describes the effects of the Proposed Development on great crested newts, bats, badgers, water voles, otters, reptiles and other species. The BMS provides bespoke method statements for these and other species, and it is expected that NE licences will be obtained, where necessary, to carry out works affecting certain species.

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
5.3.17	Other species and habitats have been identified as being of principal importance for the conservation of biodiversity in England and Wales and thereby requiring conservation action. PINS should ensure that these species and habitats are protected from the adverse effects of development by using requirements or planning obligations. PINS should refuse consent where harm to the habitats or species and their habitats would result, unless the benefits (including need) of the development outweigh that harm. In this context PINS should give substantial weight to any such harm to the detriment of biodiversity features of national or regional importance which it considers may result from a proposed development	Volume 5.8, sections 8.4 and 8.5	Section 8.4: Baseline Environment summarises the location and extent of such habitats and species. There are no nationally or regionally significant habitats significantly affected by the Proposed Development. Section 8.5 notes that hedgerows, broadleaved tree groups, ditches and grassland with characteristics of floodplain grazing marsh would be affected. Species on the s41 list which would be encountered in the Proposed Development include bats, hedgehogs, amphibians, birds and invertebrates which use habitats of grassland, hedgerows, trees and ditches to varying extents. The effect on s41 habitats and species, prior to mitigation is quantified at section 8.5. Mitigation measures are described at section 8.7 and a residual assessment is provided at section 8.8.
5.3.18	The applicant should include appropriate mitigation measures as an integral part of the proposed development	Volume 5.8.1, section 8.7 and Volume 5.26.3	The mitigation measures are discussed in detail in the BMS.
5.3.18	The applicant should demonstrate that during construction, they will seek to ensure that activities will be confined to the minimum areas required for the works;	Volume 5.8.1, section 8.5; Volume 5.26.1; and Volume 5.26.3;	These sections set out the modifications which have been incorporated into the engineering design as the Proposed Development has evolved, in order to avoid or minimise potential effects on ecological receptors. Volume 5.8.1, section 8.5 also describes how the Limits of Deviation have in places been restricted to avoid encroachment onto select ecological receptors. Management of the construction footprint is also set out in the Draft CEMP (Volume 5.26.1) and, as an Appendix to the Draft CEMP, the BMS (Volume 5.26.3). These would be DCO Requirements.

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
5.3.18	The applicant should demonstrate that during construction and operation best practice will be followed to ensure that risk of disturbance or damage to species or habitats is minimised, including as a consequence of transport access arrangements	BMS, Volume 5.26.3	The BMS details best practice methods that will be followed to minimise risk of disturbance or damage to species or habitats. Some working method statements would be required by protected species licences issued by NE. These method statements cover preparatory survey, prior vegetation clearance, wildlife handling and displacement, exclusion and protection fencing, supervision and a number of bespoke measures specific to each receptor.
5.3.18	The applicant should demonstrate that habitats will, where practicable, be restored after construction works have finished	Volume 5.8.1, section 8.7 and the BMS, Volume 5.26.3	The BMS details the habitat restoration which will be undertaken following completion of construction works. The section also details habitat restoration proposals following completion of construction works. The habitat reinstatement, including details of species choice and programme would be DCO Requirements.
5.3.18	The applicant should demonstrate that opportunities will be taken to enhance existing habitats and, where practicable, to create new habitats of value within the site landscaping proposals	Volume 5.8.1, section 8.7; Volume 5.26.3; Volume 5.25	There are proposals to enhance existing habitats by introducing greater biodiversity as part of the habitat reinstatement process, and in new habitats created in site landscaping for the CSE compounds and Sandford Substation. The landscape proposals are submitted as part of the DCO and their implementation would be a DCO Requirement.

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
5.3.19	Where the applicant cannot demonstrate that appropriate mitigation measures will be put in place PINS should consider what appropriate requirements should be attached to any consent and/or planning obligations entered into.	Volume 5.8.1, section 8.8 and 8.9	Section 8.8 describes the residual effects, taking account of mitigation measures that would form part of the DCO, such as the BMS. Beyond the BMS, National Grid proposes additional mitigation, described at section 8:9: Additional Mitigation. These measures would be delivered by third parties through s106 Agreement or other agreements, funded by National Grid.
5.3.19	Where the applicant cannot demonstrate that appropriate mitigation measures will be put in place PINS should consider what appropriate requirements should be attached to any consent and/or planning obligations entered into.	Volume 5.8.1, section 8.8 and 8.9	The whole process follows the mitigation hierarchy encouraged by EN-1: information-gathering, avoidance, mitigation, compensation and enhancement. This includes: • making well-informed decisions through measures such as undertaking detailed ecological surveys, establishing a BTG to provide greater knowledge; • avoiding adverse effects through detailed alignment studies, so as to avoid permanent physical impacts on many designated sites; • which were removed and, through the implementation of off-site schemes, would provide local enhancement. mitigating adverse effects through the implementation of a bespoke method statement for each ecological receptor potentially affected by construction works; • implementing bespoke conservation schemes for all protected species and designated sites affected by the works; • reinstating all habitats temporarily affected by construction; • implementing landscape and habitat creation schemes at the new Sandford Substation and CSE compounds; • fitting bird diverters and adopting a bird monitoring strategy (outlined below in relation to NPS EN-5)

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
5.3.19	Where the applicant cannot demonstrate that appropriate mitigation measures will be put in place PINS should consider what appropriate requirements should be attached to any consent and/or planning obligations entered into.	Volume 5.8.1, section 8.8 and 8.9	The whole process follows the mitigation hierarchy encouraged by EN-1: information-gathering, avoidance, mitigation, compensation and enhancement. This includes: .compensating to ensure no net loss of habitats of principal importance to biodiversity. This includes replacing trees that require clearance for construction or electrical safety at a positive ratio of 4:1, and landscape proposals including the OSPES; and seeking enhancement opportunities which, where feasible would, include ensuring reinstated habitats are more diverse than those which were removed and, through the implementation of off-site schemes, would provide local enhancement.
5.3.20	PINS will need to take account of what mitigation measures may have been agreed between the applicant and Natural England (or the Countryside Council for Wales) or the Marine Management Organisation (MMO), and whether Natural England (or the Countryside Council for Wales) or the MMO has granted or refused or intends to grant or refuse, any relevant licences, including protected species mitigation licences.	Volume 5.8.1 (numerous sections), Volume 5.26.3 (BMS)	During the preparation of this ES, National Grid has been consulting with NE on matters relating to Habitats Regulations, effects on SSSI's, effects on protected species and on general biodiversity interests. National Grid has provided NE with a draft Habitats Regulation Report and draft protected species licence statements, and has reflected the advice of NE in the DCO documents, specifically the BMS.
Dust, odour, artificial light, smoke, steam and insect infestation			

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
5.6.4	The applicant should assess the potential for insect infestation and emissions of odour, dust, steam, smoke and artificial light to have a detrimental impact on amenity, as part of the ES.	Volume 5.7.1, section 7.5; Volume 5.13.1, section 13.5; and Volume 5.15.1, section 15.6 ; Volume 5.24	Fugitive emissions of dust & odour are assessed.
5.6.4	The assessment provided by the applicant should describe the type, quantity and timing of emissions	Volume 5.13.1, section 13.5 and Volume 5.15.1, section 15.6	Emissions are described during construction, operation and decommissioning phases.
5.6.4	The assessment provided by the applicant should describe the aspects of the development which may give rise to emissions	Volume 5.13.1, section 13.5 and Volume 5.15.1, section 15.6	Potential emissions are discussed.
5.6.4	The assessment provided by the applicant should describe premises or locations that may be affected by the emissions	Volume 5.13.1, section 13.5 and Volume 5.15.1, section 15.6	Receptors have been identified.
5.6.4	The assessment provided by the applicant should describe effects of the emission on identified premises or locations	Volume 5.13.1, section 13.5 and Volume 5.15.1, section 15.6	Potential effects on the identified receptors are described.
5.6.4	The assessment provided by the applicant should describe measures to be employed in preventing or mitigating the emissions	Volume 5.13.1, section 13.7 and Volume 5.15.1, section 15.7	Mitigation is proposed, based on accepted best practice guidance.
5.6.6	The applicant is advised to consult the relevant local planning authority and, where appropriate, the EA about the scope and methodology of the assessment.	Volume 5.13.1, section 13.1 and Volume 5.15.1, section 15.1,	Statutory consultees and Local Authorities have been engaged throughput the EIA process, at scoping, PEIR, and draft ES stage. This has been through formal consultation stages, thematic group meetings and one to one meetings and other forms of dialogue.

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
5.6.11	Mitigation measures may include one or more of the following: engineering: prevention of a specific emission at the point of generation; control, containment and abatement of emissions if generated; lay-out: adequate distance between source and sensitive receptors; reduced transport or handling of material; and administrative: limiting operating times; restricting activities allowed on the site; implementing management plans.	Volume 5.13.1, section 13.7 and Volume 5.15.1, section 15.7	Mitigation is in the main targeted at prevention/control at source and effective management.
Flood Risk			
5.7.4	Applications for energy projects of 1 hectare or greater in Flood Zone 1 in England or Zone A in Wales113 and all proposals for energy projects located in Flood Zones 2 and 3 in England or Zones B and C in Wales should be accompanied by a flood risk assessment (FRA).	Bridgwater Tee CSE compounds FRA (Volume 5.23.1); South of the Mendip Hills CSE Compound FRA (Volume 5.23.3); Sandford Substation FRA (Volume 5.23.5); Extension to Seabank Substation FRA (Volume 5.23.7); and Hinkley Point C Connection Route FRA (Volume 5.23.9)	This application is accompanied by five FRAs: Bridgwater Tee CSE compounds FRA; South of the Mendip Hills CSE Compound FRA; Sandford Substation FRA; Extension to Seabank Substation FRA; and Hinkley Point C Connection Route FRA
5.7.5	The minimum requirements for FRAs are that they should:		See below:
5.7.5	be proportionate to the risk and appropriate to the scale, nature and location of the project.		Each FRA is proportional to the risk with all sources of flooding addressed. The Route FRA has a specific detailed focus on flood risk during construction as this is different from flood risk during operation due to the presence of haul roads and other temporary works.

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
5.7.5	consider the risk of flooding arising from the project in addition to the risk of flooding to the project		Each FRA considers the risk to the development and the risk elsewhere resulting from the development.
5.7.5	take the impacts of climate change into account, clearly stating the development lifetime over which the assessment has been made		Climate change impacts have been considered for sea level rise, increase in fluvial flows, and increase in rainfall intensity. The baseline assessment is for 40 years (the proposed operational life of the works) but with consideration to operation at the sites for an additional 20 years.
5.7.5	be undertaken by competent people, as early as possible in the process of preparing the proposal		The FRAs have been undertaken by a competent framework supplier, with flood risk issues integrated into the process.
5.7.5	consider both the potential adverse and beneficial effects of flood risk management infrastructure, including raised defences, flow channels, flood storage areas and other artificial features, together with the consequences of their failure		These factors are considered within the context of each FRA.
5.7.5	consider the vulnerability of those using the site, including arrangements for safe access		Users have been considered and safe access to and egress from the sites is considered as part of each FRA.
5.7.5	consider and quantify the different types of flooding (whether from natural and human sources and including joint and cumulative effects) and identify flood risk reduction measures, so that assessments are fit for the purpose of the decisions being made		All sources of flooding have been considered - fluvial, tidal, pluvial (surface water), groundwater, sewers and water mains, reservoirs, canals and other artificial sources. Flood risk reduction (management) measures are considered for all FRAs to address all flood risks.
5.7.5	consider the effects of a range of flooding events including extreme events on people, property, the natural and historic environment and river and coastal processes		Events considered range in severity from the 1 in 10 (10%) to 1 in 1000 (0.1%) annual probability event.

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
5.7.5	include the assessment of the remaining (known as 'residual') risk after risk reduction measures have been taken into account and demonstrate that this is acceptable for the particular project		Residual risk is addressed within the context of the flood risk management measures proposed.
5.7.5	consider how the ability of water to soak into the ground may change with development, along with how the proposed layout of the project may affect drainage systems		Infiltration has been considered, and linked to design with permeable surfaces, and use of SuDS as part of the overall design. SuDS to be developed where applicable to maintain "greenfield" runoff rates as required.
5.7.5	consider if there is a need to be safe and remain operational during a worst case flood event over the development's lifetime		All sites can remain operational during a major flood event. There is not a need for people to be located at the sites, and therefore, no need for access during a flood. This is demonstrated within each FRA for the specific conditions / requirements for each site.
5.7.5	be supported by appropriate data and information, including historical information on previous events		A wide range of data sources is referred to, and data from the EA and Local Authority flood model outputs are used as part of the basis for design, in line with best practice. Flood history is researched for all sites and referenced where relevant. Specific reference is made to the January/February 2014 flood event on the Somerset Levels for those FRAs where this is relevant.

