



THE DROVES
SOLAR FARM

The Droves Solar Farm

Preliminary Environmental Information Report

Volume III, Chapter 2: EIA Process and Methodology

Prepared by: LDA Design

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THE DROVES
SOLAR FARM

Appendix 2.3

Scheme Response to Scoping Opinion



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1 Introduction

1.1 Scheme Response

- 1.1.1 This appendix provides the Scheme's response to the consultation comments raised in the Scoping Opinion (**Volume III, Appendix 2.2**) by the Planning Inspectorate (PINS and statutory consultees in response to the Scoping Opinion Request (**Volume III, Appendix 2.1**)).
- 1.1.2 The purpose of this appendix is to demonstrate how the consultation comments raised have been addressed by the Scheme's design team and suite of environmental specialists. Table 1.1 to Table 1.15 set this out for the PINS comments and statutory consultee responses respectively. This provides a clarification of where the information has been provided within the PEIR or will be provided in the ES and other documents which have been submitted in support of the DCO Application. This document will be updated for the ES that accompanies the DCO Application reflecting the latest position at the time of submission.



1.2 Scheme Response to PINS Scoping Opinion - Overarching Comments

Description of the Proposed Development

Scoping Report Chapter 2

Table 1.1 Response to PINS Scoping Opinion - Description of the Proposed Development

ID	Ref	Description	Consultant Response/Feedback to Inspectorate's comment
2.0.1	Paragraphs 1.8.5 – 1.8.10	Consideration of Alternatives	A comprehensive description of the Site Selection and Design Evolution will be provided in Volume I, Chapter 4: Reasonable Alternatives and Design Evolution of the ES. This chapter in the ES will provide a summary of the reasonable alternative options that the Applicant has considered for the Scheme to date, including the initial selection of the Site and throughout the development of the design. The chapter will also detail how the assessment of sites and design alternatives has been undertaken, detailing the factors that have been considered and the main reasons for discounting alternative design options.
2.0.2	Paragraphs 3.2.23 –3.2.24	Switchgears	The details on the Scheme components are set out in Volume I, Chapter 5: Scheme Description.
2.0.3	Paragraph 3.2.29	Horizontal directional drilling (HDD)	The PINS response is noted. The ES will identify trenching technique and potential impacts and an assessment of likely significant effects, including stating location of those effects should there be any.



ID	Ref	Description	Consultant Response/Feedback to Inspectorate's comment
2.0.4	Paragraphs 3.2.31 –3.2.35 3.2.43 –3.2.46	Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) and associated works	The details on the Scheme BESS, including location and extent, and other infrastructure such as site access and highway works, will be set out in Volume I, Chapter 5: Scheme Description of the ES accompanied by relevant figures.
2.0.5	Paragraph 3.4.1	Location of construction compounds and associated infrastructure	The details on Construction Compounds including the maximum number and associated development across the Solar PV Site will be set out in Volume I, Chapter 5: Scheme Description and shown on the Illustrative Masterplan submitted with the ES. The locations of the compounds will be detailed in the ES.
2.0.6	Paragraph 3.4.1	New bridges or culverts	The ES will identify the locations of proposed water crossings and set out design commitments to the standard of which they will be designed. This will be agreed in consultation with the EA prior to submission of the DCO Application.
2.0.7	Section 3.6	Decommissioning	Decommissioning activities are described in Volume I, Chapter 5: Scheme Description and mitigation measures will be included in an outline Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan (oDEMP) which will be prepared in support of the DCO.
2.1.7	N/A	Transboundary effects	Noted, the Applicant considers transboundary effects to be unlikely but will review this prior to submission of the ES.



EIA Methodology and Scope of Assessment

Scoping Report Chapter 6

Table 1.2 Response to PINS Scoping Opinion – EIA Methodology and Scope of Assessment

ID	Ref	Description	Consultant Response/Feedback to Inspectorate's comment
2.1.1	Section 3.6	Decommissioning effects	The potential for significant effects during the Decommissioning Phase of the Scheme will be assessed in the ES. Justification will be provided in the ES on the suitability of assuming decommissioning effects would be similar to or no worse than the effects during the Construction Phase. The potential for significant decommissioning effects will be considered, as appropriate, against the future baseline scenario during which these effects would take place.
2.1.2	Paragraph 4.5.15	Determination of significance – professional judgement	Paragraph 4.5.15 states that professional judgement will be used to determine the significance of an effect " <i>where the matrix offers more than one level of significance</i> ". Each technical chapter sets out the topic specific methodology which has been informed by, where relevant, the NPSs, NPPF, and relevant planning legislative requirements, topic specific guidelines, standards and codes of practice, and the EIA Regulations. In situations where the assessment matrix used by the technical topics offers more than one level of significance, it will be clearly stated in the ES where professional judgement has been used to assign the level of significance, which will be clearly justified.
2.1.3	Paragraphs 4.5.16 –4.5.31 Table 4.1	Cumulative Assessment Effects	The ES will consider those other developments set out in PINS Scoping Response in addition to other non-solar developments which may have a cumulative effect with the Scheme. Potential development considered in the cumulative effects assessment will be submitted in the form of a Cumulative Development Register, consulted on with relevant authorities and consultation stakeholders prior to submission of the ES, which includes information on the locations of the developments and the distance



ID	Ref	Description	Consultant Response/Feedback to Inspectorate's comment
			from the Scheme. A figure will be provided in the ES that depicts the locations and extent of the identified cumulative developments.
2.1.4	Paragraphs 4.5.16 – 4.5.31	Cumulative effects assessment years –	The ES will clearly set out the assumed worst-case assessment years for the cumulative effects assessment. Each technical topic that requires an inter-project cumulative assessment will provide the reasoning for the selection of the assessment years, with reference to relevant guidance, as appropriate.
2.1.5	Paragraphs 4.5.16 – 4.5.31	Cumulative effects Zone of Influence –	Justification of the study area for the cumulative effects assessment will be provided in the ES, with reference to relevant guidance, as appropriate.
2.1.6	Paragraphs 4.6.1 – 4.6.3	Rochdale Envelope	A comprehensive description of the Scheme will be provided in Volume I, Chapter 5: Scheme Description . Where details are not known, the assumptions applied will be clearly set out. Where flexibility is sought as part of the Scheme, the ES will set out and justify maximum design parameters and how these have been used to inform the assessment in each relevant technical chapter. The Scheme description will be supported by appropriate drawings and plans, as relevant to the nature of the development. Each technical chapter of the ES will clearly state the parameters and assumptions used to inform the assessment, which represents the reasonable worst-case assessment scenario.
2.1.7	N/A	Transboundary effects	Noted, the Applicant considers transboundary effects to be unlikely but will review this prior to submission of the ES.



