

South Brooks Solar Farm

Preliminary Environmental Information

Volume 2: Appendix 1.1: Terms and Abbreviations

Document Reference: EN0110027
May 2026
Blue Planet Solar Limited




Table of Contents

A1	Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations	2
----	-------------------------------------	---

Tables

Table A1-1:	Project Terms and Abbreviations	2
-------------	---------------------------------	---

A1 Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations

A1.1 Terms and Abbreviations Table

Table A1-1: Project Terms and Abbreviations

Term	Definition
Abnormal Indivisible Loads (AIL)	A loaded vehicle that is in excess of the limits noted in the Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations ¹ typically used to transport heavy, tall or long loads.
Above Ordnance Datum (AOD)	A vertical reference point used by Ordnance Survey to determine altitude on maps. Usually mean sea level (MSL) at a particular place is used for the datum.
Agricultural Land Classification (ALC)	A method for assessing the quality of farmland following the guidelines set out in the MAFF ALC Guidelines. It is based on physical characteristics of the land (e.g. climate and site parameters like gradient and soil). The assessment gives an indication of the versatility and expected yield of the land. The system classifies agricultural land in 5 grades and 2 subgrades (3a and 3b) where Grade 1 is excellent, and Grade 5 is very poor. The best and most versatile land (BMV) is classified as 1, 2 and 3a.
Air Quality Management Area (AQMA)	Areas where national air quality objectives are unlikely to be met by the deadlines set. Where an AQMA is declared, the local authority is obliged to produce an Action Plan in pursuit of achieving air quality objectives.
Ambient sound level, $L_a = L_{Aeq,T}$	The A-weighted equivalent continuous sound level over a given time period. It is the sound level of a steady sound that has the same energy as a fluctuating sound over the same time period. Daytime is typically 07:00 – 23:00, and nighttime is typically 23:00 – 07:00.
AMCT	Annual Mean Concentration Target
Amenity	Features of the natural environment, cultural heritage, visual landscape that provide 'quality' e.g. comfort, convenience, and enjoyment. Amenity assessments include the impact of the works on communities, such as the effects of noise and disturbance from construction activities or noise during operation.
Amenity Value	Gives worth to the value of something based on the pleasant feelings it generates for those that use or experience it.
Ancient Woodland	Ancient Woodland is defined as land that is currently wooded and has been continually wooded, at least since 1750.
Applicant	EDF power solutions UK & Ireland, in partnership with PS Renewables
AQMA	Air Quality Management Area

¹ His Majesty's Government (1986), The Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1986 [Online] available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/1986/1078/contents>

Term	Definition
Aquifer	A subsurface layer or layers of rock or other geological strata of sufficient porosity and permeability to allow either a significant flow of groundwater or the abstraction of significant quantities of groundwater.
Archaeological interest	A heritage asset that holds, or potentially holds, evidence of past human activity worthy of expert investigation at some point.
Archaeological trial trenching	A method of investigative archaeological fieldwork utilising targeted excavation of trenches to ascertain the archaeological potential of a site and, if archaeological remains are found to be present, to characterise them in order to inform mitigation strategies.
Archaeology/archaeological remains	Below-ground remains and above-ground earthworks associated with past human activity.
Architectural interest	The art or science of the design, construction, craftsmanship and decoration of buildings and structures of all types.
Artefact	An item of archaeological interest.
Artificial Flooding	Flooding that occurs because of a failure of artificial infrastructure such as reservoirs, canals and ponds.
Auger	A handheld tool with a helical screw blade used to drill into the ground and retrieve soil samples from different depths, typically down to around 120 cm.
Auger boring	A borehole created using an auger, from which soil samples are collected at successive depths for examination of soil characteristics such as texture and structure for the purposes of producing an ALC.
AURN	Automatic Urban and Rural Network
Automatic Traffic Count (ATC)	A traffic survey using inductive loops or similar remote sensing technology to capture traffic flows, speeds and vehicle classes.
A-weighting	Frequency weighting applied to measured sound in order to account for the relative loudness perceived by the human ear.
Background Noise Level LA90,T	This measurement is used to give an accurate approximation to the background noise level (the sound level you would expect, without intermittent noise disturbance). A weighted level of noise, exceeded for 90% of the specified period of time (T).
Baseline	Refers to existing conditions as represented by latest available survey and other data which is used as a benchmark for making comparisons to assess the impact of development.
Battery Cells	Contains the electrodes, electrolyte and separator / membrane which allow the battery to store energy when submitted to an electrical current. Can have a range of battery chemistries such as lithium-ion.
Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)	A battery storage system that enables the storage, importation and exportation of electrical energy, typically from renewable sources like wind. It ensures consistent power availability amidst