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
5.7.6	Further guidance can be found in the Practice Guide which accompanies Planning Policy Statement 25 (PPS25), TAN15 for Wales or successor documents.		PPS 25 is no longer applicable. The current guidance for FRAs is given in the Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) published on 6th March 2014 on Flood Risk and Coastal Change. Elements of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) are also relevant, but the Technical Guidance which originally accompanied the NPPF is no longer valid. The suite of FRAs for the Proposed Development follows the guidance in the NPPF and PPG, as required within the NPS.
5.7.7	Applicants for projects which may be affected by, or may add to, flood risk should arrange pre-application discussions with the EA, and, where relevant, other bodies such as Internal Drainage Boards, sewerage undertakers, navigation authorities, highways authorities and reservoir owners and operators. Such discussions should identify the likelihood and possible extent and nature of the flood risk, help scope the FRA, and identify the information that will be required by PINS to reach a decision on the application when it is submitted.		Pre-application flood risk discussions have been held, and correspondence exchanged with EA, IDBs, and Local Authorities with specific regard to flood risk. Information from stakeholders has been used, and specific queries raised by stakeholders as part of the pre-application process have been addressed.
5.7.8	If the EA has concerns about the proposal on flood risk grounds, the applicant should discuss these concerns with the EA and take all reasonable steps to agree ways in which the proposal might be amended, or additional information provided, which would satisfy the EA's concerns.		Continued dialogue with the EA, their representation at Statutory Stage 4 Consultation and the February 2014 project engagement exercise has contributed to the production of the FRAs.
5.7.9	PINS should be satisfied that where relevant:	Bridgwater Tee CSE compounds FRA (Volume	See below:

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
5.7.9	the application is supported by an appropriate FRA;	5.23.1); South of the Mendip Hills CSE Compound FRA (Volume 5.23.3); Sandford Substation FRA (Volume 5.23.5); Extension to Seabank Substation FRA (Volume 5.23.7); and Hinkley Point C Connection Route FRA (Volume 5.23.9)	This application is accompanied by five FRAs: Bridgwater Tee CSE compounds FRA; South of the Mendip Hills CSE Compound FRA; Sandford Substation FRA; Extension to Seabank Substation FRA; and Hinkley Point C Connection Route FRA.
5.7.9	the Sequential Test has been applied as part of site selection		The Sequential Test has been applied to the route as a whole, and then to each site specific FRA within the context of the preferred route. The Sequential test Report is included as an Appendix to the Hinkley C Connection Route FRA.
5.7.9	a sequential approach has been applied at the site level to minimise risk by directing the most vulnerable uses to areas of lowest flood risk		The sequential approach has been applied at a site level for each of the four site specific FRAs.
5.7.9	the proposal is in line with any relevant national and local flood risk management strategy		All FRAs take account of national and local flood risk management strategies and plans. However, the continued operation of these plans and strategies has NOT been assumed, as it is recognised that these policies and plans could change over the lifetime of the Proposed Development.
5.7.9	priority has been given to the use of sustainable drainage systems (SuDs)		SuDS are proposed for those locations where the post-development runoff rate would otherwise be increased above the greenfield runoff rate due to the Proposed Development.

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
5.7.9	in flood risk areas the project is appropriately flood resilient and resistant, including safe access and escape routes where required, and that any residual risk can be safely managed over the lifetime of the development.		Flood resilience and resistance measures are proposed as necessary at each site, including safe access and egress to and from the sites for maintenance, and escape from the sites in case of emergency. For the Route FRA this includes consideration of evacuation during the construction phase.
5.7.10	PINS will therefore need to be satisfied that the proposed drainage system complies with any National Standards published by Ministers under Paragraph 5(1) of Schedule 3 to the Flood and Water Management Act 2010.		There are no "final" National Standards yet published under this section of the Flood and Water Management Act. However, the proposed surface water drainage arrangements comply with the draft final guidance, published in January 2014. Any SuDS proposed would be maintained by National Grid. Active (intermittent) maintenance of SuDS would only be required at Sandford (attenuation pond) and at Seabank (on site drainage system).
5.7.12	PINS should not consent development in Flood Zone 3 or Zone C (Wales) unless it is satisfied that the Sequential and Exception Test requirements have been met.		The requirements of the Sequential Test and the Exception Test are set out in each FRA. For each FRA, it is also demonstrated that the requirements of both tests (where appropriate) are met. All of the FRAs with the exception of Sandford require development in Flood Zone 3.
5.7.13	Preference should be given to locating projects in Flood Zone 1 in England or Zone A in Wales. If there is no reasonably available site in Flood Zone 1 or Zone A, then projects can be located in Flood Zone 2 or Zone B. If there is no reasonably available site in Flood Zones 1 or 2 or Zones A & B, then nationally significant energy infrastructure projects can be located in Flood Zone 3 or Zone C subject to the Exception Test.		For all sites, except Sandford, parts of the works for the Proposed Development are required in Flood Zone 3. The Exception Test is required for these developments and this is set out within each FRA (except Sandford for which it is not needed).
5.7.16	For the Exception Test to be passed		See below:

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
5.7.16	it must be demonstrated that the project provides wider sustainability benefits to the community that outweigh flood risk		Confirmed for all FRAs on the basis of the need for the Proposed Development addressed elsewhere within the Environmental Statement.
5.7.16	The project should be on developable, previously developed land or, if it is not on previously developed land, that there are no reasonable alternative sites on developable previously developed land subject to any exceptions set out in the technology-specific NPSs		This requirement set out in the NPS refers to Planning Policy Statement 25 on Development and Flood Risk. PPS25 is now superseded, and the requirement is not identified in subsequent national planning policy, including both the NPPF (2012), and the recently published (March 6th 2014) Planning Practice Guidance. However, it is confirmed that there are no other previously developed sites that could be used, that have not been used. At Seabank, the proposal is to make use of the existing site for the substation amendments and extension i.e. making use of a previously developed site.
5.7.16	A FRA must demonstrate that the project will be safe, without increasing flood risk elsewhere subject to the exception below and, where possible, will reduce flood risk overall		All of the FRAs demonstrate that there is no quantifiable increase in flood risk elsewhere during operation. The Route FRA indicates that during construction there is a very minor increase in flood risk, although this is temporary (5 years). Mitigation measures are proposed to minimise this impact during the construction phase.

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
5.7.18/5.7.19	To satisfactorily manage flood risk, arrangements are required to manage surface water and the impact of the natural water cycle on people and property. In this NPS, the term Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) refers to the whole range of sustainable approaches to surface water drainage management including, where appropriate: ● source control measures including rainwater recycling and drainage; ● infiltration devices to allow water to soak into the ground, that can include individual soakaways and communal facilities; ● filter strips and swales, which are vegetated features that hold and drain water downhill mimicking natural drainage patterns; ● filter drains and porous pavements to allow rainwater and run-off to infiltrate into permeable material below ground and provide storage if needed; ● basins ponds and tanks to hold excess water after rain and allow controlled discharge that avoids flooding; and ● flood routes to carry and direct excess water through developments to minimise the impact of severe rainfall flooding.		Surface water management is included within all FRAs, covering both the impact on the development and the impact resulting from the development. This follows SuDS principles and meets the requirements of the draft national Standards on drainage arrangements as prepared under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010. Within different FRAs, various measures outlined within the NPS are included as part of the SuDS approach.

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
5.7.20	Site layout and surface water drainage systems should cope with events that exceed the design capacity of the system, so that excess water can be safely stored on or conveyed from the site without adverse impacts.		All sites can appropriately deal with over design flood events without additional adverse impact.
5.7.21	The surface water drainage arrangements for any project should be such that the volumes and peak flow rates of surface water leaving the site are no greater than the rates prior to the proposed project, unless specific off-site arrangements are made and result in the same net effect.		For all sites, greenfield runoff rates would be maintained from the pre-development condition.
5.7.22	It may be necessary to provide surface water storage and infiltration to limit and reduce both the peak rate of discharge from the site and the total volume discharged from the site. There may be circumstances where it is appropriate for infiltration facilities or attenuation storage to be provided outside the project site, if necessary through the use of a planning obligation.		Within the FRAs, surface water storage and/or infiltration is proposed. All of these measures proposed are within the project site boundaries.

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
5.7.23	The sequential approach should be applied to the layout and design of the project. More vulnerable uses should be located on parts of the site at lower probability and residual risk of flooding. Applicants should seek opportunities to use open space for multiple purposes such as amenity, wildlife habitat and flood storage uses. Opportunities should be taken to lower flood risk by reducing the built footprint of previously developed sites and using SuDS.		The sequential approach has been considered at a site level, although it should be noted that because all of the sites within Flood Zone 3 are very flat, there is no quantifiable difference in flood risk across the sites. Opportunities have been taken for flood storage and habitat enhancement at Sandford. At those sites (including parts of the Route FRA, e.g. site compounds) where flood risk could potentially be adversely affected, SuDS are proposed. At previously developed sites (only applies to Seabank) the built "impermeable" footprint is reduced to balance the new impermeable areas to be added.
5.7.24	Essential energy infrastructure which has to be located in flood risk areas should be designed to remain operational when floods occur. In addition, any energy projects proposed in Flood Zone 3b the Functional Floodplain (where water has to flow or be stored in times of flood), or Zone C2 in Wales, should only be permitted if the development will not result in a net loss of floodplain storage, and will not impede water flows.		All infrastructure for which the FRAs have been developed is classified as "Essential Infrastructure". It has all been designed to remain operational during a flood. This includes allowing flooding across the CSE compound sites without affecting operation as the water sensitive equipment would all be elevated above the appropriate extreme design flood level. For those aspects of the Proposed Development located in Flood Zone 3b (primarily linked to aspects of the route FRA such as pylons and underground cables) there is no net loss of flood plain storage, nor does any impedance to flood flow following completion of construction. During construction for the route FRA, there is a very small loss of storage, but this is temporary, and negligible compared to the total flood plain storage volume. Mitigation measures are proposed that significantly limit any potential impacts.

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
5.7.25	Flood Warning and evacuation plans should be in place for those areas at an identified risk of flooding. The applicant should take advice from the emergency services when producing an evacuation plan for a manned energy project as part of the FRA. Any emergency planning documents, flood warning and evacuation procedures that are required should be identified in the FRA.		For all sites that are located within flood warning areas, the FRAs recommend that the sites would be signed up to the Environment Agency Flood Warnings Direct service. There are no (generally) manned sites for the Proposed Development. Evacuation plans are recommended within the FRAs, to be developed prior to the start of operations at the various sites. For the route FRA, where construction is required across extensive lengths of flood plain, an evacuation plan is recommended, linked to the provision of flood warnings for the areas located within the flood plain. All FRAs outline evacuation routes, flood warning requirements, and the need for evacuation plans to be developed.
Historic Environment			
5.8.8	As part of the ES the applicant should provide a description of the significance of the heritage assets affected by the proposed development and the contribution of their setting to that significance.	Volume 5.11.1, section 11.4	Volume 5.1.1 provides a description of the significance of the heritage assets affected by the Proposed Development at section 11.5 and in Tables 11.18 and 11.19. Volume 5.1.2, Appendix 11B includes a description of the contribution made by setting to the significance of assets affected by the Proposed Development.
5.8.8	As a minimum the applicant should have consulted the relevant Historic Environment Record and assessed the heritage assets themselves using expertise where necessary according to the proposed development's impact.	Volume 5.11, section 11.4; Volume 5.11.2	The applicant has consulted the relevant Historic Environment Records and has assessed the heritage assets themselves using expertise. This assessment is provided in Volume 5.11.1, section 11.4 and described in more detail in Appendices 11A and 11B (Volume 5.11.2)

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
5.8.9	Where a development site includes, or the available evidence suggests it has the potential to include, heritage assets with an archaeological interest, the applicant should carry out appropriate desk-based assessment and, where such desk-based research is insufficient to properly assess the interest, a field evaluation.	Volume 5.11, section 11.4; Volume 5.11.2	This development site includes, and has the potential to include, heritage assets with an archaeological interest. The application has undertaken desk-based assessment (reported in Volume 5.11.2, Appendix 11B) and field evaluation. This comprised geophysical survey, trenched evaluation and geo-archaeological assessment, undertaken at locations where desk-based assessment alone was not sufficient to fully assess the heritage interest. These are included as Volume 5.11.2, Appendices 11C - 11E.
5.8.9	Where proposed development will affect the setting of a heritage asset, representative visualisations may be necessary to explain the impact.	Volume 5.18	Where the Proposed Development would affect the setting of a heritage asset, where necessary representative visualisations have been provided to explain the impact. 29 of the visualisations presented in Volume 5.18 help to explain the effect of the Proposed Development on the settings of heritage assets. Of these, five were prepared specifically for heritage assets.
5.8.10	The applicant should ensure that the extent of the impact of the proposed development on the significance of any heritage assets affected can be adequately understood from the application and supporting documents.	Volume 5.11, section 11.5	The applicant has ensured that the extent of the impact of the Proposed Development on the significance of any heritage assets affected can be adequately understood from the application and supporting documents. This information is provided in Volume 5.11.1 and Volume 5.11.2, Appendices 11A and 11B.
5.8.11	In considering application, PINS should seek to identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset that may be affected by the proposed development, including be development affecting the setting of a heritage assets.	Volume 5.11.1	The ES identifies and assesses the particular significance of heritage assets affected by the Proposed Development and provides a summary of the significant effects in Volume 5.11.1, Tables 11.6 and 11.7.

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
5.8.14	There should be a presumption (by PINS) in favour of the conservation of designated heritage assets and the more significant the designated heritage asset, the greater the presumption in favour of its conservation should be. Substantial harm to or loss of designated assets of the highest significance, including Scheduled Monuments; registered battlefields; grade I and II* listed buildings; grade I and II* registered parks and gardens; and World Heritage Sites, should be wholly exceptional.	Volume 5.11.1, section 11.5 and 11.8	Construction: Direct physical effects are predicted in relation to 64 non-designated heritage assets. Measures are proposed to mitigate these effects prior to and during construction. On completion of the proposed mitigation, of these predicted direct physical adverse effects, 38 would be reduced to neutral, 23 to negligible and only three adverse effects of minor significance are predicted. These effects are significant, but constitute less than substantial harm in terms of paragraphs 5.8.14 and 5.18.15 of EN-1. Operation: Adverse effects are predicted in relation to development within the settings of 39 designated and seven non-designated heritage assets. These effects are also less than substantial, and in relation to all of the predicted adverse effects that related to the settings of listed buildings, the special architectural or historic interest is preserved.
5.8.15	Where the application will lead to substantial harm to or total loss of significance of a designated heritage asset PINS should refuse consent unless it can be demonstrated that the substantial harm to or loss of significance is necessary in order to deliver substantial public benefits that outweigh that loss or harm.	Volume 5.11.1, section 11.5 and 11.9	Please refer to the response to requirement 5.8.14.