1.3 Scheme Response to PINS Scoping Opinion – Environmental Aspects Comments

Landscape and Visual

Chapter 6 of Scoping Report

Table 1.3 Response to PINS Scoping Opinion – Landscape and Visual

ID	Ref	Applicant's proposed matters to scope out	Scheme Response to PINS Comment
3.1.1	Paragraph 6.4.3	Lighting Impact Assessment	<p>Significant landscape and visual impacts as a result of lighting would be unlikely given that the Scheme would be unlit, with the exception of the Customer Substation and National Grid Substation. Further clarification and justification will be provided in the PEIR when further details on lighting strategy and siting of substation areas are available.</p> <p>A high level lighting strategy will be provided within Chapter 5: Scheme Description of the ES.</p> <p>To accompany the justification for scoping out of a LIA, the PEIR will also present a full suite of representative and illustrative viewpoints as well as a number of photowires which demonstrate the generally limited intervisibility with the Scheme, from the wider study area.</p> <p>The Applicant will seek agreement with relevant authorities of Norfolk County Council (NCC), Breckland Council (BC) and Kings Lynn and West Norfolk Council (KLWNC) to scope out a LIA of the LVIA to be submitted as part of the ES.</p>
3.1.2	Paragraph 6.5.7 Table 6.9	Landscape Designations – National Designated Landscapes	Noted and agreed with PINS. This has been scoped out of the ES.



3.1.3	Table 6.9	National Character Areas and Suffolk Regional Landscape Character Areas	Noted and agreed with PINS. This has been scoped out of the ES.
3.1.4	Table 6.9	Local Landscape Character – (B) Settled Tributary Farmland LCT; (B5) River Wissey Tributary Farmland LCA (E) The Fens LCT; (E2) Saddlebow and Wormegay LCA (H) Settled Farmland with Plantations LCT; (H2) Fincham LCA (J) Plateau Farmland LCT; (J3) Great Massingham LCA	Noted and agreed with PINS. This has been scoped out of the ES.
3.1.5	Table 6.9	Visual Effects – Visual Receptor Groups (VRGs)	Noted and agreed with PINS. This has been scoped out of the ES



		located outside of the Zone of Visual Influence (ZVI)	
3.1.6	Table 6.9	Visual Effects – Broadmeadow Common Emanuel's Common Newton Common Bradmoor Common	Noted and agreed with PINS. This has been scoped out of the ES
3.1.7	Table 6.9	Residential Visual Amenity Assessment (RVAA) – Residential properties beyond 800m distance of the Site Boundary.	Noted and agreed with PINS. This has been scoped out of the ES
3.1.8	Table 6.9	Amenity and Recreation Assessment – Local Public Rights of Way (PRoW) located outside of the ZVI, and those which are no longer used, accessible or identifiable on the ground.	Noted and agreed with PINS. This has been scoped out of the ES
3.1.9	Table 6.9	Amenity and Recreation Assessment – Broadmeadow Common	Noted and agreed with PINS. This has been scoped out of the ES



		Emanuel's Common Newton Common Bradmoor Common	
3.1.10	Table 6.9	Lighting – all phases Night-Time Effects and Lighting - all phases	Significant landscape and visual impacts as a result of lighting would be unlikely given that the Scheme would be unlit with, the exception of the Customer and National Grid Substations. Further clarification and justification to be provided in the PEIR when further details on lighting strategy and siting of substation areas are available. Scoping out of LIA to be agreed with local authorities, once a response to LDA Design's original consultation letter has been received. The viewpoints selected for visual assessment have been selected in coordination with other relevant topics such as cultural heritage.
ID	Ref	Description	Scheme Response to PINS Comment
3.1.11	Section 6.2 Figure 6-1 Appendix 6.3	Study Area	As part of the pre-application process undertaken for the Scheme, the Applicant has sought agreement with relevant authorities of Norfolk County Council (NCC), Breckland Council (BC) and Kings Lynn and West Norfolk Council (KLWNC) on respective Study Areas for the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA), Residential Visual Amenity Assessment (RVAA) and Amenity Recreational Assessment (ARA). Consultation letters were issued 23.12.2024 (NCC) and 07.01.2024 (BC, KLWNC). Online meeting with KLWNC confirmed approach to study area is broadly acceptable. No response has been received from BC or NCC at the time of writing so remains ongoing which will be resolved for the ES.
3.1.12	6.7.10 –6.7.12 Table 6.1	Preliminary Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) and LVIA	As part of the pre-application process undertaken for the Scheme, the Applicant has sought agreement with relevant authorities of NCC, BC and KLWNC on viewpoint locations. LDA Design's consultation letters issued 23.12.2024 (NCC) and 07.01.2024 (BC, KLWNC).



	Figure 6-1 Appendix 6.3	Viewpoints Visualisations and ZTV Studies	<p>Online meeting with KLOWNC confirmed approach is broadly acceptable. KLOWNC also recommended additional viewpoints to be considered within the assessment, which have been included in the PEIR. No response has been received from BC or NCC at the time of writing so remains ongoing which will be resolved for the ES.</p> <p>The ZTV will be based upon the maximum parameters of the Scheme. Clarification on how the ZTV has been produced and on what parameters it has been modelled, will be provided within the PEIR and ES. A bare earth ZTV produces an unrefined visual envelope. This has been provided within the PEIR.</p>
3.1.13	Paragraphs 6.4.5 – 6.4.12 Table 6.4	Assessment of sensitivity – landscape and visual receptors	<p>The ES will outline how susceptibility and value in terms of assessment of sensitivity relate to defining receptor sensitivity as per the Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment.</p> <p>As part of the pre-application process undertaken for the Scheme, the Applicant has sought agreement with relevant authorities of NCC, BC and KLOWNC on landscape and visual receptors has been sought with. Consultation letters issued 23.12.2024 (NCC) and 07.01.2024 (BC, KLOWNC). Online meeting with KLOWNC confirmed approach is broadly acceptable. No response has been received from BC or NCC at the time of writing so remains ongoing which will be resolved for the ES.</p>
3.1.14	Table 6.4	Landscape and visual effects assessment	<p>The assessment for landscape and visual effects will be addressed separately within the ES and both parts of the assessment clearly differentiated and referred to. The assessment methodology by which the LVIA is undertaken will be outlined in full within the ES and accompanying appendices.</p>
3.1.15	Paragraphs 6.7.6 – 6.7.9	Mitigation – landscaping and planting	<p>The LVIA will cover potential effects for both the periods by which the planting mitigation is still establishing and also the period by which the planting is deemed to have matured and fully established. An outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (oLEMP) will be provided in</p>



			support of the DCO Application, taking into account the long term management needs of any proposed mitigation planting.
3.1.16	Paragraphs 6.8.2 – 6.8.3 Appendix 6.2	Cumulative Effects	<p>Cumulative effects will be considered in both landscape and visual terms within Volume I, Chapter 6: Landscape and Visual.</p> <p>Glint and Glare effects will be assessed and covered in Volume I, Chapter 15: Other Environmental Matters.</p>
3.1.17	6.3.20 Appendix 6.3	Photomontages	<p>As part of the pre-application process undertaken for the Scheme, the Applicant has sought agreement with relevant authorities of NCC, BC and KLWNC on the proposed approach and location of visualisations for the to support the ES. Consultation letters issued 23.12.2024 (NCC) and 07.01.2024 (BC, KLWNC, Natural England (NE)).</p> <p>For the ES, the visualisations would be of Type 3 (photowire), which would provide a higher level representation of proposals generally showing the scale and heights of the maximum height parameters of each area of the Site, within a photographed context. For the ES, it is proposed that both parameters-based Type 3 visualisations (photowire) and Type 3 (photomontage) are produced of an illustrative scheme.</p> <p>It is proposed for the ES that the Type 3 visualisations illustrative photomontages would demonstrate potential views of the Scheme at both year 1 (demonstrating visual effects in the short term, following construction) and year 15 (demonstrating long term effects once any proposed mitigation planting has matured and established).</p> <p>Winter photography (only) was intended to be used for the assessment to demonstrate the worst case scenario within the representative/illustrative viewpoints and visualisations. Through their Scoping Opinion PINS requested summer photography to demonstrate seasonal differences in</p>



