

**THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) REGULATIONS
2017 SCREENING MATRIX**

1. CASE DETAILS	
Case Reference	PE-00302-23
Appellant	EDF Renewables
LPA	South Holland District Council
Brief description of the project / development	
The Development is for a Solar photovoltaic (PV) Array with a maximum generating capacity of 3.5 MW and an onsite connection to the existing Pilgrim factory. Alongside the Solar PV Array, associated infrastructure and equipment would include: fencing, security cameras, cabling and access track. Biodiversity enhancement will also be integrated into the site design and will be informed through a Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment.	
2. EIA DETAILS	
Is the project Schedule 1 development according to Schedule 1 of the EIA Regulations?	No
If YES, which description of development (THEN GO TO Q4)	n/a
Is the project Schedule 2 development under the EIA Regulations?	Yes
If YES, under which description of development in Column 1 and Column 2?	<p><u>Column 1</u></p> <p>3 – Energy Industry (a) Industrial installations for the production of electricity, steam and hot water (unless included in Schedule 1);</p> <p><u>Column 2</u></p> <p>The area of the development exceeds 0.5 hectare.</p>
Is the development within, partly within, or near a 'sensitive area' as defined by Regulation 2 of the EIA Regulations?	No
If YES, which area?	
Are the applicable thresholds/criteria in Column 2 exceeded/met?	Yes
If yes, which applicable threshold/criteria?	The area of development exceeds 0.5 hectares
3. LPA/SOS SCREENING	
Has the LPA or SoS issued a Screening Opinion (SO) or Screening Direction (SD)? (In the case of Enforcement appeals, has a Regulation 37 notice been issued)	No
If yes, is a copy of the SO/SD on the file?	n/a

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If yes, is the SO/SD positive?	n/a
4. ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT	
Has the appellant supplied an ES for the current or previous (if reserved matters or conditions) application?	n/a

WHEN COMPLETING THIS DOCUMENT IN RELATION TO AN ENFORCEMENT APPEAL, THE UNDERSIGNED OFFICER HAS HAD REGARD TO THE PROJECT AS ALLEGED IN THE RELEVANT ENFORCEMENT NOTICE WHEN REFERING TO THE PROJECT / DEVELOPMENT.

A Screening Criteria Question	B Response to the Screening Criteria Question in Column A (Yes/No and explanation of reasons) Briefly explain reasons and, if applicable and/or known, include name of feature(s) and proximity to site(s)		C Is a Significant Effect Likely? (Yes/No and explanation of reasons (nb if the answer in Column B is 'No', Column C is not applicable)) Is a significant effect likely, having regard particularly to the magnitude and spatial extent (including population size affected), nature, intensity and complexity, probability, expected onset, duration, frequency and reversibility of the impact and the possibility to effectively reduce the impact? If the finding of no significant effect is reliant on specific features or measures of the project envisaged to avoid, or prevent what might otherwise have been, significant adverse effects on the environment these should be identified in bold.	
5. NATURAL RESOURCES				
5.1 Will construction, operation or decommissioning of the project involve actions which will cause physical changes in the topography of the area?	No		N/A	
5.2 Will construction or operation of the project use natural resources above or below ground such as land, soil, water, materials/minerals or energy which are non-renewable or in short supply?	No		N/A	
5.3 Are there any areas on/around the location which contain important, high quality or scarce resources which could be affected by the project, e.g. forestry, agriculture, water/coastal, fisheries, minerals?	Yes	The application site is located in close proximity to the River Welland. It is considered that there may be an effect during construction, the application would be subject to a construction Environmental Management Plan and Traffic Management Plan.	No	
6. WASTE				
6.1 Will the project produce solid wastes during construction or operation or decommissioning?	Yes	It is likely that some excavating and civil work is necessary during construction. The proposal would be subject to land contamination	No	

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		mitigation as well as a Construction Environmental Management Plan.		
7. POLLUTION AND NUISANCES				
7.1 Will the project release pollutants or any hazardous, toxic or noxious substances to air?	Yes	Works relating to construction and during operations of site from HGV's etc	No	
7.2 Will the project cause noise and vibration or release of light, heat, energy or electromagnetic radiation?	Yes	During the construction phase	No	
7.3 Will the project lead to risks of contamination of land or water from releases of pollutants onto the ground or into surface waters, groundwater, coastal waters or the sea?	No		N/a	
7.4 Are there any areas on or around the location which are already subject to pollution or environmental damage, e.g. where existing legal environmental standards are exceeded, which could be affected by the project?	No		N/a	
8. POPULATION AND HUMAN HEALTH				
8.1 Will there be any risk of major accidents (including those caused by climate change, in accordance with scientific knowledge) during construction, operation or decommissioning?	Yes	Construction phase is likely to present more risks than operation phase. Mitigation of working practices and traffic management would be required.	No	
8.2 Will the project present a risk to the population (having regard to population density) and their human health during construction, operation or	Yes	Based on the assessment significance criteria, the residual effects of the Proposed Development are considered to be not significant for all pollutants assessed at nearby sensitive receptors.	No	