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
5.8.20	Where the loss of the whole or a material part of a heritage asset's significance is justified, PINS should require the developer to record and advance understanding of the significance of the heritage asset before it is lost. The extent of the requirement should be proportionate to the nature and level of the asset's significance. Developers should be required to publish this evidence and deposit copies of the reports with the relevant Historic Environment Record. They should also be required to deposit the archive generated in a local museum or other public depository willing to receive it.	Volume 5.11.1, section 11.5, 11.7 and 11.8 and the Outline Written Scheme of Investigation (Outline WSI) (Volume 5.26.4)	The Outline WSI includes measures to record and advance understanding of the significance of heritage assets with archaeological interest affected by the Proposed Development, before they are lost. The measures are proportionate to the nature and level of the affected assets' significance. The measure include provisions to publish the evidence and deposit copies of the reports with the relevant Historic Environment Records, and to deposit the archive with whichever local museum or other public depository is willing to receive it.
5.8.21	Where appropriate, PINS should impose requirements on a consent that such work is carried out in a timely manner in accordance with a written scheme of investigation that meets the requirements of this Section and has been agreed in writing with the relevant Local Authority and that the completion of the exercise is properly secured.	Outline WSI (Volume 5.26.4)	The measures provided in the Outline WSI will be agreed in writing with the relevant Local Authority and will be secured by Requirement, placed on consent that such work is carried out in a timely manner in accordance with a WSI. The draft Requirement included in Schedule 2 requires the implementation of works outlined in a WSI that is provided with the Draft CEMP in Volume 5.26.4.
5.8.22	Where PINS considers there to be a high probability that a development site may include as yet undiscovered heritage assets with archaeological interest, PINS should consider requirements to ensure that appropriate procedures are in place for the identification and treatment of such assets discovered during construction.	Schedule 2 Requirements; Volume 5.26.4	The Outline WSI includes procedures for the identification and treatment of heritage assets with archaeological interest discovered during construction.
Landscape and Visual Assessment			

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
5.9.5	The applicant should carry out a landscape and visual assessment and report it in the ES.	Volumes 5.6.1 and 5.7.1	Landscape and visual assessments have been carried out and are provided in the ES in separate chapters to distinguish between these effects. There is a close relationship between effects on views and effects on the landscape. These two assessments are often reported together in ES because of their close association. The 'Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment – Third Edition', Landscape Institute (LI) and Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA), 2013 (GLVIA3) emphasises the distinction between landscape effects and visual effects suggesting that they are considered in separate chapters.
5.9.5	The Landscape and visual assessment should include reference to any landscape character assessment and associated studies as a means of assessing landscape impacts relevant to the proposed project.	Volume 5.6.1, section 6.4 and 6.5	National and local level landscape character assessments have been reviewed as part of the desk study to determine the landscape and visual baseline for the landscape and visual assessments. This review has been supplemented with extensive field survey to identify the landscape and visual baseline within each Section of the study area which have the potential to be affected by the Proposed Development.
5.9.5	The applicant's assessment should also take account of any relevant policies based on these assessments in local development documents in England and local development plans in Wales.	Volume 5.6.1, section 6.2	A summary of the planning policy relevant to landscape and views is provided. It includes a review of national and local planning policy relevant to the Proposed Development and demonstrates how the provisions contained within planning policy have been met.

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
5.9.6	The applicant's assessment should include the effects during construction of the project and the effects of the completed development and its operation on landscape components and landscape character.	Volume 5.6.1, section 6.5	An assessment of the effects on landscape character and features (in each Section of the study area) has been undertaken for the construction, operation and decommissioning stages of the Proposed Development.
5.9.7	The assessment should include the visibility and conspicuousness of the project during construction and of the presence and operation of the project and potential impacts on views and visual amenity. This should include light pollution effects, including on local amenity, and nature conservation.	Volume 5.7.1, section 7.5	The method used assesses the visual effects (visibility) including the size and scale (conspicuousness) of the Proposed Development (project) on views and visual amenity during construction, operation and decommissioning. Visual effects are assessed in each Section of the study area. Information to be added on light pollution effects, including on local amenity, and nature conservation.

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
5.9.8	Landscape effects depend on the existing character of the local landscape, its current quality, how highly it is valued and its capacity to accommodate change. All of these factors need to be considered in judging the impact of a project on landscape.	Volume 5.6, section 6.5	Landscape value (including landscape quality) has been assessed as part of establishing the baseline environment for the landscape assessment. The 'Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment – Third Edition', Landscape Institute (LI) and Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA), 2013 (GLVIA3) requires that the 'susceptibility to change' of the landscape from the Proposed Development is assessed, and presented as part of the assessment of effects. The susceptibility to change of a landscape as defined by GLVIA3 refers to the ability of the landscape to accommodate the Proposed Development without undue consequences for the maintenance of the baseline situation. Judgments on landscape value and susceptibility to change are combined to determine landscape sensitivity. Landscape sensitivity and the judgement on the magnitude of effect on landscape are combined to determine the significance of the effect. This has been undertaken in the landscape assessment provided at Volume 5.6.1, section 6.5.

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
5.9.8	Projects need to be designed carefully, taking account of the potential impact on the landscape. Having regard to siting, operational and other relevant constraints the aim should be to minimise harm to the landscape, providing reasonable mitigation where possible and appropriate.	Volume 5.2.1; Volume 5.6.1, section 6.7	Careful consideration has been given to the effect of the Proposed Development on landscape and views when assessing potential route alignments for the Proposed Development. In line with requirements set out in EN-5 which refer to The Holford Rules, The Holford Rules were considered when determining and assessing draft route alignments in order to avoid or minimise effects on the landscape and visual receptors and the most valuable landscape features and character areas, and was a consideration in the decision to propose underground cables through the Mendip Hills AONB in Section C. The effects of different pylon types (including the standard steel lattice pylon, the low height steel lattice pylon and the T-pylon) on views on the selected route alignment was also assessed and has influenced the decision to propose the new 400kV overhead line supported by the T-pylon along the majority of the proposed overhead line route.

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
5.9.10	National Parks, the Broads and AONBs have been confirmed by the Government as having the highest status of protection in relation to landscape and scenic beauty. Nevertheless, PINS may grant development consent in these areas in exceptional circumstances. consideration of such applications should include an assessment of: ●the need for the development, including in terms of national considerations, and the impact of consenting or not consenting upon the local economy; ● the cost of, and scope for, developing elsewhere outside the designated area or meeting the need for it in some other way, taking account of the policy on alternatives set out in section 4.4; and ● any detrimental effect on the environment, the landscape and recreational opportunities, and the extent to which that could be moderated	Volume 5.2.1; Volume 5.6.1, section 6.5	The landscape assessment provides an assessment of the effects on the Mendip Hills AONB landscape and its setting during the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Proposed Development. An assessment has also been undertaken to determine predicted effects on the 'special qualities' of the Mendip Hills AONB designation. Mitigation proposals to minimise adverse effects of the Proposed Development on the landscape including the AONB landscape and its setting are provided at Volume 5.6.1, section 6.7.
5.9.14	Where a local development document in England or a local development plan in Wales has policies based on landscape character assessment, these should be paid particular attention.	Volume 5.6.1, section 6.2	A summary of the planning policy relevant to landscape is provided. It includes a review of local planning policy relevant to the Proposed Development and demonstrates how the provisions contained within planning policy have been met.

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
5.9.16	In reaching a judgment, PINS should consider whether any adverse impact is temporary, such as during construction, and/or whether any adverse impact on the landscape will be capable of being reversed in a timescale that PINS considers reasonable.	Volume 5.6.1, section 6.5	Temporary adverse landscape effects are identified in the landscape assessment and predominantly relate to effects during construction. As part of determining the magnitude of a landscape effect, consideration has been given to the duration and the reversibility of the effect. This is in accordance with GLVIA 3, and the method at Volume 5.6.1, section 6.3, and is identified where relevant in the assessment at section 6.5.
5.9.22	Within a defined site, adverse landscape and visual effects may be minimised through appropriate siting of infrastructure within that site, design including colours and materials, and landscaping schemes, depending on the size and type of the proposed project. Materials and designs of buildings should always be given careful consideration .	Volume 7.2; Volume 5.6.1, section 6.7 and Volume 5.7.1, section 7.7	Planting is proposed to mitigate adverse landscape and visual effects of new site-specific infrastructure comprising CSE compounds, substations and cable bridges. It is feasible and desirable to seek to screen views of site-specific infrastructure by planting trees or shrubs close to these structures in order to reduce adverse effects on landscape and views. These individual structures are lower than pylons, less frequent and often occupy a larger area meaning groups of trees would not look out of character and would screen views of the lower elevations of such infrastructure over time.
5.9.23	Depending on the topography of the surrounding terrain and areas of population it may be appropriate to undertake landscaping off site. For example, filling in gaps in existing tree and hedge lines would mitigate the impact when viewed from a more distant vista.	OSPES, Volume 5.25	National Grid has produced the OSPES which details the landscape scheme, comprising off-site tree and hedgerow planting to further reduce landscape and visual impacts (referred to as effects) and is proposed to soften the effects of the new overhead line and provide screening.
Land Use			

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
5.10.5	The ES (see section 4.2) should identify existing and proposed land uses near the project, any effects of replacing an existing development or use of the site with the proposed project or preventing a development or use on a neighbouring site from continuing.	Volume 5.15.1, section 15.6	The guidance in section 5.10 of EN-1 has been taken into account in the scope of the socio-economic assessment. The effects of the Proposed Development on existing and proposed land uses (including planning permissions and allocations) have been taken into account. This includes business operators and economic land uses, agricultural land quality and operations, local communities and community facilities (health, education and community gathering) and visitor attractions, accommodation and recreational areas. Specific reference is made to Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. BMV land is that classified by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) based on the physical characteristics of the land as Grades 1 (excellent quality), 2 (very good quality) and 3a (good quality) agricultural land.
5.10.5	Applicants should also assess any effects of precluding a new development or use proposed in the development plan.	Volume 5.15.1, section 15.6	
5.10.6	Applicants should use any up-to-date local authority assessment or, if there is none, provide an independent assessment to show whether the existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land is surplus to requirements.	Volume 5.15.1, section 15.6	
5.10.7	Applicants should seek to minimise impacts on the best and most versatile agricultural land (defined as land in grades 1, 2 and 3a of the Agricultural Land Classification) and preferably use land in areas of poorer quality (grades 3b, 4 and 5) except where this would be inconsistent with other sustainability considerations.	Volume 5.15.1, section 15.6	

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
5.10.7	Applicants should also identify any effects and seek to minimise impacts on soil quality taking into account any mitigation measures proposed.	Volume 5.9.1, sections 9.5, 9.7 and 9.8	The potential loss of, or damage to, the structure of topsoil as a result of the construction of the Proposed Development, for example, during soil stripping operations and reinstatement, which could lead to poor crop establishment or significant changes in soil drainage parameters has been assessed.
5.10.7	For developments on previously developed land, applicants should ensure that they have considered the risk posed by land contamination.	Volume 5.9.1, section 9.5	The potential risks associated with previously developed land and historic land use within and adjoining the Order Limit have been assessed including the potential for: remobilisation of contamination in groundwater by on site activities; residual contaminated soils at the surface following on site activities; and accidental import or spreading of contaminated material within the working area during on site activities. Technical baseline reports (Preliminary Risk Assessments) have been undertaken for each section of the Proposed Development in accordance with the “Model Procedure for the Management of Contaminated Land, Contaminated Land Report 11”.
5.10.8	Applicants should safeguard any mineral resources on the proposed site as far as possible, taking into account the long-term potential of the land use after any future decommissioning has taken place.	Volume 5.9.1, section 9.5	The potential for the Proposed Development to result in the sterilisation of areas of mineral resources (both current and future) has been assessed. There are no mineral safeguard areas (MSAs) within or adjoining the Order Limit.
5.10.23	Where a project has a sterilising effect on land use (for example in some cases under transmission lines) there may be scope for this to be mitigated through, for example, using or incorporating the land for nature conservation or wildlife corridors or for parking and storage in employment areas.	Volume 5.15.1, section 15.6	The effects of the Proposed Development on existing and proposed land uses (including planning permissions and allocations) have been taken into account.

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
5.10.24	Rights of way, National Trails and other rights of access to land are important recreational facilities for example for walkers, cyclists and horse riders. PINS should expect applicants to take appropriate mitigation measures to address adverse effects on coastal access, National Trails and other rights of way.	Volume 5.7.1, section 7.8; Volume 5.12.1, section 12.8; Volume 5.15.1, sections 15.5 and 15.6.1; Volume 5.26.6	The ES has considered the direct effects to the PRoW network from the Proposed Development and the potential interaction of effects in terms of Amenity. Mitigation measures in relation to PRoW are set out in the PRoW Management Plan.
Noise and Vibration			
5.11.4	The applicant should include a description of the noise generating aspects of the development proposal leading to noise impacts, including the identification of any distinctive tonal, impulsive or low frequency characteristics of the noise	Volume 5.14.1, sections 14.4 (Construction) and 14.12 (Operation)	Descriptions of the noise generating aspects of the development proposal leading to noise impacts, including the identification of any distinctive tonal, impulsive or low frequency characteristics of the noise are provided in the chapter for both construction and operation noise sources.
5.11.4	The applicant should include identification of noise sensitive premises and noise sensitive areas that may be affected;	Volume 5.14.1, sections 14.4 (Construction) and 14.12 (Operation)	Noise sensitive premises and noise sensitive areas that may be affected have been identified for both construction and operation noise effects.
5.11.4	The applicant should include the characteristics of the existing noise environment	Volume 5.14.1, sections 14.3 and 14.11; Volume 5.14.2	The ES chapter and Appendices include a description of the existing noise environment.
5.11.4	The applicant should include a prediction of how the noise environment will change with the proposed development:	Volume 5.14.1, sections 14.4 and 14.12; and Volume 5.14.2, Appendix 14A , Appendix 14D and Appendix 14G	The ES chapter and Appendices include a prediction of how the noise environment will change due to both construction and operational effects
5.11.4	> in the shorter term such as during the construction period		The chapter and Appendices include a prediction of how the noise environment will change due to construction effects

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
5.11.4	> in the longer term during the operating life of the infrastructure		The chapter and Appendices include a prediction of how the noise environment will change due to operational effects
5.11.4	> at particular times of the day, evening and night as appropriate		Construction and operational noise effects have been assessed for the periods over which they are expected to have the most significant effect
5.11.4	The applicant should include an assessment of the effect of predicted changes in the noise environment on any noise sensitive premises and noise sensitive areas	Volume 5.14.1, sections 14.4 and 14.12	The chapter includes an assessment of how the noise environment will change due to both construction and operational effects
5.11.4	The applicant should include measures to be employed in mitigating noise	Volume 5.14.1, sections 14.6 and 14.14	The chapter includes measures to be employed in mitigating noise
5.11.4	The nature and extent of the noise assessment should be proportionate to the likely noise impact.	Volume 5.14.1	The noise assessment presented at Volume 5.14.1 is considered to be proportionate to the likely noise impact.
5.11.15	The noise impact of ancillary activities associated with the development, such as increased road and rail traffic movements, or other forms of transportation, should also be considered	Volume 5.14.1, sections 14.4 and 14.5; 14.12 and 14.13	The chapter considers the noise impact of ancillary activities associated with the development, such as increased road and rail traffic movements, or other forms of transportation
5.11.16	Operational noise, with respect to human receptors, should be assessed using the principles of the relevant British Standards and other guidance.	Volume 5.14.1, section 14.2	Operational noise is assessed with reference to Bs4142:1997, BS833:1999 and TR (T)94
5.11.16	For the prediction, assessment and management of construction noise, reference should be made to any relevant British Standards and other guidance which also give examples of mitigation strategies.	Volume 5.14.1, section 14.2	Construction noise is predicted and assessed and mitigation strategies are provided with reference to BS5228:2009.