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			screening provided by the mitigation planting. Photomontages using summer photography will be provided for in the ES only.
3.1.18	NA	Cross referencing – Cultural Heritage	The assessment approach to the LVIA in relation to cultural heritage has been undertaken in coordination with the Scheme’s Cultural Heritage and Archaeological consultant, with regard to viewpoint selection and sensitive heritage receptors in the Study Area. For ES, cross referencing between these chapters will be undertaken where appropriate.
3.1.19	Paragraphs 3.2.6 – 3.2.8	Type of panels	The ES will consider all proposed components (Fixed South Facing and Single Axis Tracker panels) included as key components within the Scheme.



Ecology And Biodiversity

Scoping Report Chapter 7

Table 1.4 Response to PINS Scoping Opinion – Ecology and Biodiversity

ID	Ref	Applicant's proposed matters to scope out	Scheme Response to PINS Comment
3.2.1	Table 7.6	Statutory Designations – River Nar SSSI Castle Acre Common SSSI Breckland Forest SSSI Narborough Railway Embankment SSSI Norfolk Valley Fens SAC East Walton and Adcock's Common SSSI Breckland SAC Roydon Common Ramsar	<p>PINS comment is noted. Further consideration of the potential for likely significant effects on the statutory designations listed in the PINS Opinion, informed by the progressed layout of the design of the Scheme, including locations of built elements of the Scheme, as well as the further consultation being undertaken with Natural England.</p> <p>Further confirmation will be sought from NE as part of DAS/consultation.</p> <p>If there remains the potential for likely significant effects on these statutory designated sites, these will be assessed as appropriate in the ES.</p> <p>Further consideration will be given to these receptors within the ES and to be confirmed with Natural England (NE) upon consultation with their discretionary advice service (where this concerns SAC and functional SSSI components).</p> <p>Cross referencing will be included with relevant chapters in relation to specific topics (Chapter 12: Water Resources, Chapter 10: Noise and Vibration and Chapter 15: Other Environmental Matters, and Chapter 9: Transport and Access) and any additional input/information discussed with relevant consultants where appropriate.</p>



		<p>Roydon Common & Dersingham Bog SAC Dersingham Bog Ramsar River Wensum SAC The Wash SPA The Wash & North Norfolk Coast SAC</p>	
3.2.2	Table 7.6	<p>Non-Statutory Designations – Land Adjacent to the River Nar CWS Priory Meadow CWS Lake West of Castle Acre CWS Mill House Lake CWS Land Adjacent to the River Nar CWS Castle Acre Castle CWS</p>	<p>PINS comment is noted. Further consideration of the potential for likely significant effects on the non-statutory designations listed in the PINS Scoping Opinion, informed by the progressed layout of the design of the Scheme, including locations of built elements of the Scheme, as well as the further consultation being undertaken with Natural England.</p> <p>If there remains the potential for likely significant effects on these non-statutory designated sites, these will be assessed as appropriate in the ES.</p>



ID	Ref	Description	Scheme Response to PINS Comment
		Priory Road U22074 RNR Mill House CWS Narford Lake CWS The Carr CWS Castle Acre Castle CWS Lynn Road Disused Railway CWS Walton Road C65 RNR	
3.2.3	Table 7.6	Specific surveys for Great Crested Newt (GCN)	Consultation will be sought with Natural England as part of DAS/consultation, and consideration of standing advice taken into consideration as part of the ES. The ES will include a full assessment in regard to Great Crested Newt in order to demonstrate no likely significant effects. If required, eDNA surveys of additional ponds within 500m of the Site boundary will be undertaken across 2025, which would be included within the ES.
3.2.4	Table 7.6	Specific surveys for Otter and Water Vole	It is considered no suitable habitat exists for Otter and Water Vole within the Site. Further, confirmation of absence of suitable habitats will be included within the PEIR and (if necessary) ES. Consultation will be sought with Natural England as part of DAS/consultation and consideration of standing advice taken into consideration as part of the ES.



3.2.5	Paragraphs 7.2.1 –7.2.2	Study Area and Zone of Influence (Zol)	PINS comment is noted. The Zone of Influence for the ES will be agreed via consultation with Natural England as part of DAS/consultation.
3.2.6	Paragraphs 7.3.1 –7.3.3 7.3.12 Table 7.3	Baseline conditions – surveys	Agree with PINS comment. Full survey findings will be included within the ES submission along with details of relevant receptors and assessment of significant effects where they are likely to occur if relevant. Consideration in regard to the lifespan of survey information will be incorporated where appropriate.
3.2.7	Paragraph 7.6 Table 7.4	Receptor Significance	Agree with PINS comment. Clarification on how ecological designations and their geographical scale have been interested in the assessment of likely effects will be provided within the ES.
3.2.8	Paragraphs 7.7.1 3.2.1 and 3.2.27	Overhead lines - fragmentation of populations and habitats during operation	The ES will include consideration of potential for overhead lines and related infrastructure to create a barrier to movement of mobile species, as requested.
3.2.9	Paragraph 1.7.8	Biodiversity Net Gain	PINS comment is noted. The Scheme will be accompanied by a completed Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) Assessment using the Statutory Biodiversity Metric and evidence provided with the ES.
3.2.10	N/A	Arboriculture – Study area and impact assessment	As part of the Scheme design options for mounting to avoid ground disturbance as part of mitigation measures. Chapter 5: Scheme Description sets out offsets/buffers will be used to deliver a combination of embedded mitigation and enhancement. The buffers/offsets will be a



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			minimum and for example may be increased to deliver further mitigation or enhancements and/or respond to root protection areas where required.
3.2.11	N/A	Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS)	Surveys to date have not recorded the presence of invasive non-native species within the Site, nor therefore any potential for significant effects/mitigation requirements identified to date. This will continue to be monitored during the preparation of the ES however, at present, significant effects as a result of INNS are not likely to occur and therefore will not be included in the ES, as per PINS comment.
3.2.12	N/A	Confidential Annexes	Agreed. Confidential appendices will be provided where necessary/appropriate.



