

## Section 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? It was indicated by colleagues internally that you will be installing a bund.**

Utilising the existing topography to screen the proposed development and contain the development will be considered at the design stage. This is not a relevant consideration for the screening request.

### **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?**

Battery energy storage imports electricity from the grid and exports that electricity as and when the need arises on the grid. As such no natural resources are used above or below ground. The composition of electricity supply from the grid varies every day. In 2024, the UK's electricity generation mix saw a record-high 58% from low-carbon sources (renewables and nuclear), with wind energy dominating at 30% and fossil fuels contributing only 29%.

Please see this data with respect to the UK's energy generation mix in 2024. [Britain's Energy Explained](#)

### **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? Blue Lake is within close proximity to the site, please can you clarify the water source protection zone.**

No. Blue Lake is a recreational water course. The site is not in a groundwater protection zone.

## **Section 7 – Pollution and Nuisances**

### **7.1 Will the project release pollutants or any hazardous, toxic or noxious substances to air?**

The technology for batteries used in energy storage is evolving quickly. Currently lithium ion batteries are mainly used but alternatives are being developed. In the event of a fire there may be the potential for emissions to air. However, at this stage the potential risks are not known as the battery technology for the scheme has not been selected.

### **7.2 Will the project cause noise and vibration or release of light, heat, energy or electromagnetic radiation?**

The battery energy storage containers have ancillary equipment - inverters and HVAC systems. These are the two components that may generate noise and vibration when the energy storage is in operation (exporting) electricity to the grid over a 2 hour period. These noise sources are managed through equipment design and noise mitigation measures such as silencers, acoustic screens and low noise fans.

Light, heat, energy and electromagnetic radiation are not impacts associated with battery energy storage.

**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?**

The risk of land or water contamination only arises in the event of a fire and firefighting using foam or water leading to runoff. Firefighting procedures are a matter for the local fire authority.

Mitigation of the risk of land or water contamination in the event of a fire can be addressed by incorporating containment measures in the site design.

**Section 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?**

The risk of failure of battery energy storage systems has been a matter of concern by fire authorities and others. However, as the technology has developed these risks are being reduced through design and operational controls that reduce this risk.

The relevant guidance for battery energy storage systems includes the battery energy storage manufacturer's guidance, the National Fire Authority guidance and the Government guidance document on Health and Safety in Grid Scale Energy Storage.

**8.2 Will the project present a risk to the population (having regard to population density) and their human health during construction, operation or decommissioning? (for example due to water contamination or air pollution)**

No greater risk than other industrial installations. Please see the attached appeal decision on the Cleve Hill Solar and Energy storage development.

**Section 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?**

See answer above at 5.3. The site is not in a Flood Zone.

**Section 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 waterbodies, the coastal zone, mountains, forests or woodlands, undesignated**

**nature reserves or parks. (Where designated indicate level of designation (international, national, regional or local))).**

See the screening request application.

## **Section 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?<sup>[1]</sup> Where designated indicate level of designation (international, national, regional or local).**

See the screening request application.

**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?)**

No.