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
5.11.7	The applicant should consult EA and Natural England, or the Countryside Council for Wales (CCW), as necessary and in particular with regard to assessment of noise on protected species or other wildlife.	Volume 5.8.1, section 8.6	All effects on ecological receptors are addressed in Volume 5.8.1, section 8.5, with technical input from the Acoustics and Vibration consultants. EA and NE, as well as ecology specialists from the LPAs, have been engaged in the scope and delivery of the assessments for ecological receptors, including the potential effects of noise.
5.11.7	The results of any noise surveys and predictions may inform the ecological assessment. The seasonality of potentially affected species in nearby sites may also need to be taken into account.	Volume 5.8.1, section 8.6	All effects on ecological receptors are addressed in Volume 5.8.1, section 8.5, with technical input from the Acoustics and Vibration consultants
5.11.9	PINS should not grant development consent unless it is satisfied that the proposals will meet the following aims: • avoid significant adverse impacts on health and quality of life from noise; • mitigate and minimise other adverse impacts on health and quality of life from noise; and • where possible, contribute to improvements to health and quality of life through the effective management and control of noise.	Volume 5.14.1, sections 14.4 and 14.12	The chapter demonstrates that significant adverse impacts on health and quality of life from noise will be avoided, mitigated and minimised through the effective management and control of noise.

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
5.11.12	Mitigation measures may include one or more of the following: • engineering: reduction of noise at point of generation and containment of noise generated; • lay-out: adequate distance between source and noise-sensitive receptors; incorporating good design to minimise noise transmission through screening by natural barriers, or other buildings; and • administrative: restricting activities allowed on the site; specifying acceptable noise limits; and taking into account seasonality of wildlife in nearby designated sites.	Volume 5.8.1, section 8.7; Volume 5.26.3; Volume 5.14.1, sections 14.6 and 14.14; and Volume 5.26.5	The chapter demonstrates that operational noise is controlled and mitigated as far as practicable at source by design and layout and construction noise is controlled by affective administrative and engineering noise control measures.
Socio-economic Impacts			
5.12.2	Where the project is likely to have socio-economic impacts at local or regional levels, the applicant should undertake and include in their application an assessment of these impacts as part of the ES	Volume 5.15.1	The guidance in section 5.12 of EN-1 has been taken into account in forming the scope of the socio-economic assessment. The creation of jobs and economic value of the Proposed Development at the local and national level, effects on tourism (including expenditure and employment, effects of the influx of workers (for example, induced spend and effects on visitor accommodation) cumulative and in-combination effects (specifically, amenity effects) have all been included within the scope of the assessment.
5.12.3	This assessment should consider all relevant socio-economic impacts, which may include:	Volume 5.15, section 15.5.1	
	the creation of jobs and training opportunities		
	the provision of additional local services and improvements to local infrastructure, including the provision of educational and visitor facilities		
	effects on tourism		

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
	the impact of a changing influx of workers during the different construction, operation and decommissioning phases of the energy infrastructure.		
	cumulative effects	Volume 5.17.1	
5.12.4	Applicants should describe the existing socio-economic conditions in the areas surrounding the proposed development and should also refer to how the development's socio-economic impacts correlate with local planning policies.	Volume 5.15.1, section 15.2 and 15.3	
5.12.5	Socio-economic impacts may be linked to other impacts, for example the visual impact of a development is considered in section 5.9 but may also have an impact on tourism and local businesses.	Volume 5.15.1, section 15.6	
Traffic and Transport			
5.13.3	If a project is likely to have significant transport implications, the applicant's ES should include a transport assessment, using the NATA/WebTAG methodology stipulated in Department for Transport guidance, or any successor to such methodology.	A TA is provided at Volume 5.22	Section 12.1: A TA has been produced in order to provide a full assessment of the likely impacts of the construction traffic associated with the Proposed Development during all phases of the works. The TA has been produced in accordance with DfT guidance and standards of assessment and should be read alongside this ES.

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
5.13.3	Applicants should consult the Highways Agency and Highways Authorities as appropriate on the assessment and mitigation.	Volume 5.12, section 12.1; the TA at Volume 5.22 and the Draft CTMP at Volume 5.26.5	Section 12.1 and Table 12.1/12.2 of the ES. Chapters 5 and 6 of the Draft CTMP describe how appropriate discussions have been held and will continue to be held as appropriate.
5.13.4	Where appropriate, the applicant should prepare a travel plan including demand management measures to mitigate transport impacts.	A TA is provided at Volume 5.22	Due to the nature of the development, Travel Plans (TPs) will not be provided for each specific are of development. An Indicative Framework Travel Plan (FTP) has been included within the TA which sets out a number of proposed sustainable travel planning initiatives.
5.13.4	The applicant should also provide details of proposed measures to improve access by public transport, walking and cycling, to reduce the need for parking associated with the proposal and to mitigate transport impacts.	Draft CTMP at Volume 5.26.5	A travel planning section is referenced in Volume 5.12.1, section 12.2 and section 6 of the Draft CTMP (Volume 5.26.5). Travel planning measures and initiatives are promoted to increase access the site on-foot or by bicycle are limited.
5.13.6	A new energy NSIP may give rise to substantial impacts on the surrounding transport infrastructure and PINS should therefore ensure that the applicant has sought to mitigate these impacts, including during the construction phase of the development	Volume 5.12.1 and Draft CTMP at Volume 5.26.5	A mitigation strategy (including the construction phase) has been discussed in consultation with the LPAs as contained within Volume 5.12.1, section 12.6 and 12.7. Chapters 5, 6 and 7 of the Draft CTMP (Volume 5.26.5).
5.13.10	Water-borne or rail transport is preferred over road transport at all stages of the project, where cost-effective.	TA at Volume 5.22	The TA has considered all viable modes of transport and as appropriate water-borne and rail trips have been considered as contained in Volume 5.12.1, section 12.2.
5.13.11	PINS may attach requirements to a consent where there is likely to be substantial HGV traffic that:	Likely Requirements are included in the DCO and in Volume 5.12.1, section	All construction traffic routes to the site have been agreed with the Local Authorities. Discussions are currently ongoing in regards to a

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
5.13.11	control numbers of HGV movements to and from the site in a specified period during its construction and possibly on the routing of such movements; make sufficient provision for HGV parking, either on the site or at dedicated facilities elsewhere, to avoid 'overspill' parking on public roads, prolonged queuing on approach roads and uncontrolled on-street HGV parking in normal operating conditions; and ensure satisfactory arrangements for reasonably foreseeable abnormal disruption, in consultation with network providers and the responsible police force.	12.8; the TA at Volume 5.22 and the Draft CTMP at Volume 5.26.5	number of peak hour HGV restrictions. Measures have been taken to ensure no parking occurs on local public roads and all abnormal load deliveries will consult with the Local Authorities and the Police.
Waste			
5.14.6	The applicant should set out the arrangements that are proposed for managing any waste produced and prepare a Site Waste Management Plan.	Volume 5.26.2	The Outline WMP describes National Grid's corporate procedures for managing waste on a construction site and identifies the requirements for the production of a Site Waste Management Plan by the contractor prior to commencement of construction.

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
5.14.6	The arrangements described in the WMP should include information on the proposed waste recovery and disposal system for all waste generated by the development, and an assessment of the impact of the waste arising from development on the capacity of waste management facilities to deal with other waste arising in the area for at least five years of operation.	Volume 5.26.2	Details on proposed recovery and disposal systems will be developed in the Site Waste Management Plan to be developed by the contractor; this will include an assessment of the impact of the waste arising from development on the capacity of waste management facilities to deal with other waste arising in the area for at least five years of operation.
5.14.6	The applicant should seek to minimise the volume of waste produced and the volume of waste sent for disposal unless it can be demonstrated that this is the best overall environmental outcome.	Volume 5.26.2	Waste hierarchy principles are described in the Outline WMP with a commitment to move up the hierarchy, beginning with a reduction in the resources used and subsequent reduction in the waste produced; followed by reuse, recycling and only when all other options have been discounted, disposal to a licensed waste facility. The ordering and use of materials on site will be managed to ensure efficient use of resources, reduced waste and reduced costs.

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
5.14.7	PINS should consider the extent to which the applicant has proposed an effective system for managing hazardous and non-hazardous waste arising from the construction, operation and decommissioning of the proposed development. It should be satisfied that: • any such waste will be properly managed, both on-site and off-site; • the waste from the proposed facility can be dealt with appropriately by the waste infrastructure which is, or is likely to be, available; • such waste arisings should not have an adverse effect on the capacity of existing waste management facilities to deal with other waste arisings in the area; and • adequate steps have been taken to minimise the volume of waste arisings, and of the volume of waste arisings sent to disposal, except where that is the best overall environmental outcome.	Volume 5.26.2	The Outline WMP describes National Grid's corporate procedures for managing hazardous and non-hazardous waste on a construction site. The Site Waste Management Plan, to be developed by the contractor, will ensure that waste arisings are minimised and do not have an adverse effect on the capacity of existing waste management facilities to deal with other waste arisings in the area
Water Quality and Resources			

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
5.15.2	Where the project is likely to have effects on the water environment, the applicant should undertake an assessment of the existing status of, and impacts of the proposed project on, water quality, water resources and physical characteristics of the water environment as part of the ES or equivalent	Volume 5.10.1, section 10.4; Appendices 10B and 10E at Volume 5.10.2	The ES chapter meets the assessment requirements outlined in EN-1 by identifying and assessing the existing status and potential impacts of the Proposed Development on water quality, water resources and physical characteristics of the water environment crossed or close to the Proposed Development. The assessment tables Volume 5.10.2, Appendix 10B provides details of the assessment the impacts of the Proposed Development on water quality, water resources and physical characteristics of the water environment. Further details and assessment on waterbodies, as defined by the Water Framework Directive, are provided at Volume 5.10.2, Appendix 10E
5.15.2	The ES should in particular describe the existing quality of waters affected by the proposed project and the impacts of the proposed project on water quality, noting any relevant existing discharges, proposed new discharges and proposed changes to discharges	Volume 5.10.1, section 10.4; Appendix 10B at Volume 5.10.3	The ES chapter meets the assessment requirements outlined in EN-1 by assessing the existing quality of waters affected by the Proposed Development and the impacts of the proposed project on water quality, noting any relevant existing discharges, proposed new discharges and proposed changes to discharges and assessed the impacts during and post construction providing mitigation measures to reduce potential effects to these receptors.
5.15.3	The ES should in particular describe existing water resources affected by the proposed project and the impacts of the proposed project on water resources, noting any relevant existing abstraction rates, proposed new abstraction rates and proposed changes to abstraction rates (including any impact on or use of mains supplies and reference to Catchment Abstraction Management Strategies)	Appendix 10B Volume 5.10.2 Volume 5.10.1, section 10.3, 10.5 and 10.7	There are no proposals to abstract water during the Proposed Development and therefore there are no predicted impacts on existing water resources affected by the proposed project and the impacts of the proposed project on water resources.

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
5.15.3	The ES should in particular describe existing physical characteristics of the water environment (including quantity and dynamics of flow) affected by the proposed project and any impact of physical modifications to these characteristics	Appendix 10B Volume 5.10.2 Volume 5.10.1, section 10.3, 10.5 and 10.7 Volume 5.23	The ES chapter meets the assessment requirements outlined in EN-1 by describing the existing physical characteristics of the water environment (including quantity and dynamics of flow) affected by the proposed project and any impact of physical modifications to these characteristics and assesses the impacts during and post construction providing mitigation measures to reduce potential effects to these receptors
5.15.3	The ES should in particular describe any impacts of the proposed project on water bodies or protected areas under the Water Framework Directive and source protection zones (SPZs) around potable groundwater abstractions.	Appendices 10B and 10E Volume 5.10.2 Volume 5.10.1, section 10.3, 10.5 and 10.7 and Volume 5.8.1	The ES chapter meets the assessment requirements of EN- 1 outlined by assessing the impacts of the proposed project on water bodies or protected areas under the Water Framework Directive and source protection zones (SPZs) around potable groundwater abstractions and assessed the impacts during and post construction providing mitigation measures to reduce potential effects to these receptors

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
5.15.6	PINS should satisfy itself that a proposal has regard to the River Basin Management Plans and meets the requirements of the Water Framework Directive (including Article 4.7) and its daughter directives, including those on priority substances and groundwater.	Appendices 10B and 10E Volume 5.10.2 Volume 5.10.1, section 10.3, 10.5 and 10.7 and Volume 5.8.1	Individual WFD assessments to determine the effect of the proposed Development on WFD quality elements have been carried out for the main river crossings of the Lox Yeo and the River Axe, the crossing of Towerhead Brook and the realignment of Parish Rhyne at Sandford, details at section 10.5 of Volume 5.10.1. A high level WFD assessment has been carried out for the rest of the 300 river crossings, which were grouped by Water body, details provided in Volume 5.10.2, Appendix 10E. These assessments show that, following implementation of mitigation and control measures, the Proposed Development meets the requirements of the WFD and would cause no permanent deterioration in WFD quality elements.
5.15.8	PINs should consider whether mitigation measures are needed over and above any which may form part of the project application. (See sections 4.2 and 5.1.) A construction management plan may help codify mitigation at that stage.	Volume 5.10.2 Appendix 10B Volume 5.10.1, section 10.7	Mitigation measures are detailed in section 10.7 and in the Draft CEMP to enable PINS to make this assessment.
5.15.9	The risk of impacts on the water environment can be reduced through careful design to facilitate adherence to good pollution control practice. For example, designated areas for storage and unloading, with appropriate drainage facilities, should be clearly marked.	Volume 5.10,1, section 10.7	The ES chapter meets the assessment requirements of EN- 1 outlined by identifying mitigation measures in line with the pollution control practice to reduce potential effects of the project on all identified receptors. The identified mitigation measures will be secured through the Draft CEMP (Volume 5.26.1)