Cultural Heritage and Archaeology

Scoping Report Chapter 8

Table 1.5 Response to PINS Scoping Opinion – Cultural Heritage and Archaeology

ID	Ref	Applicant's proposed matters to scope out	Scheme Response to PINS Comment
3.3.1	Paragraph 8.6.4	Direct impacts to heritage assets - Construction	<p>Direct impacts to designated heritage assets (DHA) will be assessed if necessary in the ES. However, it is considered due to the distance between the built form of the Site and any DHAs and of the nature and size of the piling involved with installation of the Ground mounted PV Modules there is not considered to be potential for direct impact upon DHA during the Construction Phase of the Scheme.</p> <p>Detail of the proposed transport routes and number of HGV/LGV movements for construction traffic to be used during the Construction Phase will be set out within Volume I, Chapter 9: Transport and Access. It is for such reasons that there is not considered to be potential for direct impact upon designated heritage assets from the Scheme.</p>
3.3.2	Table 8.4	Direct impacts to below ground archaeology - Decommissioning	Noted and agreed with PINS comment. This has been scoped out of the ES
3.3.3	Table 8.4	<p>Indirect impacts to designated and non-designated heritage assets</p> <p>- Construction and Decommissioning</p>	The heritage assessment at ES will assess indirect impacts to designated and non-designated heritage assets, however it is considered this this will conclude negligible magnitude of effect. With Mitigation it is considered significant effects on designated heritage assets could reasonably be reduced or entirely removed and on non-designated heritage assets impacts are unlikely to be significant.



ID	Ref	Description	Scheme Response to PINS Comment
3.3.4	Paragraph 8.2.1	Study Area	<p>The ES will adopt a Cultural Heritage Study Area of 5km from the Site boundary for high grade heritage assets and 2km for remaining designated heritage assets and 1km for non-designated heritage assets and Historic Environment Record (HER) entries, as agreed with Heritage England in the Scoping Opinion Report.</p> <p>The Study Area will be reviewed as appropriate for the preparation of the ES which will include consideration of possible effects on heritage assets outside of the above radii indicated by models showing Zones of Theoretical Visibility (ZTVs) and ground-truthed by walkover surveys.</p>
3.3.5	Paragraph 8.3.2	LiDAR	<p>LiDAR Survey undertaken has been completed in accordance with that requested in the PINS Scoping Opinion (Historic England guidance 'Using Airborne Lidar in Archaeological Survey' (2018)) and informed by the consultation response from Historic England.</p>
3.3.6	Paragraph 8.4.11	Guidance	<p>Pins comment is noted and agreed with. The assessment will reference Norfolk County Council's 'Standards for Development-Led Archaeological Projects in Norfolk' (NCC 2018).</p>
3.3.7	Paragraph 8.6.2	Embedded mitigation	<p>The ES will consider impacts from compaction on archaeological deposits as a result of suing concrete ballast. Agreement on approach will be sough with Historic England prior to ES and consideration of the consultation response from Historic England.</p>



Transport and Access

Scoping Report Chapter 9

Table 1.6 Response to PINS Scoping Opinion – Transport and Access

ID	Ref	Applicant's proposed matters to scope out	Scheme Response to PINS Comment
3.4.1	Paragraphs 9.9.1 –9.9.2	Alternative modes of construction access	Noted and agreed with PINS comment. This has been scoped out of the ES.
3.4.2	Paragraphs 9.9.3 – 9.9.4 and Table 9.4	Transport and access effects - Operation	Noted and agreed with PINS comment. This has been scoped out of the ES.
3.4.3	Paragraph 9.9.5 and Table 9.4	Transport and access effects – Decommissioning	PINS comment is noted. The ES will detail the likely levels of traffic generated during construction and once operational to inform the transport and access effects. This can then be used to consider the significance of any effects associated with decommissioning - further details of which will be provided within Volume I, Chapter 9: Transport and Access.
3.4.4	Paragraphs 9.9.6 – 9.9.8 And Table 9.4	Hazardous and Large Loads	Noted and agreed with PINS comment. This has been scoped out of the ES.
ID	Ref	Description	Scheme Response to PINS Comment



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3.4.5	Paragraph 9.2.2	Study Area	The PINS comment is noted and Volume I, Chapter 9: Transport and Access of the ES will detail the extent of the Study Area in accordance with any feedback from the local highway authorities prior to submission of the DCO Application.
3.4.6	Paragraph 9.4.2	Methodology	The PINS comment is noted and it is accepted that the methodology for growth factors within the assessment will be agreed with the local highway authorities and incorporated in the Volume I, Chapter 9: Transport and Access of the ES
3.4.7	Paragraph 9.4.4	Traffic Counts	The PINS comment is noted and Volume I, Chapter 9: Transport and Access of the ES will detail the location and timing of traffic counts that have been undertaken, in accordance with any discussions with the local highway authorities prior to submission.



Air Quality

Scoping Report Chapter 10

Table 1.7 Response to PINS Scoping Opinion – Air Quality

ID	Ref	Applicant's proposed matters to scope out	Scheme Response to PINS Comment
3.5.1	Paragraph 10.8.1 Table 10.4	The release of dust and particulate matter – Construction and decommissioning	<p>Noted and agreed with PINS comment. The Air Quality section of Volume I, Chapter 15: Other Environmental Matters will provide information on the number of expected vehicle movements associated with the Construction and Decommissioning Phases, alongside considering the location of the nearest sensitive receptors, as justification for the effects of Construction and Decommissioning Phases to be not significant.</p> <p>In line with the consultation response from Norfolk County Council Scoping Opinion, a standalone Construction Phase Dust Assessment, in line with the IAQM guidance, is to be produced to support the DCO Application and inform measures included within the outline Construction Environmental Management Plan (oCEMP).</p>
3.5.2	Paragraph 10.8.1 Table 10.4	The release of dust and particulate matter - Operation	Noted and agreed with PINS comment. This has been scoped out of the ES.
3.5.3	Paragraph 10.8.1 Table 10.4	Vehicle exhaust emissions – Construction and decommissioning	<p>Noted and agreed with PINS comment. Construction traffic vehicle movements will be reviewed as the details of the Scheme are finalised. If construction traffic vehicle numbers increase above EPUK/IAQM criteria, detailed dispersion modelling of impacts to air quality may be assessed in the ES, as necessary.</p> <p>As stated in Paragraphs 10.4.2, 10.4.3 and 10.4.5 of the Scoping Opinion Request, there are no internationally or nationally designated ecological sites located within the IAQM guidance criteria requiring for further assessment of Construction Phase traffic</p>