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decommissioning? (for example due to water contamination or air pollution)				
9. WATER RESOURCES				
9.1 Are there any water resources including surface waters, e.g. rivers, lakes/ponds, coastal or underground waters on or around the location which could be affected by the project, particularly in terms of their volume and flood risk?	Yes	The River Welland is in close proximity. Notwithstanding this Solar Array development do not normally have the potential to increase surface water flood risk as rainfall onto the panels is cast upon the ground from their lower edges only a short distance from where it would have fallen had the panels not been there, and thus water continues to infiltrate into the ground dispersed over the full area of the site	No	
10. BIODIVERSITY (SPECIES AND HABITATS)				
10.1 Are there any protected areas which are designated or classified for their terrestrial, avian and marine ecological value, or any non-designated / non-classified areas which are important or sensitive for reasons of their terrestrial, avian and marine ecological value, located on or around the location and which could be affected by the project? (e.g. wetlands, watercourses or other water-bodies, the coastal zone, mountains, forests or woodlands, undesignated nature reserves or parks. (Where designated indicate level of designation (international, national, regional or local))).	Yes	The corridor of the River Welland is a designated Local Wildlife Site. It is considered that a UK Habitat Classification Survey (UKHAB) would be required to accompany any application. This would allow for an appropriate level of mitigation to be put forward.	No	
10.2 Could any protected, important or sensitive species of flora or fauna which use areas on or around the site, e.g. for breeding, nesting, foraging, resting,	Yes	This would be identified within the UKHAB report. Potentially information on Flora through Horticultural information may also be necessary.	No	

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over-wintering, or migration, be affected by the project?				
11. LANDSCAPE AND VISUAL				
11.1 Are there any areas or features on or around the location which are protected for their landscape and scenic value, and/or any non-designated / non-classified areas or features of high landscape or scenic value on or around the location which could be affected by the project? ¹ Where designated indicate level of designation (international, national, regional or local).	No		N/a	
11.2 Is the project in a location where it is likely to be highly visible to many people? (If so, from where, what direction, and what distance?)	Yes	The application site would be highly visible from the A16 as well as rights of way along the River Welland	No	The scale of the solar array would result in a more localised impact.
12. CULTURAL HERITAGE/ARCHAEOLOGY				
12.1 Are there any areas or features which are protected for their cultural heritage or archaeological value, or any non-designated / classified areas and/or features of cultural heritage or archaeological importance on or around the location which could be affected by the project (including potential impacts on setting, and views to, from and within)? Where designated indicate level of designation (international, national, regional or local).	No	The closest listed buildings are located on Holbeach Road, north of the Established Employment site (screening by factories). The conservation area of Spalding is located south west and a sufficient distance away from the site. There are no Scheduled Monuments within the site. It is likely that supporting information as regards archaeology is required, both a desk-based study and some field work as the site	No	

¹ See question 8.1 for consideration of impacts on heritage designations and receptors, including on views to, within and from designated areas.

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		may contain potential for buried finds of archaeological importance.		
13. TRANSPORT AND ACCESS				
13.1 Are there any routes on or around the location which are used by the public for access to recreation or other facilities, which could be affected by the project?	Yes	A right of way exists along the western side of the Welland. A proposed cycle route is also proposed by the local plan along the eastern side of the river.	No	
13.2 Are there any transport routes on or around the location which are susceptible to congestion or which cause environmental problems, which could be affected by the project?	Yes	In terms of construction the A16 roundabouts (one north of the site connecting with the A151 and one south connecting with Low Road) may experience congestion during construction.	No	
14. LAND USE				
14.1 Are there existing land uses or community facilities on or around the location which could be affected by the project? E.g. housing, densely populated areas, industry / commerce, farm/agricultural holdings, forestry, tourism, mining, quarrying, facilities relating to health, education, places of worship, leisure /sports / recreation.	Yes	Dwellings located to the west on the other side of the Welland will experience some effects.	No	
14.2 Are there any plans for future land uses on or around the location which could be affected by the project?	Yes	The proposed cycle route along the east of the River Welland	No	
15. LAND STABILITY AND CLIMATE				
15.1 Is the location susceptible to earthquakes, subsidence, landslides, erosion, or extreme /adverse climatic	No		N/a	

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conditions, e.g. temperature inversions, fogs, severe winds, which could cause the project to present environmental problems?				
16. CUMULATIVE EFFECTS				
16.1 Could this project together with existing and/or approved development result in cumulation of impacts together during the construction/operation phase?	No		N/a	
17. TRANSBOUNDARY EFFECTS				
17.1 Is the project likely to lead to transboundary effects? ²	No		N/a	

² The Regulations require consideration of the transboundary nature of the impact. Due to the England's geographical location the vast majority of TCPA cases are unlikely to result in transboundary impacts.

18. CONCLUSIONS – ACCORDING TO EIA REGULATIONS SCHEDULE 3

Schedule 3 requires that the likely significant effects of the development on the environment must be considered in relation to:

- **The Characteristics of the Development**
 - **The Location of the Development**
- A) The magnitude and Spatial extent of the impact in relation to the character would not require an ES. The solar array is a 'low scale' proposal and impacts are localised. The location of the site results that the effects in relation to ecology should be considered and mitigated, the site is close to an established employment zone. On the basis that mitigation can be applied through a traditional planning application the magnitude and spatial extent in relation to the location of development is considered not to require an accompanying ES.
- B) The nature of the impact is localised, both in terms of its character effects as well as the location.
- C) There are not considered to be any transboundary impacts.
- D) The intensity and complexity of the impacts can be fairly assessed under a full planning application without the requirement for an ES.
- E) The probability of the impacts would not result in the requirement for an ES.
- F) The impacts are potentially reversible, there is an opportunity for the land to be returned to its original form once operations cease.
- G) It is not considered that there would be a cumulative impact in relation to this proposal and existing/or approved development.
- H) The possibility of effectively reducing the impact exists under a standard planning application. There is no requirement for an ES in this instance.

19. SCREENING DECISION

If a SO/SD has been provided do you agree with it?	N/a
Is it necessary to issue a SD?	Yes
Is an ES required?	No

20. ASSESSMENT (EIA REGS SCHEDULE 2 DEVELOPMENT)

	OUTCOME	
Is likely to have significant effects on the environment	ES required	
Not likely to have significant effects on the environment	ES not required	X
More information is required to inform direction	Request further info	

21. REASON FOR SCREENING

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NAME	Mark Niland
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