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
5.15.10	The impact on local water resources can be minimised through planning and design for the efficient use of water, including water recycling.	Volume 5.26.1, Draft CEMP.	The ES chapter meets the assessment requirements of EN- 1 outlined by identifying mitigation measures for the efficient use of water, including water recycling, through the implementation of a suitable SuDS based drainage scheme. The identified mitigation measures will be secured through the provision of the Draft CEMP (Volume 5.26.1)

Table 4.2 Compliance with EN-5 Requirements

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
Climate Change Adaptation			
2.4.1	Applicants should set out to what extent the proposed development is expected to be vulnerable, and, as appropriate, how it would be resilient to: flooding, particularly for substations that are vital for the electricity transmission and distribution network; effects of wind and storms on overhead lines; higher average temperatures leading to increased transmission losses; and earth movement or subsidence caused by flooding or drought (for underground cables).	Volume 5.23,Volume 7.1	Resilience of the Proposed Development to flooding is addressed in all of the FRAs and measures proposed to increase resilience, especially at substations such as Seabank. Resilience of the Proposed Development to other potential effects of climate change is discussed in the Planning Statement (Volume 7.1).
2.4.2	Section 4.8 of EN-1 advises that the resilience of the project to climate change should be assessed in the ES accompanying an application. For example, future increased risk of flooding would be covered in any flood risk assessment (see Section 5.7 in EN-1).	Volume 5.6.1 to 5.16.1, section X.5; Volume 5.14.1, section 14.4 and 14.12	The potential effect of Climate Change on the future baseline for the Proposed Development is assessed in each ES topic chapter and the FRAs. A 'worst case scenario', using the high emissions scenario (UKCIP) is used.
Biodiversity and Geological Conservation			

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
2.7.1 & 2.7.2	Large birds such as swans and geese may collide with overhead lines associated with power infrastructure, particularly in poor visibility. Large birds in particular may also be electrocuted when landing or taking off by completing an electric circuit between live and ground wires. Even perching birds can be killed as soon as their wings touch energised parts. The applicant will need to consider whether the proposed line will cause such problems at any point along its length and take this into consideration in the preparation of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and ES (see Section 4.2 of EN-1). Particular consideration should be given to feeding and hunting grounds, migration corridors and breeding grounds.	Volume 5.8.1, section 8.5 and Volume 5.20.1	As part of the baseline assessment, bird surveys were commenced at the project outset, and continued for three years, in consultation with NE, to establish baseline information about the movement of birds, especially the qualifying wide-ranging wildfowl and waders of the Severn Estuary SPA Ramsar and the Somerset Levels and Moors SPA Ramsar. Appendix 8F details the field survey methods which were devised. Section 8.5 and the HRA discuss the impacts of bird collisions on the populations of vulnerable bird species. To satisfy the HRA and the broader application of policy EN-5 regarding large birds, notably mute swans, a contribution for monitoring work is proposed to identify if the Proposed Development results in any increased bird collision risk within the Portbury Wharf area. Electrocution has been considered and discounted as a risk given the species encountered.

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
2.7.4	Careful siting of a line away from, or parallel to, but not across, known flight paths can reduce the numbers of birds colliding with overhead lines considerably.	Volume 5.2.1 and summarised in Volume 5.8.1, section 8.5 and Volume 5.20.1	These sections of the chapter discuss bird collision risk in detail, as does the HRA. Bird flight paths have been monitored and this information used to inform the location of overhead lines. Information derived from the bird surveys was used alongside the consultation process and other environmental survey data, to inform the strategic routing and subsequent design of the proposed route, substation and ancillary works. Selection of the selected Route Corridor sought to avoid or, where not possible, minimise effects on birds, designated wildlife sites, priority habitats and habitats associated with protected species.
2.7.5	Making lines more visible by methods such as the fitting of bird flappers and diverters to the earth wire, which swivel in the wind, glow in the dark and use fluorescent colours designed specifically for bird vision can also reduce the number of deaths. The design and colour of the diverters will be specific to the conditions – the line and pylon/transmission tower specifications and the species at risk.	Volume 5.8.1, section 8.7, Volume 5.26.3, Volume 5.20	The mitigation strategy to address potential bird mortality caused by collision risk with the proposed overhead line is detailed in Appendix 8F and includes measures such as: • installation of bird diverters at three locations where landscape features indicate flight lines are most likely to occur; • implementing a monitoring strategy along additional sections of the overhead line where radar data has indicated potential movements of duck species (and diverters are not proposed); • application of the National Grid Bird Flight Diverter Protocol (Appendix 8G); and • although not specifically a mitigation measure for bird collision, the use of T-pylons is likely to reduce risk of collision compared to the steel lattice towers.
2.7.6	Electrocution risks can be reduced through the design of crossarms, insulators and the construction of other parts of high voltage power lines so that birds find no opportunity to perch near energised power lines on which they might electrocute themselves.	Volume 5.8.1, section 8.7, Volume 5.26.3, Volume 5.20	Electrocution is not considered to be a risk for the species of bird encountered in the Proposed Development, of which the mute swan and grey heron are the only regularly encountered birds with a wingspan over 1.5m.

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
Landscape & Visual			
2.8.4	The ES should set out details of how consideration has been given to undergrounding or sub-sea cables as a way of mitigating such impacts, including, where these have not been adopted on grounds of additional cost, how the costs of mitigation have been calculated.	Volume 5.2.1	Summarises the Connection Options report which considered connection options such as sub-sea cables and undergrounding.
2.8.6	Holford Rules	Volume 5.2.1	Volume 5.2 summarises the Route Options reports which included consideration of Holford Rules. The rules are also considered in the assessments for Landscape and Visual Effects at Volume 5.6, section 6.5 and Volume 5.7, section 7.5.
2.8.10	The main opportunities for mitigating potential adverse landscape and visual impacts of electricity networks infrastructure are:	Volume 5.6 at section 6.7 and 5.7 at section 7.8.	Careful consideration has been given to the effect of the Proposed Development on landscape and views when assessing potential route alignments for the Proposed Development. The effects of different pylon types (including the standard steel lattice pylon, the low height steel lattice pylon and the T-pylon) on landscape and
2.8.10	Consideration of network reinforcement options (where alternatives exist) which may allow improvements to an existing line rather than the building of an entirely new line	Volume 5.2.1	

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
2.8.10	Selection of the most suitable type and design of support structure (i.e. different lattice tower types, use of wooden poles etc.) in order to minimise the overall visual impact on the landscape.	Volume 5.2.1, Volume 5.6.1, section 6.7 and Volume 5.7, section 7.8	views on the selected route alignment was also assessed in the Pylon Design Options Report and has influenced the decision to propose the new 400kV overhead line supported by the T-pylon along the majority of the proposed overhead line route. The Proposed Development includes a new overhead line using the approximate route of an existing line for the majority of its length. The support type has been selected particularly because its height is closer to the height of the supports on the existing line to be removed than other supports that could be used and will minimise overall landscape and visual effects.
2.8.11	Landscape schemes, comprising off-site tree and hedgerow planting are sometimes used for larger new overhead line projects to mitigate potential landscape and visual impacts, softening the effect of a new above ground line whilst providing some screening from important visual receptors. These can only be implemented with the agreement of the relevant landowner(s) and advice from the relevant statutory advisor may also be needed.	Volume 5.25	National Grid has produced the OSPES which details the landscape scheme, comprising off-site tree and hedgerow planting to further reduce landscape and visual impacts (referred to as effects) and is proposed to soften the effects of the new overhead line and provide screening.

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
2.8.11	Screening, comprising localised planting in the immediate vicinity of residential properties and principal viewpoints can also help to screen or soften the effect of the line, reducing the visual impact from a particular receptor.	Volume 5.25; Volume 5.6.1, section 6.7 and Volume 5.7, section 7.7.	The OSPES proposals include some screening, comprising localised planting in the vicinity of residential properties and principal viewpoints to help to screen or soften the effect of the Proposed Development, further reducing the visual impact (referred to as effects) from particular receptors. Localised on-site specific planting for Sandford Substation, CSE compounds, a cables bridge over the River Axe (if constructed) and the permanent bridge over Towerhead Brook are proposed in order to screen and soften the visual effect on receptor views.
Noise and Vibration			
2.9.8 & 2.9.9	While standard methods of assessment and interpretation using the principles of the relevant British Standards are satisfactory for dry weather conditions, they are not appropriate for assessing noise during rain, which is when overhead line noise mostly occurs, and when the background noise itself will vary according to the intensity of the rain. Therefore an alternative noise assessment method to deal with rain-induced noise is needed, such as the one developed by National Grid as described in report TR(T)94,1993	Volume 5.14.1, section 14.2 Method	An assessment method based on the principles of BS41442:1997 and TR(T)93 has been used to assess noise from 400kV overhead lines during wet conditions
2.9.12	Applicants should have considered the following measures:	Volume 5.14.1, section 14.6	See below

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
2.9.12	The positioning of lines (see section 2.8 (landscape/visual impact)) to help mitigate noise;		The route has been defined to avoid and limit the effects of noise as far as practicable. The effect and consequences of proposed route change requests were considered with regard to noise.
2.9.12	Ensuring that the appropriately sized conductor arrangement is used to minimise potential noise;		Twin Redwood, the proposed conductor for the major part the Proposed Development is the quietest twin conductor system that National Grid currently operates.
2.9.12	Quality assurance through manufacturing and transportation to avoid damage to overhead line conductors which can increase potential noise effects;		Quality assurance through manufacturing and transportation will be undertaken to avoid damage to overhead line conductors which can increase potential noise effects.
2.9.12	Ensuring that conductors are kept clean and free of surface contaminants during stringing/installation		Care would be taken during installation to ensure that conductors would be kept clean and free of surface contaminants during stringing. This would minimise the risk of excessive dry noise on energisation of the proposed 400kV overhead line.
2.9.13	The ES should include information on planned maintenance arrangements.	Volume 5.3.1, Project description at section 3.7	The ES includes information on planned maintenance arrangements.
EMF			
2.10.10	Before granting consent to an overhead line application, PINS should satisfy itself that the proposal is in accordance with the ICNIRP (1998) guidelines	Volume 5.16.1, at sections 16.5 and 16.10	The overhead line and all other assets associated with the Proposed Development have been demonstrated to comply with the Government adopted ICNIRP 1998 guidelines.
2.10.11	The Government has developed with industry a voluntary Code of Practice, “Optimum Phasing of high voltage double-circuit Power Lines – A Voluntary Code of Practice”, published in February 2011 that defines the circumstances where industry can and will optimally phase lines with a voltage of 132kV and above. Applicant should demonstrate compliance with this.	Volume 5.16.1, at section 16.5	The overhead line has been designed in compliance with the Policy on Optimum phasing

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
2.10.14	The diagram at the end of section 2.10 shows a basic decision tree for dealing with EMFs from overhead power lines to which PINS can refer.	This is shown in Volume 5.16.1, at Inset 16.1	This decision tree has been replicated within Volume 5.16.1, Inset 16.1, and forms the basis for the assessment of EMFs from the Proposed Development.
2.10.15	The applicant should have considered the following factors: • Height, position, insulation and protection (electrical or mechanical as appropriate) measures subject to ensuring compliance with the Electricity Safety, Quality and Continuity Regulations 2002 • that optimal phasing of high voltage overhead power lines is introduced wherever possible and practicable in accordance with the Code of Practice to minimise effects of EMFs	Volume 5.16.1, at section 16.5	The overhead line has been designed to comply with the statutory requirements of the Electricity Safety, Quality and Continuity Regulations 2002. EMF requirements can result in conductor clearances to ground (one of the requirements of these regulations) being increased but always in compliances with the Electricity Safety, Quality and Continuity Regulations 2002. The minimum conductor clearance information provided in Volume 16.1, section 16.5 demonstrates this compliance. The overhead line has been designed in line with the Policy on Optimum phasing and this is presented in Volume 5.16.1, section 16.5.
2.10.15	Any new advice emerging from the Department of Health relating to Government policy for EMF exposure guidelines.	Volume 5.16.1, at section 16.2	This has been considered in the policy and legislation section of Volume 5.16.1, section 16.2 and all current advice has been used for the assessment. The assessment has been carried out in accordance with the current Government recommended EMF exposure guidelines and policies.

Para	Requirement	ES Section	Compliance
2.10.15	Where it can be shown that the line will comply with the current public exposure guidelines and the policy on phasing, no further mitigation should be necessary.	This is described in Volume 5.16.1, at sections 16.5 and 16.7	The Proposed Development has been shown to be compliant with current public exposure guidelines of ICNIRP 1998 and the policy on phasing using the principles in the DECC Codes of Practice. Details of this are included in Volume 5.16.1, section 16.5 and section 16.7.

4.3 National Planning Policy Framework

4.3.1 Paragraph 3 of NPPF states:

"NPPF does not contain specific policies for nationally significant infrastructure projects for which particular considerations apply. These are determined in accordance with the decision-making framework set out in the Planning Act 2008 and relevant national policy statements for major infrastructure, as well as any other matters that are considered both important and relevant (which may include the National Planning Policy Framework)."

4.3.2 The NPPF highlights the importance of delivering and planning for sustainable development and states a presumption in favour of sustainable development. The NPPF sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. It states that:

"The purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development."

4.3.3 It specifies three roles for the planning system in achieving this goal:

- an economic role – contributing to building a strong, responsive and competitive economy;
- a social role – supporting strong, vibrant and healthy communities; and
- an environmental role – contributing to protecting and enhancing our natural, built and historic environment; and, as part of this, helping to improve biodiversity, use natural resources prudently, minimise waste and pollution, and mitigate and adapt to climate change including moving to a low carbon economy.

4.3.4 In order to protect and enhance the natural and built environment, the design, construction, operation and eventual decommissioning of the Proposed Development and the approach to the EIA, have taken into account the following relevant sections of the NPPF:

- Section 4: Promoting sustainable transport;
- Section 7: Requiring good design;
- Section 10: Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change;
- Section 11: Conserving and enhancing the natural environment; and
- Section 12: Conserving and enhancing the historic environment.