			<p>emissions on ecological receptors, within 200 m of the access tracks to the Site (up to 250 m from the Site boundary).</p> <p>However, at the ES, following receipt of detailed information of construction traffic routing and the number of flows (which will be screened against the 1000 total annual average daily traffic (AADT) and/or 200 HDV AADT criteria outlined in the IAQM guidance), further assessment of internationally or nationally designated ecological receptors identified to be located within 200 m of proposed construction routes will be screened in the Air Quality section of Volume I, Chapter 15: Other Environmental Matters. This is also in line with the Natural England Statutory consultation response.</p>
3.5.4	<p>Paragraph 10.8.1</p> <p>Table 10.4</p>	<p>Vehicle exhaust emissions - Operation</p>	<p>Noted and agreed with PINS comment. This has been scoped out of the ES.</p>
3.5.5	<p>Paragraph 10.8.1</p> <p>Table 10.4</p>	<p>Air quality impacts to sensitive receptors as a result of Non-Road Mobile Machinery (NRMM) – Construction and decommissioning</p>	<p>Noted and agreed with PINS comment. This has been scoped out of the ES.</p> <p>Non-road mobile machinery (NRMM) will adhere to European regulations (EU 2016/1628) demonstrating compliance with emission limits, as will be detailed in the oCEMP.</p>
3.5.6	<p>Paragraph 10.8.1</p> <p>Table 10.4</p>	<p>Air quality impacts to sensitive receptors as a result of Non-Road Mobile Machinery (NRMM) - Operation</p>	<p>Noted and agreed with PINS comment. This has been scoped out of the ES.</p>
ID	Ref	Description	Scheme Response to PINS Comment



3.5.7	Paragraphs 10.4.4 –10.4.5	Air Quality Assessment – Study Area	<p>PINS comment is noted. Justification for the Study Area used in the assessment will be provided as an appendix of Volume I, Chapter 15: Other Environmental Matters of the ES, with reference to the IAQM guidance for ecological receptors. The ES will include a figure showing the extent of the Study Area including proposed construction routes, receptor locations (human and ecological) which have been considered in this assessment in the ES.</p>
3.5.8	N/A	Strategic Mitigation	<p>The construction dust assessment submitted as part of the DCO Application will consider strategic mitigation measures to be implemented to minimise air pollution from the construction and decommissioning phase, which will inform the outline Construction Environmental Management Plan (oCEMP).</p> <p>In line with the consultation responses in the Scoping Opinion received from Natural England, the risks of air pollution will be considered and appropriate mitigation measures outlined in Volume I, Chapter 15: Other Environmental Matters of the ES.</p>



Noise and Vibration

Scoping Report Chapter 10

Table 1.8 Response to PINS Scoping Opinion – Noise and Vibration

ID	Ref	Applicant's proposed matters to scope out	Scheme Response to PINS Comment
3.6.1	Table 11.3 Table 19.1	Noise from traffic – Decommissioning	<p>Noted and agreed with PINS comment. This has been scoped out of the ES.</p> <p>The ES will provide basis for the assumption of Decommissioning Phase noise being similar or lower in impact than Construction Phase noise e.g., reduced Decommissioning phase duration, and similar/reduced traffic movements, to justify scoping out of assessment in the ES. Confirmation of assessment scope will be sought with the necessary authorities to this approach and presented in ES accordingly.</p>
3.6.2	Paragraph 11.9.1 Table 11.3 Table 19.1	Vibration from traffic – Operation, Construction and Decommissioning	<p>Noted and agreed with PINS. This has been scoped out of the ES. Justification will be provided in ES to scope out vibration effects from traffic for all phases of the Scheme.</p> <p>Confirmation of assessment scope will be sought with the necessary authorities to this approach and presented in ES accordingly.</p>
3.6.3	Table 11.3 Table 19.1 Paragraph 11.9.5	Noise from Solar PV Site, BESS, Customer Substation and National Grid Substation – Decommissioning	<p>Noted and agreed with PINS. This has been scoped out of the ES. Justification will be presented in ES on likely activities from Decommissioning Phase noise being less than construction phase and of lower impact. Confirmation of assessment scope will be sought with the necessary authorities to this approach and presented in ES accordingly.</p>



3.6.4	Table 11.3 Table 19.1 Paragraphs 11.9.3 and 11.9.5	Vibration from Solar PV Site, BESS, Customer Substation and National Grid Substation – Operation and Decommissioning	Noted and agreed with PINS. This has been scoped out of the ES. ES will detail description of equipment and the low likelihood to generate significant vibration effects. Confirmation of assessment scope will be sought with the necessary authorities to this approach and presented in ES accordingly.
3.6.5	Table 11.3 Table 19.1 Paragraph 11.9.5	Noise from Grid Connection Infrastructure – Operation and Decommissioning	Noted and agreed with PINS. This has been scoped out of the ES. The ES will provide detailed description and information on why noise is unlikely to result in significant effects from the operation and decommissioning of infrastructure (i.e., grid lines/connection towers). Confirmation of assessment scope will be sought with the necessary authorities to this approach and presented in ES accordingly.
3.6.6	Table 11.3 Table 19.1 Paragraph 11.9.5	Vibration from Grid Connection Infrastructure – Operation and Decommissioning	Noted and agreed with PINS. This has been scoped out of the ES. The ES will provide detail description and information on why vibration is unlikely to result in significant effects from the operation and decommissioning of infrastructure (grid lines/connection towers). Confirmation of assessment scope will be sought with the necessary authorities to this approach and presented in ES accordingly.
3.6.7	Paragraph 11.4.4	Receptors of low or very low sensitivity	Noted and agreed with PINS. This has been scoped out of the ES. Confirmation of assessment scope will be sought with the necessary authorities to this approach and presented in ES accordingly.
3.6.8	Paragraph 11.9.3	Noise and vibration effects on ecological receptors – Operation,	The PINS response is noted; this will be scoped into the ES if relevant: the Ecology chapter in the ES will consider noise-sensitive ecological receptors that may be adversely impacted by the predicted noise from the Scheme. Where potential



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ID	Ref	Description	Scheme Response to PINS Comment
		construction and decommissioning	significant effects from noise to ecological receptors may arise, this will be assessed in the ES.
3.6.9	Paragraphs 11.2.1 –11.2.4	Study Area	The PINS response is noted; ES will provide details on the selection of the study area and extent of impacts. Confirmation will be sought with local authority and presented in ES accordingly.
3.6.10	Paragraph 11.7	Noise and vibration from traffic movements during construction and decommissioning	The PINS response is noted; ES will provide trip generation, routing, noise emissions, and distance to receptors for the construction phase traffic. Traffic noise from decommissioning has been scoped out as per 3.6.1 and vibration effects from traffic scoped out as per 3.6.2.
3.6.11	Paragraph 11.7.10	Construction noise and vibration	Noted and agreed with PINS. The ES will assess associated effects from construction noise and vibration.



Soils and Agricultural Land

Scoping Report Chapter 12

Table 1.9 Response to PINS Scoping Opinion – Soils and Agricultural Land

ID	Ref	Applicant’s proposed matters to scope out	Scheme Response to PINS Comment
3.7.1	Table 12.4	Disturbance and crop loss – Operation and decommissioning	Noted and agree with PINS comment. The ES will provide details of disturbance and crop loss during the Operational and Decommissioning Phases of the Scheme accordingly.
3.7.2	Table 12.4	Economic and land use effects for farm businesses and rural economy	Noted and agree with PINS. The ES will identify the agricultural land uses that will be displaced by the Proposed Development. Economic and land use Effects for farm businesses and rural economy during the Construction, Operation and Decommissioning Phases will be assessed in the ES The other matters will be included in the ES as described in the Scoping Report.
ID	Ref	Description	Scheme Response to PINS Comment
3.7.3	12.2	Study Area	PINS comments are noted and agreed. The ES will clearly set out the Study Area for assessment and include justification to how the Study Area was arrived at. The Study area and relevant receptors will be depicted on a figure in the ES. The ES will present how the Study Area relates to the extent of the likely impacts.
3.7.4	Paragraphs 12.4.1 –12.4.4	Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) and Best and Most Versatile (BMV) land	PINS comment is noted and agreed. The ES will quantify the amount of BMV agricultural land that will be temporary and permanently lost by ALC Grade as a result of the Scheme, referencing the accompanying map/s depicting ALC Grade and assess the impacts as necessary and relevant.