4.3.5 Tables 4.1 and 4.2 provide details of how these broad principles have been taken into account in this ES.

4.3.6 This ES includes assessments that demonstrate the effects of the Proposed Development on these topics and proposals for the mitigation of adverse effects.

4.4 Local Planning Policy

4.4.1 **Volume 5.4.2, Appendix 4A** provides a summary of the Local Planning Policies of relevance to the EIA and ES.

4.4.2 Key themes from local planning policies have been taken into account in the topic assessments, **Volumes 5.6.1 – 5.16.1**. Within each topic chapter, a narrative is provided as to how these themes have been considered in the assessment process. A brief description and discussion of the key themes for each chapter is provided here.

Landscape and Views

Key Themes

- Protection and Enhancement of the Natural Environment.
- Protection of Landscape Features.

Discussion

4.4.3 The key themes running through these policies relate to the protection and enhancement of the natural environment and landscape features. A number of policies relate to specific landscape character areas and provide a description of and identify the features that contribute to their characters.

4.4.4 The sensitivity of each landscape character area and landscape features that contribute towards landscape character have been considered in **Volumes 5.6.1** and **5.7.1**. Landscape features are included in the baseline for the chapters.

Biodiversity and Nature Conservation

Key Themes

- Protection of the Natural Environment.
- Protection of Landscape Features.
- Protection of Designated Sites.
- Protection of Species and Their Habitats.
- Biodiversity and Nature Conservation.
- Climate Change.
- Coastal Environment.

Discussion

4.4.5 Key themes relate to the protection of the natural environment and landscape features. A number of policies relate specifically to the protection of designated sites, whilst others seek to ensure the overall protection of the natural environment.

4.4.6 Designated and other locally important sites were identified as part of the initial desk-top studies for the biodiversity and nature conservation assessment (see **Volume 5.8.1**). These were supplemented by extensive field studies to inform the strategic routing and subsequent design of the Proposed Development. Information gathered also identified receptors to form part of the baseline data to be used in the biodiversity and nature conservation assessment.

4.4.7 There are a number of local planning policies that relate to the protection of species and their habitats. Some relate specifically to (e.g. bats), whilst others provide general policy guidance for protected species and their habitats. Protected species and their habitats, identified as important locally, have been included in the assessment.

Ground Environment

Key Themes

- Waste Minimisation.
- Pollution Prevention.
- Groundwater Protection.
- Environmental Protection.
- Geology.
- Erosion/Land Instability.

Discussion

4.4.8 Key themes include the protection of groundwater and ground water sources and environmental protection. Certain policies relate specifically to the prevention of development that would adversely affect groundwater and groundwater quality. Others seek to prevent development that would result in pollution in general or harm to amenity.

4.4.9 As is described in **Volume 5.9.1**, Ground Environment a number of EA maps were utilised including groundwater vulnerability maps and the online aquifer designation and groundwater source protection zone (SPZ) maps, which formed part of the baseline assessment, along with information collated from other sources, including site assessment surveys.

4.4.10 Other relevant local planning policies relate to the protection of geological features and interests. Areas of geological interests and geological features were identified during desk-based assessments and survey work and included as part of the ground environmental assessment.

Hydrology and Water Resources

Key Themes

- Flood Risk.
- Groundwater Protection.

- Surface Water Protection.
- Water Resources.

Discussion

4.4.11 A number of local planning policies are associated with flood risk, and more specifically minimising the risk and impact of flooding. FRAs for the Proposed Development are provided at **Volume 5.23**. Information on flood risk within the Proposed Development study area has been collected from a range of sources, including a number of local authorities, FRAs, Flood Management Plans and information and mapping from the EA website. The information collated as part of the desk-based studies form part of the baseline for the hydrology assessment at **Volume 5.10.1**.

4.4.12 There are also a number of relevant policies relating to the protection of groundwater and ground water sources that seek to prevent development that would adversely affect groundwater and groundwater quality. As part of the initial desk-based assessment and studies, a number of EA maps were utilised including groundwater vulnerability maps and the online aquifer designation and groundwater source protection zone (SPZ) maps, which formed part of the baseline assessment, along with information collated from other sources, including site assessment surveys.

Historic Environment

Key Themes

- Historic Environment.
- Archaeological Sites.
- Conservation Areas.
- Listed Buildings.

Discussion

4.4.13 Key themes relating to the historic environment are historic environment, archaeological sites, conservation areas and listed buildings.

4.4.14 In the historic environment assessment, provided at **Volume 5.11.1**, receptors were identified as part of the initial desk-based studies, which identified listed buildings, conservation area, scheduled and non-schedules monuments as well as areas of known and potential archaeological remains. The information collated as part of these studies has been used to establish the baseline for the historic environment assessment.

Traffic and Transport

Key Themes

- Safeguarding Access.
- Reducing the Traffic Impacts of Development.

Discussion

4.4.15 A number of the local planning policies relate to the preservation of the amenity and safety of ProW and other forms of access. PRoW and other public accesses have been identified as part of the baseline environment and included as part of the Traffic and Transport assessment, provided at **Volume 5.12.1**. Where the Proposed Development is considered to have an adverse effect on access (including PRoW), mitigation is proposed, including diversion routes proposed during construction, which is detailed in the Draft CTMP provided at **Appendix 4** of the Draft CEMP (**Volume 5.26.5**).

4.4.16 A number of policies consider the traffic impacts of development. This is also a theme that runs through the Local Transport Plans, which provide a range of strategic objectives for transport. As part of the Transport Assessment **(Volume 5.22**), the impacts of construction traffic on local roads and public amenity have been assessed and proposals to reduce the effects of construction are detailed in the Draft CTMP.

Air Quality and Emissions

Key Themes

- Climate Change.
- Sustainable Development.
- Pollution.
- Transport.

Discussion

4.4.17 Key themes relate to air quality and emissions, climate change, sustainable development, pollution and transport.

4.4.18 A desk-based air quality assessment has been undertaken, provided at **Volume 5.13.1**, to determine the potential air quality effects on receptors arising from construction, operation and decommissioning of the Proposed Development.

Noise and Vibration

Key Themes

- Controlling the Impact of Noise.
- Transport.

Discussion

4.4.19 A number of local plan policies seek to control the impact of noise, including in connection to transport, and more particularly ensuring adequate provision for transport is made in development, whilst minimising adverse impacts.

4.4.20 The noise and vibration assessment, provided at **Volume 5.14.1,** identified receptors as part of the baseline assessment and ambient noise assessments were undertaken. The predicted noise levels have been assessed for the construction, operational and decommissioning phases of the development and mitigation is proposed where noise is identified as an issue. This includes construction mitigation measures outlined in the Draft CEMP **(Volume 5.26.1**) and site specific mitigation planting is proposed around the noise producing equipment, such as the Sandford substation.

Socio-Economics and Land Use

Key Themes

- Protection of Community Facilities.
- Impact on Amenity.
- Protection of Greenways/Pedestrian and Cycle Routes.
- Economic Prosperity.

Discussion

4.4.21 The local planning policies highlight that new development should aim to avoid adversely impacting on residential and environmental amenity; protect BMV land from development; safeguard green infrastructure and community facilities; and encourage economic prosperity and the development of skills. The effects of the Proposed Development on these groups of land use and socio-economic receptors have been assessed in the socio-economics and land use chapter of the ES, provided at **Volume 5.15.1**. Where adverse effects are predicted mitigation measures are proposed to remove or reduce these effects.

4.5 Conclusion

National Policy Statements

4.5.1 NPS are of primary importance to the decision–making process when DCO applications are under consideration. As such, an analysis of how the ES addresses the EIA and ES requirements of EN-1 and EN-5 has formed the largest part of this chapter on Planning Policy. A summary of the findings of the compliance analysis for EN-1 and EN-5 is given below.

4.5.2 There are two key parts to EN-1 for the EIA and ES; Part 4 ‘Assessment Principles’ and Part 5 ’Generic Impacts’. In these parts, detailed requirements for the assessment process, addressing cross-cutting themes and carrying out topic specific assessments are provided.

EN-1 Part 4: Assessment Principles

4.5.3 In this part applicants are reminded of the legislative requirements for specific topic areas to be covered in an EIA; the nature of assessments to be carried out, e.g. to include cumulative effects, secondary effects and the inter relationship of effects; PINS’ own requirements for certain other topics to be addressed, such as socio-economics, climate change and sustainable design; and the requirement to identify effects and mitigation measures for construction, operation and decommissioning of a Proposed Development.

4.5.4 These requirements informed the scope and method of the assessment; all topics identified in EIA legislation and by PINS are included in the ES.

4.5.5 The interaction between them (all **Volumes 5.6 to 5.16, section X.6** Inter-relationship of Effects).

4.5.6 Each assessment and proposals for mitigation does so for construction, operation and decommissioning effects.

4.5.7 Part 4 also includes a requirement on PINS to consider, prior to granting a DCO, whether the project may have a significant effect on a European site, under the Habitats and Species Regulations. To assist PINS in this consideration, applicants provide information to support the HRA that must be carried out; **Volume 5.20.1** provides the Applicant's Information to Support the HRA for this Proposed Development.

4.5.8 In addition to this, applicants are obliged to provide information about the alternatives they have considered in terms of the siting and design of their project. The alternatives considered for the Proposed Development are summarised in **Volume 5.2.1;** further details of changes to design are provided in the Consultation Report at **Volume 6.2**; and the evolution of the design is described in the Design and Access Statement at **Volume 7.2**.

4.5.9 Part 4 of EN-1 requires applicants to demonstrate that their project is sustainable; that it is as durable, attractive and adaptable as it can be; that it is going to be resilient to potential future natural events, such as flooding. National Grid has undertaken a risk assessment of all of its electricity assets with respect to climate change and documents the findings in its Climate Adaptation Report of 2010. This covers the resilience of, for example, pylons and conductors to increased storminess, fluctuations in temperature and increased flooding. For this Proposed Development, the FRAs include models for future climate change scenarios and mitigation measures proposed include these as well.

4.5.10 As well as taking climate change into account in the FRAs, it was included in each topic specific assessment, to determine whether potential future changes to the baseline environment would affect assessment findings and/or affect the efficacy and resilience of mitigation measures proposed.

EN-1 Part 5: Generic Impacts

4.5.11 Part 5 includes a number of specific topics and describes what must be addressed in the assessment of each topic and what PINS needs to consider in determining whether to grant the DCO.

4.5.12 **Table 4.3** provides a brief summary of the EN-1 compliance table in **Volume 5.4.1**, to give an overview of how the ES complies with the requirements of EN-1.

- Table 4.3 NPS EN-1 Compliance Summary

EN-1 Topic	ES Volume Reference	ES Compliance Summary
Air Quality and Emissions	Volume 5.13.1	The ES describes & assesses significant emissions, mitigation and residual effects, including road traffic emissions
Biodiversity and Geological Conservation	Volume 5.8, and Volume 5.20	There are no sites of geological conservation importance within the Order Limits. Volume 5.8.1, Biodiversity, identifies the elements of the Proposed Development that are anticipated to have an effect on biodiversity and nature conservation.
Dust, odour, artificial light, smoke, steam and insect infestation	Volume 5.7.1; Volume 5.13.1; and Volume 5.15.1; Volume 5.24	Fugitive emissions of dust & odour are assessed in Volume 5.13.1; artificial light is assessed in Volumes 5.8.1 and Volume 5.7.1. The inter-relationship of these effects on amenity is assessed in Volume 5.15.
Flood Risk	Volume 5.23	This application is accompanied by five FRAs: Bridgwater Tee CSE compounds FRA; South of the Mendip Hills CSE Compound FRA; Sandford Substation FRA; Extension to Seabank Substation FRA; and Hinkley Point C Connection Route FRA
Historic Environment	Volume 5.11.1 and 5.11.2	Volume 5.1.1 provides a description of the significance of the heritage assets affected by the Proposed Development. Volume 5.11.2, Appendix 11B includes a description of the contribution made by setting to the significance of assets affected by the Proposed Development.
Landscape and Visual Assessment	Volumes 5.6.1 and 5.7.1	Landscape and visual assessments have been carried out and are provided in the ES in separate chapters to distinguish between these effects. National and local level landscape character assessments have been reviewed as part of the desk study to determine the landscape and visual baseline for the landscape and visual assessments
Land Use	Volume 5.15.1,	The effects of the Proposed Development on existing and proposed land uses have been taken into account. This includes business operators and economic land uses, agricultural land quality and operations, local communities and community facilities and visitor attractions, accommodation and recreational areas.
Noise and Vibration	Volume 5.14.1	Descriptions of the noise generating aspects of the development proposal leading to noise impacts, including the identification of any distinctive tonal, impulsive or low frequency characteristics of the noise are provided in the chapter for both construction and operation noise sources.

EN-1 Topic	ES Volume Reference	ES Compliance Summary
Socio-economic Impacts	Volume 5.15.1	The creation of jobs and economic value of the Proposed Development at the local and national level, effects on tourism expenditure and employment, effects of the influx of workers, cumulative and in-combination effects (specifically, amenity effects) have all been included within the scope of the assessment
Traffic and Transport	Volume 5.12.1 and Volume 5.22	A full assessment of the likely impacts of the construction traffic associated with the Proposed Development during all phases of the works has been carried out.
Waste	Volume 5.26.2	An Outline WMP has been drafted which sets out the principles of sustainable waste management which will be adhered to in the production and implementation of Site Waste Management Plans.
Water quality and resources	5.10.1 and 5.23 (FRAs)	The potential effects of the Proposed Development on water quality, water resources and the physical characteristics of the water environment crossed or close to the Proposed Development have been assessed.

EN-5

4.5.13 This NPS sets out the basis for the assessment of proposals specifically relating to electricity networks infrastructure. It provides further requirements and guidance on the assessment of a few specific topics considered to be of particular relevance to electricity networks:

- climate change;
- biodiversity and geological conservation;
- landscape and visual;
- noise and vibration; and
- EMF.

4.5.14 The NPS requires applicants to demonstrate good design in respect of landscape and visual amenity and in the design of the project to mitigate adverse effects such as noise and electric and magnetic fields. Landscape and visual amenity, biodiversity and heritage assessments of potential effects have informed the location and design of the Proposed Development throughout its evolution.