			The ALC Survey undertaken across the Solar PV site has been assessed at a density of one auger sample per hectare, with trial pits dug to a depth of 120cm or as deep as possible if the sample point became impenetrable. The trial pit locations were selected as they were representative of the soils found on site.
3.7.5	Paragraphs 12.5.2 an 12.8.3 – 12.8.12	Impact on Soil Quality	<p>PINS comment is noted and agreed. Any impacts likely to result in significant effects in soil quality will be described and assessed in the ES.</p> <p>The ES will set out mitigation measures, with reference to relevant guidelines, to be implemented to minimise impact on soil quality, which will inform the outline Soil Management Plan (oSMP) and secured through the DCO.</p>
3.7.6	Paragraphs 12.7.5 –12.7.6 Table 12.1	Methodology for Determining receptor sensitivity	The comments are noted and agreed. The determination/explanation of receptor sensitivity will be set out in relation to agricultural business in the ES.
3.7.7	Paragraph 12.8.12	Sheep grazing	PINS comments are noted and agreed. Appropriate and relevant evidence will be made in the ES to demonstrate that land within the Site boundary is not subject to restrictive covenants that would prevent such use, and mitigation is secured in respect of the operation of the Scheme.
3.7.8	Paragraphs 12.10.2 – 12.10.4	Cumulative effects on available BMV land	<p>The ES will consider the potential for cumulative impacts at a regional scale, Norfolk.</p> <p>For cumulative sites which are allocated through local policy, or where planning consent has been granted, the resultant loss of any BMV land has been accepted in planning terms and therefore considered as part of the baseline environment. Therefore, allocated or approved cumulative schemes which are not NSIPs in Norfolk are not considered further in the cumulative effects assessment on BMV agricultural land as part of the ES.</p>



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3.7.9	N/A	Severance issue	<p>PINS comments are noted and agreed. The ES will assess the impacts during Construction and Operation Phases of potential severance issues for farmers and other landowners. Potential effects will be and reported in the ES for all phases of the Proposed Development.</p> <p>Mitigation measures will form part of the DCO Application to ensure farmers and other landowners' ability to access crops and livestock.</p>
3.7.10	N/A	Agricultural land drainage – impacts on soils and agricultural land	<p>PINS comments are noted and agreed.</p>



Water Resources

Scoping Report Chapter 13

Table 1.10 Response to PINS Scoping Opinion – Water Resources

ID	Ref	Applicant’s proposed matters to scope out	Scheme Response to PINS Comment
3.8.1	Paragraph 13.7.3 Table 13.7	Flood Risk – Tidal	Noted and agreed with PINS. This has been scoped out of the ES.
3.8.2	Paragraph 13.7.4	Potential effects from historic landfill sites	Noted and agreed with PINS. This has been scoped out of the ES.
3..8.3	Table 13.7 Paragraph 13.7.5	Ground Conditions	The PEIR will outline how ground conditions may interact with the Development during all stages and whether there is a potential to create a pollution pathway to receptors such as groundwater and surface water.
ID	Ref	Description	Scheme Response to PINS Comment
3.8.4	Paragraph 13.3.4	Flood Risk	A Flood Risk Assessment will accompany the ES, which will assess the risk of flooding to and from the Proposed Development from all sources, except tidal. The ES will be supported with a surface water drainage plan, utilising Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) and Rural Sustainable Drainage Systems (RSuDS) where appropriate.



3.8.5	Paragraph 13.3.9	Proposed sustainable drainage system (SuDS)	<p>As discussed with the LLFA, infiltration via SuDS will be proposed and explored as the primary surface water disposal mechanism for areas of hardstanding and aggregate. The disposal of surface water will be informed by infiltration testing and will follow the hierarchy outlined in the SuDS Manual.</p> <p>RSuDS techniques, such as establishing grassland under the PV tables, will be employed where PV is proposed.</p>
3.8.6	Paragraph 13.3.9	Impacts to groundwater quality	<p>The ES will assess potential effects on groundwater during all phases of the Proposed Development. The assessment will utilise a source-pathway-receptor model and the assessment methodology will be agreed with consultees such as the EA and Anglian Water prior to drafting the PEIR.</p>
3.8.7	Tables 17.5 and 19.1	Water pollution – BESS and Substation	<p>Details on how potentially contaminated water produced through fire management procedures or routine runoff at the BESS will be provided in the ES, and will take cognisance of NFCC guidance.</p> <p>It is likely that a separate contaminated water tank will be provided and the SuDS system will be isolated by a penstock in the unlikely event of a battery container fire.</p> <p>The ES will outline how the proposed SuDS measures draining the Development will perform against the EA's Simple Index Tool matrix.</p>
3.8.8	N/A	Water Resources - consumption	<p>The PEIR will outline the construction and operational activities which require water, such as welfare facilities and dust suppression, and the likely source of the water.</p> <p>Given the absence of surface watercourses and the Core Study Area being classified as an area of water stress, it is likely that water will need to be sourced offsite to supplement Anglian Water's cap of 20 m³ / day and stored rather than abstracted.</p>



Climate

Scoping Report Chapter 14

Table 1.11 Response to PINS Scoping Opinion – Climate

ID	Ref	Applicant's proposed matters to scope out	Scheme Response to PINS Comment
3.9.1	Paragraph 14.9.1 and Table 14.7	Sea Level Rise	Noted and agreed with PINS. This has been scoped out of the ES.



Glint and Glare

Scoping Report Chapter 15

Table 1.12 Response to PINS Scoping Opinion – Glint and Glare

ID	Ref	Applicant's proposed matters to scope out	Scheme Response to PINS Comment
3.10.1	Paragraph 15.8.1	Glint and glare ES chapter	Noted. Glint and Glare will be covered within Chapter 18: Other Environmental Matters and a Glint and Glare Assessment submitted as an appendix to the ES.
3.10.2	Paragraph 15.8.1	Glint and glare effects towards receptors outside of the relevant Study Areas	<p>PINS comments are noted. The Study Areas for each relevant receptor are based on the potential for significant impacts to occur based on past project experience and Pager Power's Glint and Glare Guidance; any reflections towards receptors outside of the study areas would be considered a low impact in the worst-case.</p> <p>Whilst there is no geometric limit for solar reflections, beyond these limits, reflections would be of lesser intensity and are more likely to be screened by obstructions or intervening terrain.</p>
3.10.3	Paragraphs 15.8.1 15.4.4	Local road users within the study area	Noted and agreed with PINS. This has been scoped out of the ES.
3.10.4	Table 15.4	Construction and Decommissioning Phases	Consideration will be provided to the potential for significant effects during construction and decommissioning in the ES, when determining relevant screening and cumulative effects.



3.10.5	Paragraph 15.2.6 Table 15.4	Rail Infrastructure	Noted. Evidence will be provided in the ES appendix regarding the closest railway assets demonstrating that no significant adverse effects on railway receptors and infrastructure could occur, and no railway lines have been identified which pass through or near the Scheme.
3.10.6	Table 15.4	Viewpoints – Public Rights of Way (PRoWs) and Bridleways	Noted. PRoWs and Bridleways will be assessed without detailed modelling within the ES.
3.10.7	Table 15.4	Aviation infrastructure outside of the 5km and 10km Study Areas: East Winch Airfield and Great Massingham Airfield	Noted. These airfields will be assessed without detailed modelling within the ES.
ID	Ref	Description	Scheme Response to PINS Comment
3.10.8	Paragraph 15.1.4	Glint and Glare assessment (GGA) – cross references	Noted.



Socio-Economics

Scoping Report Chapter 16

Table 1.13 Response to PINS Scoping Opinion – Socio-Economics

ID	Ref	Applicant's proposed matters to scope out	Scheme Response to PINS Comment
3.11.1	Paragraph 16.7.6 Table 16.4	Employment - Operation	Noted and agreed with PINS. This has been scoped out of the ES.
3.11.2	Paragraphs 16.7.7 –16.7.9 Table 16.4	Loss of agricultural land – All phases	Noted, this has been scoped in to the ES.
3..11.3	Paragraphs 16.7.11 – 16.7.12 Table 16.4	Disruption to local businesses – All phases	Noted and agreed with PINS. This has been scoped out of the ES.
3..11.4	Paragraph 16.7.6 Table 16.4	Changes in demand for temporary workers accommodation – Construction and decommissioning	We have noted PINS' comment and conducted further analysis on the supply of visitor accommodation within a 60-minute commutable distance. Our initial findings suggest that there may be potential impacts and a need for temporary worker accommodation. To fully understand the project's impact on temporary worker accommodation, further analysis will be required. This will involve a more robust assessment to determine how many workers are likely to require accommodation during the



			construction phase of the Project and the current supply of visitor accommodation within a 60-minute commute. Therefore, this is scoped into the ES.
3..11.5	Paragraph 16.7.13 Table 16.4	Changes in demand for health and social care – All phases	Noted and agreed with PINS. This has been scoped out of the ES.
3..11.6	Paragraphs 16.7.14 – 16.7.15 Table 16.4	Access to open space and Public Rights of Way (PRoW) – All Phases	<p>PINS has requested a Public Rights of Way (PRoW) usage survey to assess the frequency of use for these routes. They have also asked for clarification on whether any PRoWs are proposed to be closed or re-routed during construction and decommissioning.</p> <p>Appendix 6.9 Amenity and Recreation identifies that no physical effects (i.e. permanent extinguishment or permanent diversion) to the PRoW is proposed. Temporary closures or diversions may be required for a very limited time period during construction to establish internal access tracks within the Site Boundary where they cross PRoW but will be limited in extent and duration (it is likely to take just a few days to construct an access track across an existing PRoW). These diversions will be managed in accordance with the measures set out in the oCEMP and oDEMP such as providing clear signage to recreational users and banksmen to manage plant movements and crossing where appropriate.</p> <p>It is more appropriate to assess this potential effect in relation to human health rather than socio-economics. The health assessment considers changes to both physical health and wellbeing resulting from access to these types of spaces. Therefore, socio-economic effects related to PRoW, open space, and physical activity are scoped out from further assessment in the chapter but are considered from a health perspective.</p>
3..11.7	Paragraph 16.7.16 Table 16.4	Changes in crime and community safety – All Phases	Noted and agreed with PINS. This has been scoped out of the ES.



<p>3..11.8</p>	<p>Paragraph 16.7.17 Table 16.4</p>	<p>Changes in commuting patterns – All phases</p>	<p>Operational Phase: Noted and agreed with PINS. This has been scoped out of the ES during the operational phase. Construction and Decommissioning phase: Chapter 9: Transport and Access has scoped in delays and other construction impacts in its assessment. Consequently, PINS cannot exclude these factors during the construction and decommissioning phases for socio-economic considerations. We will therefore scope in the possible socioeconomic effect of changes in commuting patterns into the assessment.</p>
<p>3..11.9</p>	<p>Paragraph 16.7.27 Table 16.4</p>	<p>Spending generated by workers - Operation</p>	<p>This has been noted. However, the spending associated with construction workers has been scoped out of the assessment as it is not expected to be significant. At its peak, the construction period is expected to support 730 workers, equivalent to around 3% of local construction workers, but this will only last for six months. Over the two-year construction period, the average number of workers will be lower at 330. Construction workers earn approximately £36,600 per year, but because they are highly mobile and often travel to different locations for work, it is uncertain where their earnings will be spent. While some spending may occur locally, most is expected to take place near their temporary accommodation. The nearest town, Swaffham (2km away), has some food and retail options, but the scale of spending is unlikely to be significant. The next major town, King’s Lynn, is over 25km away, further reducing the likelihood of significant local spending. It is estimated that between 50% and 75% of construction workers will relocate temporarily during the construction period, spending an average of £51 per day on accommodation and food, based on Construction Industry Joint Council allowances. This would result in total spending of between £4.9 million and £7.4 million over the construction period. However, even if all this spending occurred within Breckland —</p>



			<p>which has annual convenience and comparison goods spending of around £902.3 million — it would represent less than a 0.8% increase.</p> <p>Given the uncertainty around exactly where spending will occur and the relatively small scale of this additional expenditure compared to the size of the local economy, this effect is unlikely to be significant and has therefore been scoped out of the assessment.</p>
3..11.10	<p>Paragraph 16.7.29 – 16.7.31</p> <p>Table 16.4</p>	<p>Impact to property value – All phases</p>	<p>Noted and agreed with PINS. This has been scoped out of the ES.</p>
ID	Ref	Description	Scheme Response to PINS Comment
3.11.11	Paragraph 16.4.1	Guidance	Noted and agreed with PINS.
3.11.12	N/A	Public Rights of Way (PROW) and Walking, Cycling and Horse Riding Receptors	Noted and agreed with PINS. This has been scoped into the ES.



Human Health

Scoping Report Chapter 17

Table 1.14 Response to PINS Scoping Opinion – Human Health

ID	Ref	Applicant's proposed matters to scope out	Scheme Response to PINS Comment
3.12.1	Paragraph 17.1.4	Human health standalone assessment	Noted and agreed with PINS. The ES will not have a Human health standalone assessment.
3.12.2	Table 17.5	Physical activity – All phases	Noted and agreed with PINS. This has been assessed under the effect PRoW, open space and physical activity.
3.12.3	Table 17.5	Risk taking behaviour – All phases	Noted and agreed with PINS. This has been scoped out of the ES.
3.12.4	Table 17.5	Diet and nutrition – All phases	Noted and agreed with PINS. This has been scoped out of the ES.
3.12.5	Table 17.5	Social Environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing • Relocation • Open Space, Leisure and Play • Transport modes, access and connections. 	Noted and agreed with PINS. This has been scoped out of the ES.