4.5.15 Resilience to climate change is highlighted as a key issue and the NPS advises that applicants should in particular set out how the proposal would be resilient to flooding; effects of wind and storms on overhead lines; higher average temperatures; and earth movement or subsidence caused by flooding or drought (for underground cables).

4.5.16 FRAs have been undertaken for Sandford Substation, Seabank Substation extension, Bridgwater Tee CSE compounds, South of Mendip Hills CSE compound and the remaining components of the Proposed Development in the 'Hinkley Point C Connection Route FRA'.

4.5.17 The potential effects of wind, storms and increasing temperatures as a result of climate change have been considered by National Grid in its Climate Change Adaptation Report (CCAR) (Ref. 4.8).

4.5.18 EN-5 recognises that the Holford Rules should form the basis of the approach to routeing overhead lines. Taking into account the Holford Rules, technical, financial and other environmental considerations, National Grid proposes to install the 400kV connection through the Mendip Hills AONB as underground cables, to minimise the landscape and visual effects of the Proposed Development. In addition, National Grid proposes to underground 8km of 132kV overhead line, between Nailsea and Portishead to reduce the overall effect of the Proposed Development on the landscape of Somerset.

National Planning Policy Framework

4.5.19 The NPPF published in March 2012 sets out the Government's planning policies for England. Whilst the above mentioned NPSs are the primary policy tools for determination of applications for development consent, the NPPF remains relevant in terms of shaping and guiding the environmental topic assessments. The relevant parts of the NPPF have been considered for each of the environmental topics in the ES.

Local Policy

4.5.20 As the NPSs form the basis for decision making on NSIPs, NSIPs are not subject to s38(6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, which states that determination of planning consent must be made in accordance with a local development plan. Local planning policy does not therefore set the tests for the acceptability of NSIPs. However, some local plan policies may be relevant where they inform the assessment of potential effects e.g. by identifying land allocations and environmentally sensitive areas. If there is a conflict between NPS and local policies, the NPS takes precedence.

4.5.21 Key themes from local planning policies have been taken into account in the topic assessments.

4.1 National Policy Statement (EN-1) Overarching National Policy Statement, DECC 2012

4.2 National Policy Statement (EN-5) for Electricity Networks Infrastructure, DECC 2012

4.3 Town and Country Planning Act ,1990

4.4 UKCIP, UK Climate Projections

4.5 South West Climate Group

4.6 UKCIP, UK Climate Projections

4.7 South West Climate Group

4.8 National Grid CAR report

Appendix 4A – Summary of Relevant Local Planning Policies

SUMMARY OF RELEVANT LOCAL PLANNING POLICIES

Legislation/Policy	Summary
Bristol City Council Core Strategy (Adopted 2011)	
BCS6 – Green Belt	This policy identifies that land within the green belt will be protected from inappropriate development as set out in National Policy
BCS9 – Green Infrastructure	Policy BCS9 sets out the approach to green infrastructure including approaches to loss of open space.
BCS12 – Community Facilities	BCS12 relates to community facilities and emphasises that existing facilities should be retained 'unless it can be demonstrated that there is no longer a need to retain the use or where alternative provision is made'.
BCS13 – Mitigating and Adapting to Climate Change	This policy identifies that development should contribute towards both mitigating and adapting to climate change. Development should mitigate and adapt to climate change through a variety of measures identified in the policy, including avoiding responses to climate impacts which lead to increases in energy use and carbon dioxide emissions.
BCS14 – Sustainable Energy	This policy encourages proposals for development of renewable and low carbon sources of energy. The policy identifies that development should seek to minimise its energy requirements and incorporate renewable and low-carbon energy supplies to reduce its carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions. The policy also sets out broad criteria to be considered in assessing proposals for renewable and low-carbon energy development.
BCS15 – Sustainable Design and Construction	The aim of this policy is to ensure new developments are designed and constructed to minimise their environmental impact, and contribute to meeting targets for reductions in carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions.
BCS16 – Flood Risk and Water Management	This policy sets out the Council's approach to minimising the risk and impact of flooding in the context of new development.

Legislation/Policy	Summary
BCS22 – Conservation and the Historic Environment	This policy identifies that development proposals will safeguard or enhance heritage assets and the character and setting of areas of acknowledged importance.
BCS23 – Pollution	This policy identifies that development should be sited and designed to avoid adverse impacts upon environmental amenity or biodiversity through potential sources of pollution. The location and design of development should also take into account potential impacts on existing sources of pollution. In addition, the policy also identifies Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs).
Bristol City Council: Saved Policies from the 1997 Adopted Local Plan	
B22 – Sites of Archaeological Significance	There is a presumption in favour of preserving any archaeological features or sites of national importance, whether scheduled or not and development which could adversely affect sites, structures, landscapes or buildings of archaeological interest and their settings will require an assessment of the archaeological resource through a desk-top study, and where appropriate a field evaluation.
L1 – Open Space: Protection of Playing Fields and Recreational Grounds	Policy L1 protects playing fields and recreational grounds, setting requirements which must be fulfilled, should development result in their loss
L3 – Greenways: Walking and Cycling	Policy L3 makes provision for the protection of greenways for walking and cycling.
ME2 – Pollution: Location and Design of Developments	This policy identifies that development deemed to have an unacceptable impact on the environmental amenity or wildlife of the surrounding area by reason of fumes, odour, dust or other forms of air, land or water pollution is not permitted. Account will be taken of measures to stop unacceptable levels of run off, location, design and layout and measures that reduce existing levels of pollution.

Legislation/Policy	Summary
ME4 – Pollution: Controlling the Impact of Noise	This policy identified that development deemed to have an unacceptable impact on the environmental amenity or wildlife of the surrounding area by reason of noise will not be permitted. The policy accounts for taking measures for adequate sound insulation measures against developments in areas of existing noise.
ME5 – Protection of Ground Water Supplies	This policy sets out a requirement for the location and design of development to incorporate appropriate remedial measures to avoid harm to groundwater supplies which may otherwise result from the development.
ME6 – Pollution: Contaminated Land	This policy provides that development on contaminated land will only be permitted if appropriate remedial measures are included, to ensure that the site is suitable for the proposed use and that there is no unacceptable risk of pollution within the site and in the surrounding area.
ME8 – Watercourses: Coastal Area	This policy restricts development within the designated Coast Zone to those where a coastal location is required, those which have appropriate flood defence works and those which do not have a significant effect on nature conservation, either directly or indirectly.
NE2 – Landscape Features	This policy seeks to protect prominent or strategically important landscape features which make a significant contribution to the landscape character of the city, including green hillsides, promontories, ridges, valleys, gorges and man-made landscapes.
NE5 – Sites of Nature Conservation Interest	This policy provides that Sites of Nature Conservation Interest set out in the schedule and defined on the Proposals Map will be protected, having regard to the relative significance of their designation.
NE6 – Wildlife Network	The aim of this policy is to maintain the integrity of the Bristol wildlife network, through the protection and enhancement of Wildlife Network Sites as identified on the Proposals Map.

Legislation/Policy	Summary
NE9 – Historic Landscapes	This policy seeks to protect historic parks and gardens and other designed landscapes of national and local importance and development which would adversely affect the character or appearance of historic landscapes and, in the case of nationally important sites, their settings, will not be permitted.
NE11 – New Development: Natural Environmental Considerations	This policy identifies that in determining planning applications, account will be taken of the retention and protection of existing natural features and habitats, and, where appropriate, the benefits of new landscape treatment which accords to the list set out in the policy.
Bristol City Council, Practice Notes (Produced to help planners and developers use certain policies of the Core Strategy	
Flood Risk Sequential Test: Practice Note (Draft April 2013)	This practice note explains the requirement for developments in areas at risk of flooding, to undertake a sequential test, to examine whether there are alternative sites less at risk of flooding that would be appropriate for proposed development.
Climate Change and Sustainability: Practice Note (December 2012)	This practice note offers advice on the implementation of policies BCS13-16 of the Bristol Core Strategy. It sets out submission requirements and offers more detail on the implementation of the specific policies.
North Somerset Council: Core Strategy – Version following High Court Judgement (March 2013)	
CS1 – Addressing Climate Change and Carbon Reduction	Policy CS1 sets out a broad policy framework drawing together various themes where development can address climate change issues. Many of the specific themes are dealt with elsewhere in the Core Strategy, but are included in this more general policy as a set of principles to guide development to address climate change, through mitigating further impacts and adapting to its effects.
CS2 – Delivering Sustainable Design and Construction	The policy sets out a broad aspiration for all new development both residential (including conversions) and non-residential to demonstrate a commitment to sustainable design and construction increasing energy efficiency through design, and prioritising the use of sustainable low or zero carbon forms of renewable energy generation in order to increase the sustainability of the building stock across North Somerset.

Legislation/Policy	Summary
CS3 – Environmental Impacts and Flood Risk Management	The Core Strategy seeks to raise the quality of development in North Somerset. This policy sets out aspirations for the environmental standards to be met, including those relating to flood risk management and environmental protection. The policy identifies that developments resulting in environmental pollution or harm to amenity, health or safety will only be permitted if the potential adverse effects can be mitigated to an acceptable level.
CS4 – Nature Conservation	The policy seeks to maintain and enhance the biodiversity of North Somerset. It reflects the importance of meeting regional biodiversity targets and emphasises the need to design development to maximise benefits to biodiversity, incorporating and enhancing natural habitats and features. In particularly networks of habitats which are very important as wildlife corridors. It stresses that development should not result in net loss of biodiversity interest, and promotes achievement of a net gain where possible.
CS5 – Landscape and a Historic Environment	Policy CS5 sets out a broad policy framework for protection and enhancement of the landscape and historic environment through careful sensitive management and design of development.
CS9 – Green Infrastructure	Policy CS9 seeks to safeguard, improve and enhance the green infrastructure, including managing, maintaining, upgrading and extending the PRoW network.
North Somerset Council: Saved policies from the North Somerset Replacement Local Plan (2007)	
CF/4: Safeguarding of Existing and Proposed Sites and Buildings	Safeguards existing and proposed sites and buildings, specifically safeguarding for community use
GDP/2 – Environmental and Public Protection	The policy identifies that development resulting in pollution or harm to amenity, health or safety will not be permitted unless the potential adverse effects could be mitigated to an acceptable level by other control regimes, or by measures included in the proposals, by the imposition of planning conditions or through a planning obligation.

Legislation/Policy	Summary
ECH/3 – Conservation Areas	This policy provides that development within one of the 34 designated Conservation Areas will be permitted provided it preserves or enhances the area.
ECH/4 – Listed Buildings	It also seeks to control development affecting the setting of Listed Buildings
ECH/5 – Historic Parks and Gardens	Development likely to affect a Historic Park or Garden identified on the Proposals Map, or it's setting, will only be permitted where: i. its historic character and appearance will not be unacceptably harmed: and ii. its historic importance will not be unacceptably harmed; and iii. the development enables features, landscaping and planting schemes of historic interest to be conserved, enhanced or restored.
ECH/6 – Archaeology	Development will not be permitted where it would involve significant alteration or cause damage to nationally-important archaeological remains (whether Scheduled or not), or would have a significant impact on the setting of such remains.
ECH/8 – Mendip Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty	This policy identifies that development proposals in the AONB will not be approved if they harm the natural beauty of the landscape. It identifies that development will only be permitted where there is an over-riding national need, no adverse effect on the local economy, no alternative site outside of the area and any harm to the AONB can be kept to a minimum.
ECH/9 – Forest of Avon	This policy identifies that landowners and developers are encouraged to promote the aims and objectives of designating the Forest of Avon as a Community Forest by contributing towards further establishment of the woodland by design.
ECH/10 – Biodiversity	Development that is likely to have a significant impact upon biodiversity will not be permitted unless there is an overriding need for the development in the proposed location or measures can be introduced to mitigate such an impact.

Legislation/Policy	Summary
ECH/11 – Protected Species and their Habitats	Development which could harm, directly or indirectly, nationally or internationally protected species of flora or fauna or the habitats used by such species will not be permitted unless that particular harm could be avoided or mitigated and the species protected by the use of planning conditions or planning obligations.
ECH/12 – Wildlife Sites of International Importance	Development which would be likely to have a direct or indirect adverse effect or which conflicts with the conservation objectives of a potential, candidate or designated Special Protection Area, Special Area of Conservation, or Ramsar Site will not be permitted.
ECH/13 – Sites of Special Scientific Interest and National Nature	Development within or near a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) or National Nature Reserve that is likely to have a direct or indirect adverse effect on its biodiversity or geological interest will not be permitted unless other material considerations outweigh the loss of biodiversity or geological value of the site concerned and any broader impact upon the national network of SSSIs.
ECH/14 – Wildlife and Geological Sites and Local Nature Reserves	Planning permission will not be granted for development that would have a significant adverse effect on local biodiversity or geological interests, unless the importance of the development outweighs the value of the substantive interest present.
ECH/15 – Coastal Zone	Development within the defined Coastal Zone will be permitted only for uses and activities appropriate to and requiring a coastal location that cannot be accommodated elsewhere. When considering such proposals, account will be taken of the likely impact on the coastal environment, the proposal's scale, the degree of risk from flooding, erosion and instability, the effect of any works necessary to remove or minimise those risks, and the provision of public access to the coast.

Legislation/Policy	Summary
RD/3 – Development in the Green Belt	Development in the Green Belt will not be permitted unless Very Special Circumstances can be justified. Exceptions to this include the carrying out of engineering or other operations or for changes in the use of land which maintain openness and do not conflict with the purposes of including land in the Green Belt.
T/7 – Protection, Development and Improvement of the Rights of Way Network and other forms of Public Access	Development that would reduce, sever, or adversely affect the use, amenity or safety of public rights of way and other forms of public access, or prejudice the planned development of the network will only be permitted if acceptable provision is made to mitigate those effects, or divert or replace the right of way or other form of access, before the development commences.
Biodiversity and Trees SPD	This SPD provides additional advice in relation to biodiversity to ensure that biodiversity is fully incorporated and best practice followed. Planning applicants must satisfy the council that development can be successfully reconciled with the interests of the biodiversity as well as the amenity of the trees on the site and its surroundings.
North Somerset Landscape Character Area	This SPD involves the systematic analysis, classification and description of this landscape identifying features which contribute to its character. These features include an assessment of its ecology, geology, topography and the human influences which have affected the landscape and its character by area.
Sedgemoor District Council: Core Strategy (2011)	
P6 – Countryside	Proposals for new development outside of identified settlements will be strictly controlled. And will only be supported where it accords with other relevant policies contained in the Core Strategy that provide, exceptionally, for development in the countryside.