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Safety • Community, identity, culture, resilience and influence • Social participation, interaction and support <p>– All Phases</p>	
3.12.6	Table 17.5	Employment and income – Operation	Noted and agreed with PINS. This has been scoped out of the ES.
3.12.7	Table 17.5	Climate change and adaption – Construction and decommissioning	<p>The Inspectorate cannot exclude this effect due to insufficient evidence regarding the expected Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions during the construction and decommissioning phases. They have requested that the ES include an assessment of the impact of these GHG emissions on human health.</p> <p>To address this, this effect has been scoped in and is assessed in Chapter 13: Climate Change</p>
3.12.8	Table 17.5	Bio-physical environment – Air quality – All phases	<p>Noted and agreed with PINS. This has been scoped out of the ES during the Operational Phase.</p> <p>PINS has requested information on the expected number of traffic movements to support scoping out this effect during the construction and decommissioning phases. The Air Quality Chapter has proposed scoping out this effect on the basis that traffic flows during construction are unlikely to exceed the screening criteria for sensitive human and ecological receptors.</p> <p>As outlined in the Scoping Opinion Response (Volume III, Appendix 2.3) The Air Quality section of the Other Environmental Matters chapter of the ES will provide detail of construction vehicle traffic flows and locations of the nearest sensitive</p>



			receptors associated with the Construction and Decommissioning Phases which are not anticipated to exceed EPUK and IAQM screening criterion [Ref 15-2] for either sensitive human or ecological receptors. For the purposes of assessment of vehicle movement impacts in this PEIR, the maximum construction vehicle movements on any single road link are predicted to be 368 two-way LDV AADT movements and 86 two-way HGV AADT movements . As can be seen, the construction traffic vehicle movements do not exceed the screening criteria for detailed assessment on any road link in the local network, as set out in the EPUK and IAQM guidance, which states a threshold of 500 LDVs and/or more than 100 HDVs [Ref 15-1]. The presented construction traffic vehicle movements are representative of peak construction and are expected to be lower for most of the construction phase.
3.12.9	Table 17.5	Bio-physical environment – Water Quality and availability – All phases	Noted and agreed with PINS. This has been scoped out of the ES.
3.12.10	Table 17.5	Bio-physical environment – Land quality – All phases	Noted and agreed with PINS. This has been scoped out of the ES.
3.12.11	Table 17.5	Bio-physical environment – Noise and vibration – All phases	Noted and agreed with PINS. This has been scoped out of the ES.
3.12.12	Table 17.5	Bio-physical environment – Radiation – All phases	Noted and agreed with PINS. This has been scoped out of the ES.
3.12.13	Table 17.5	Institutional and built environment – Health and social care services and built environment – All phases	Noted and agreed with PINS. This has been scoped out of the ES.



ID	Ref	Description	Scheme Response to PINS Comment
3.12.14	Table 17.5	Wider infrastructure and resources – All phases societal and	Noted and agreed with PINS. This has been scoped out of the ES.
3.12.15	N/A	Mental health and wellbeing	Noted and agreed with PINS. Mental health impacts are considered as part of the health effects assessment, where appropriate.



Other Environmental Matters (OEM)

Scoping Report Chapter 18

Table 1.15 Response to PINS Scoping Opinion – Other Environmental Matters (OEM)

Electromagnetic Fields (EMF)			
ID	Ref	Applicant's proposed matters to scope out	Scheme Response to PINS Comment
3.13.1	Paragraph 18.2.27	EMF Assessment	<p>Noted and agreed with PINS. This has been scoped out of the ES.</p> <p>A Electromagnetic Fields (EMF) Assessment will accompany the ES as a technical appendix.</p>
Major Accidents and Disasters (MA&Ds)			
ID	Ref	Applicant's proposed matters to scope out	Scheme Response to PINS Comment
3.14.1	Paragraph 18.3.17 and 18.3.18	Major Accidents and Disasters (MA&D)	<p>Noted and agreed with PINS. This has been scoped out of the ES.</p> <p>Potential receptors and risks of effects resulting from MA&Ds will be considered through other technical chapters of the ES and where relevant Management Plans submitted with the ES in support of the DCO Application.</p>
Telecommunications, Utilities and Television Receptors			



ID	Ref	Applicant's proposed matters to scope out	Scheme Response to PINS Comment
3.15.1	Paragraph 18.4.3	Impacts to above ground telecommunications, utilities and television infrastructure – All phases	Noted and agreed with PINS. This has been scoped out of the ES.
3.15.2	Paragraph 18.4.4	Impacts to below ground infrastructure – All phases	<p>Noted, the Applicant will provide a statement of support to accompany the ES with the locations of below ground utilities and provide evidence of consultation with relevant utility stakeholders as to why significant effects are not likely to occur which will be prepared for the ES.</p> <p>As part of the Scheme design safeguarding distances and measures have been incorporated into the development design parameters.</p>
Waste			
ID	Ref	Applicant's proposed matters to scope out	Scheme Response to PINS Comment
3.16.1	Paragraphs 18.5.10 – 18.5.23	Waste	<p>Noted. Waste will be considered within the Other Environmental Matters chapter of the ES. The ES will identify potential waste streams during the Construction and Decommissioning Phases including estimated volumes, by type and quantity, of expected residues and emissions and quantities and types of waste produced, including, and an assessment of the likely significant effects.</p> <p>Should off-site disposal be required, an assessment of effects including cumulative effects will be included in the ES.</p> <p>Good practice measures will be set in place to ensure responsible processing of waste is adhered to. This will be secured through a suite of outline Management Plans (e.g. 'oCEM'P, 'oOEMP', 'oDEMP') submitted in support of the DCO Application. These management plans will include details on appropriate monitoring</p>



			<p>measures to ensure compliance with best practice measures as well as adherence to the waste hierarchy.</p> <p>Management of waste will be addressed further within the outline Site Waste Management Plan ('oSWMP') to be submitted with the DCO Application.</p>
3.16.2	Paragraphs 18.5.10 – 18.5.21	Potential effects – all phases	<p>The ES will assess likely significant effects from waste during all phases of development, including replacement activities of the panels and batteries and set out measures taken to ensure components are diverted, if feasible, from the waste chain. Impacts from off-site transport and disposal of waste generated during Construction and Decommissioning Phases likely to result in significant effects will also be included in assessment.</p> <p>Assumptions made, such as quantities and types of waste materials will be set out.</p>
3.16.3	N/A	Decommissioning Phase	<p>The ES will set out how decommissioning of the Scheme will be assessed and detail any components to be retained during the Decommissioning Phase.</p> <p>Good practice measures will be set in place to ensure responsible processing of waste is adhered to. An outline Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan ('oDEMP') will be prepared in support of the ES, which will set out the mitigation measures identified through the preliminary EIA assessments that form the PEIR. The oDEMP will be agreed with the relevant local planning authorities and submitted in support of the DCO Application.</p>



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