Legislation/Policy	Summary
S3 – Sustainable Development Principles	This policy provides an overarching framework which seeks to deliver sustainable development through assessing development proposals in terms of their contribution towards sustainable development. A comprehensive list is provided of the objectives which developments are required to meet.
S4 – Mitigating the causes and Adapting to the Effects of Climate Change.	This policy identifies that Development should contribute to both mitigating and adapting to climate change and to meeting targets to reduce carbon dioxide emissions. The policy provides an over-arching framework identifying the objectives for development to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change.
MIP1 – Major Infrastructure Proposals	This Policy sets out the approach that the Council will take in responding to major infrastructure applications either as determining authority or as a statutory consultee. The Council will consider applications against the relevant national planning policy and the strategy and relevant policies of the development plan.
MIP2 – Hinkley Point C: Associated Development and Compensation	This Policy sets out the principles that the Council will take into account in responding (either as statutory consultee or decision maker) to the proposals for associated or ancillary or related development related to Hinkley Point C.
D1 – Managing Flood Risk	This Policy explains the requirement for developments in areas at risk of flooding, to undertake a sequential test, to examine whether there are alternative sites less at risk of flooding that would be appropriate for proposed development.
D3 – Sustainable Construction and Reducing Carbon Dioxide Emissions in Development	The Council will encourage the use of sustainable construction techniques that promote the reuse and recycling of building materials, maximise opportunities for the recycling and composting of waste on all new development proposals (residential and non-residential) and reduce CO2 emissions.
D10 – Managing the Transport Impacts of Development	This policy is primarily a development management tool to ensure that new developments provide for safe and appropriate means of transport and access.

Legislation/Policy	Summary
D11: Economic Prosperity	This policy seeks to ensure economic prosperity for the District and describes the way in which the council promotes development of skills
D14 – Natural Environment	The policy seeks to protect and enhance the natural environment wherever possible and will resist development that may have an adverse impact on its character as well as ensure that proposals enhance or conserve the natural beauty of AONBs and the distinctive landscape features identified in the Sedgemoor Landscape Assessment and Countryside Design Summary. The Policy seeks to ensure that development that could result in having a significant impact on the landscape (including the historic landscape) incorporates appropriate mitigation and compensation measures.
D16 – Pollution Impacts of New Development and Protecting Residential Amenity	The policy will ensure that any potential pollution impacts of development will have no adverse impact on the quality of land, air, water, human health or biodiversity. Where there are reasonable grounds to suggest that a development proposal may result in a significant adverse environmental impact, the Council will require planning applications to be supported by the appropriate assessments.
D17 – Historic Environment	The policy sets out a broad framework for the protection and enhancement of the historic environment. Proposals will need to consider the importance of the setting of Listed Buildings and other historic assets, such as archaeological sites, which will need to meet the requirements of 'Saved' Local Plan Policies HE9 and HE12.
D20 – Green Infrastructure	This policy sets out the approach to green infrastructure to safeguard, maintain, improve, enhance and add to, green infrastructure provision to form a multifunctional resource, which is integrated into the design process, to ensure features such as Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) and the multifunctional aspects of green space provision can be fully considered.
Hinkley Point C Project Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)	The SPD is intended to assist potential developers, including EDF Energy, in formulating their development proposals both for the Hinkley Point site itself and any associated development that may be required as a result.

Legislation/Policy	Summary
Sedgemoor District Council: Saved Policies from the Sedgemoor District Local Plan (2004)	
CNE4 – Green Wedges, Green Edge, or Strategic Gap	Development which adversely affects local landscape character or scenic quality will not be permitted. In particular: • Siting and landscaping should take account of visibility from publicly accessible vantage points; and • The form, bulk and design of buildings should have proper regard to their context in respect of both the immediate setting and the defining characteristics of the wider local area.
CNE16 – Ground Water Protection Zones and Aquifers	The Policy provides that development will not be permitted within a defined Groundwater Source Protection Zone or on a major or minor aquifer unless safeguards are provided against the possible contamination of groundwater and/or interference with groundwater flows and levels.
HE4 – Criteria for Development Proposals in Conservation Areas	The policy sets out criteria for proposals for development in Conservation Areas (and those outside an area which would affect its setting).
HE9 – Areas of High Archaeological Potential	This Policy states that where development proposals will affect Areas of High Archaeological Potential and elsewhere where there is reason to believe that there may be archaeological remains, an assessment of the nature, character and importance of the site will be sought prior to the determination of any planning application.
HE12 – Archaeological Sites of Local Importance	This policy provides that Planning permission will not be granted for development which would damage or destroy locally important archaeological remains, unless the importance of the development outweighs the local significance of the remains. Where physical preservation in situ is not possible, mitigation strategies will be required for the protection and/or recording of the site.

Legislation/Policy	Summary
PCS15 – Noise Pollution	Noise generating development will not be permitted if it would: a) be liable to unacceptably increase the level or disruptive character of noise experienced in any area to the detriment of its character; or b) be liable to unacceptably increase the noise experienced by the users of existing or proposed noise sensitive development
South Gloucestershire Core Strategy (December 2013)	
CS1 High Quality Design	Development will only be permitted where the highest possible standards of design and site planning are achieved. Information submitted with an application should be proportionate to the scale, significance and impact of the proposal.
CS4A - Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development	This policy states that there is a presumption in favour of sustainable development. When considering proposals for sustainable development the Council will take a positive approach. It will work pro-actively with applicants to find solutions so that sustainable development can be approved wherever possible.
CS9 – Managing the Environment and Heritage	This policy states that the natural and historic environment is a finite and irreplaceable resource. In order to protect and manage South Gloucestershire's environment and its resources in a sustainable way, new development will be expected to adhere to a number of conditions.
CS12 Safeguarded areas for economic development	Land identified to be safeguarded for economic development. Includes Severnside Employment Area.
CS34 – Rural Areas	Policy CS34 promotes the vision for rural areas though protecting BMV land and seeking contributions to providing green infrastructure.

Legislation/Policy	Summary
CS36 Major Infrastructure Projects	In its role either as determining authority for associated development, or as consultee for applications to other bodies, and within the provisions of national policy, the Council will, taking into consideration the nature, scale, extent and potential impact of any development proposals coming forward, seek to ensure that development makes a positive contribution to the implementation of its vision, strategic objectives and strategy for development as set out in Chapter 4 and where appropriate other relevant local plans and supporting documents.
South Gloucestershire Local Plan (2006) (Saved Policies)	
L1 – Landscape Protection and Enhancement	This policy aims to conserve and enhance the character, distinctiveness, quality and amenity of the landscapes of South Gloucestershire. In order that the character, distinctiveness, quality and amenity of the landscapes of South Gloucestershire are conserved and enhanced, new development will be permitted only where: A: Those attributes of the landscape which make a significant contribution to the character of the landscape are conserved and where possible enhanced; and B: Those features in or of the landscape which make a significant contribution to the character of distinctiveness of the locality are retained, protected and managed in a manner which ensures their long-term viability; and C: The amenity of the landscape is conserved and where possible enhanced. The council will seek to negotiate the provision of works to restore, maintain and where possible enhance the landscape in a manner which contributes to the character, quality, distinctiveness and amenity of the locality within which the development is located. In the context of a degraded landscape, or one where the character has been eroded, the council will expect the development to contribute to the regeneration and restoration of landscape character and distinctiveness as well as visual amenity.

Legislation/Policy	Summary
L3 – Coastal Zone	This policy restricts development within the undeveloped coastal zone to those where the proposal requires a coastal location and cannot be accommodated elsewhere.
L4 – Forest of Avon	This policy aims to ensure that development within the Forest of Avon (as defined on the Proposals Map) should respect the developing woodland setting, not conflict with the community forest objectives and not prejudice community forest projects.
L7 – Sites of National Nature Conservation Interest.	This policy provide that development which would directly or indirectly have an adverse effect on the nature conservation or geological interests of a national, regional or local nature reserves, sites of special scientific interest, protected species, habitats or impact on biodiversity will not be permitted unless there are material factors sufficient to outweigh the nature conservation value and there is no reasonable alternative. In such circumstances, mitigation or compensatory measures will be required to minimise and offset the damage.
L8 – Sites of Regional and Local Nature Conservation Interest	
L9 - Species Protection	
L11 – Archaeology	This policy sets out a requirement for development within sites or landscapes of archaeological potential to undertake and Archaeological Assessment. Where development has the potential to cause harm, applicants will need to demonstrate a satisfactory mitigation scheme.
L12 – Conservation Areas	Development within or affecting a conservation area will only be permitted where it would preserve or enhance the character or appearance of the conservation area.
L13 – Listed Buildings	Development including alterations or additions affecting a listed building or its setting will not be permitted unless a. the building and its setting would be preserved; and b. features of architectural or historic interest would be retained; and c. the character, historic form and structural integrity of the building would be retained.

Legislation/Policy	Summary
L16 – Protecting the Best Agricultural Land	This Local Plan policy sets restrictions for development on BMV land
L17 & L18 – The Water Environment	Policy L17 provides that development which would have an unacceptable effect on the water environment, including surface water and groundwater quality and quantity, river corridors and associated wetlands, will not be permitted. Policy L18 requires Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) to be incorporated into schemes for the disposal of surface waters. Where this is not practicable it must be demonstrated that an acceptable alternative means of surface water disposal is incorporated.
LC9 – Protection of Open Space and Playing Fields	Saved Policy LC9 seeks to protect open spaces and playing fields, and states that permission will only be granted if 'the development would not have unacceptable environmental effects and would not prejudice residential amenity'.
LC12 – Recreational Routes	Policy LC12 safeguards the utility and amenity of existing and proposed recreational walking, cycling and horse riding routes
EP1 – Environmental Pollution	This policy sets out a requirement for new development in South Gloucestershire to take into account its potential impact on pollution and the impact of existing sources of pollution.
EP2 – Flood Risk and Development	This policy sets out criteria for assessing the potential effects of flooding on the location of development, with specific emphasis to surface run off.
GB1 – Development in the Green Belt	This policy restricts development in the Green Belt to those which are listed in the Policy and where it would not have an adverse impact on the visual amenity of the Green Belt.

Legislation/Policy	Summary
T6 – Cycle Routes and Pedestrian Routes	Saved Policy T6 protects the function, convenience, attractiveness and safety of existing and proposed cycle and/or pedestrian routes
T12 – Transportation Development Control Policy for New Development	The policy sets out criteria which all new development proposals must satisfy, to ensure that new development makes adequate, safe and appropriate provision for the transportation demands which it will create, in accordance with the objectives of the Local Plan, and minimises the adverse impact of motorised traffic.
West Somerset District Local Plan (Saved Policies) April 2006	
A/2: Best and most Versatile Agricultural Land	Policy A/2 seeks to protect BMV land from development.
AH/2 – Locally Important Archaeological Remains	Development which is likely to damage archaeological remains of local importance, including sites recorded at the county sites and monuments record, will only be permitted where the importance of development outweighs the intrinsic importance of the remains.
CO/1: Coastal Zone	This policy sets certain requirements that development proposals must meet if approval is to be granted, including only permitting development which is unlikely to have a direct or indirect adverse effect on residential amenity.
LB/3 – Historic Parks and Gardens	Development which would harm any part or setting of a registered historic park or garden will not be permitted.
LC/1: Exmoor National Park Periphery	Development proposals in areas bordering Exmoor National Park, which may harm the landscape character of the Park, will not be permitted.
LC/3: Landscape Character	This policy sets out a need to protect the scenic quality and distinctive local character of the landscape. Development, which does not respect the character of the local landscape, will not be permitted.

Legislation/Policy	Summary
NC/3: Sites of Local Nature Conservation and Geological Interest	This policy restricts development which would have a significant adverse effect on local nature conservation/geological interests or integrity of landscape features, unless the importance of the development outweighs the value of the substantive interests present. Where development is permitted which would damage the nature conservation value of the site, such damage will be kept to a minimum. The use of conditions and/or Planning Obligations to provide appropriate compensatory measures will be considered'.
NC/4: Species Protection	This policy prevents development which may have an adverse effect on protected species, unless harm to the species can be avoided through the use of mitigation measures and/or planning conditions and/or planning obligations.
BD/1: Local Distinctiveness	Proposals for new development should respect the scale and character of their surroundings.
TW/1: Trees and Woodland Protection	Development proposals that would adversely affect woodlands, groups of trees or individual trees of significant landscape, wildlife or amenity value will only be permitted where conditions can be attached to planning permissions to protect trees and, where appropriate, to require replacement and/or additional tree planting.
TW/2: Hedgerows	Development or land management proposals will be required to show that an allowance has been made for the retention and protection of existing hedgerows and hedgerow trees unless they are not considered to be of value to the area's landscape, character or wildlife.
PC/1: Air Pollution	Developments that generate atmospheric emissions which would cause harm or offence to human health, senses or property will not be permitted and where such uses exist the local planning authority will not permit sensitive other uses within a reasonable distance of such uses.

Legislation/Policy	Summary
PC/2: Noise Pollution	Proposals for developments involving potential noise nuisance to existing occupiers of land or buildings will only be permitted when measures to minimise the impact of noise likely to be generated are incorporated as part of the development.
W/2: Surface Water Protection	Development which would adversely affect the quantitative and quality aspects of surface, underground or coastal waters will only be permitted where acceptable mitigating works are undertaken as an integral part of that development
W/3: Groundwater Source Protection	Development which would adversely affect Groundwater Source Protection Areas will not be permitted if the risk to the quality and quantity of water in the water courses or aquifers could result in the inability of a groundwater source to maintain public supply
W/4: Water Resources	Development, which increases the requirement for water will only be permitted where such resources are already committed, or will be provided, without detriment to existing uses, including the natural environment, river ecology and fisheries
W/7: River Corridor Protection	Development which would harm the landscape, nature conservation, fisheries, the recreational interest of water courses, wetlands and the surrounding landscape will only be permitted where suitable mitigation measures are undertaken to ensure that any damage is kept to a minimum and compensatory measures, including enhancement and habitat restoration, are secured