Term	Definition
	unpredictable energy supply due to factors such as weather change and power outages.
Battery Management System	Battery Management System (BMS) provides the control, monitoring and communications for the batteries in BESS as well as controlling any individual module cooling systems.
Battery Module	Consists of several battery cells connected together in series or in parallel.
Battery Unit	Containerised unit comprising of multiple battery cells, modules, racks, battery management systems, combining to produce a MWh storage capacity.
BCE	Before Common Era
Best and Most Versatile (BMV)	ALC grades 1, 2 and 3a are defined as BMV as they are the best quality land in the country. BMV land is protected under legislation and guidance and is avoided wherever possible during planning.
Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG)	Offsetting unavoidable losses to biodiversity in a way that will contribute to the additional recovery of nature, while developing land. Leaving biodiversity in a better state than it was before development. Net gain is required to reach at least greater than, or equal to 10% restoration above any losses, under the National Planning Policy Framework.
BRAG Rating	Abbreviated from Blue/Red/Amber/Green, associated with risk ratings, that use a traffic light system (red being the highest risk, and green being the lowest).
British Geological Survey (BGS)	The UK's main provider of objective and authoritative scientific data, information and knowledge to help society understand earth and environmental processes. A national geological survey and global geoscience organisation.
Bronze Age	The period of human activity between 2,500 BCE and 700 BCE.
Built heritage	Upstanding ruins, standing structures and buildings and designed landscapes associated with past human activity.
Carbon Dioxide Equivalent (CO ₂ e)	Carbon dioxide equivalent is a standard unit used to measure and compare the impact of different greenhouse gases on global warming. It expresses the effect of various gases in terms of the amount of carbon dioxide that would have the same global warming potential.
Characteristics	Elements, or combinations of elements, which make a contribution to distinctive landscape character.
Coast	In relation to the Site, the length of land adjacent to the Sea spanning from Camber to Littlestone.
Coastal battery	Referring to any place where artillery is positioned to allow guns to cover a particular area such as a line of communication or the approaches to a defended location
Code of Construction Practice (CoCP)	The code sets out the standards and procedures to which developers and contractors must adhere to when undertaking

Term	Definition
	construction of major projects. This will assist with managing the environmental impacts and will identify the main responsibilities and requirements of developers and contractors.
Commitments Register	A register identifying how environmental and other commitments made to the Project will be secured and implemented, to ensure potential environmental effects arising from the Project are avoided or mitigated as far as possible.
Compensation	Compensation may be an option to compensate for unavoidable impacts to irreplaceable features. Compensation in EIA aims at keeping adverse impacts that do occur within acceptable levels.
Conceptual site model	This is a site-specific representation of the relationships between contamination sources, migration pathways and potential receptors. It identifies pollutant linkages (source-pathway-receptor) to assess environmental risks and guides investigation and remediation efforts. It can be in the form of text or a diagram.
Conservation Area	An area of special architectural or historic interest, the character of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance. A Conservation Area is typically designated by a local planning authority and gives tighter rules on activities such as demolition, minor developments, and tree works.
Construction Compounds	Areas of land within the Project used to store equipment and material for construction.
Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP)	A specific plan developed to ensure that appropriate environmental management practices are followed during the construction phase of a scheme and to document these steps (e.g. avoidance and mitigation measures).
Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP)	A comprehensive document designed to provide a detailed approach to managing and coordinating how vehicle and pedestrian movements will be managed in and around a construction site.
Consultation	The interactive process of dialogue between individuals or groups, based on a genuine exchange of views, with the objective of influencing decisions, policies or action.
Consultation bodies	Any body specified in the relevant EIA Regulations which the competent authority must consult in respect of an EIA, and which also has a duty to provide a scoping opinion and information.
Consultation Masterplan	High level block plan used for non-stat consultation.
Contamination	The unwanted presence of a substance at a level that is hazardous, or that is significantly above the 'background' level is considered to be contamination.
Critical Level (CLe)	Concentrations of pollutants in the atmosphere above which ecological receptors could be negatively affected.
Critical Load (CLO)	An estimation of exposure to pollutant below which significant harmful effects on specified sensitive elements of the environment do not occur

Term	Definition
Decibel (dB)	The logarithmically scaled measurement unit of sound, which is used to describe the magnitude of sound.
Decommissioning Traffic Management Plan (DTMP)	Provided as part of the DEMP (Decommissioning Environment Management Plan). Will outline discussion on the proposed traffic management for decommissioning vehicles as well as their impact on the surrounding area.
Defra	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
Department for Transport (DfT)	The UK Government department responsible for transport matters.
Designated feature	Refers to a characteristic feature of a designated site such as an important assemblage of non-breeding birds, which has been used as a reason for the site's notification. Designated features are often used to measure a site's ongoing condition.
Designated heritage asset	A World Heritage Site, Scheduled Monument, Listed Building, Protected Wreck Site, Registered Park and Garden, Registered Battlefield or Conservation Area designated under the relevant legislation.
Designated Site	Refers to a specific location that has been officially recognised for a particular purpose such as its importance to nature conservation interests. Designated sites can be statutorily or non-statutorily designated and are recognised on varying geographic levels from internationally important sites including SPA, SAC, Ramsar and Marine Protected Areas, through nationally important sites including National Nature Reserves (NNR) and Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) to local sites including Local Nature Reserves (LNR). Non-statutorily designated sites include Local Wildlife Sites (LWS), Sites of Importance to Nature Conservation (SINC) and Sites of Nature Conservation Interest (SNCI).
Development Consent Order (DCO)	A statutory instrument granted by the Secretary of State in the United Kingdom to permit the construction and development of a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project. The regime is designed to be a much quicker process than applying for several separate consents, including planning permission.
DfT	Department for Transport
Displacement	Involuntary loss, movement or change in employment due to external factors.
Drinking Water Protected Areas (Surface Water)	Catchment areas that influence the water quality for their respective Drinking Water Protected Area (Surface Water). They are identified where the protected area has been assigned as being "at risk" of failing the drinking water protection objectives of the Water Environment (Water Framework Directive) (England & Wales) Regulations 2017. Safeguard Zones are one of the main tools for delivering the drinking water protection objectives.
Drinking Water Safeguard Zones (Groundwater) (SgZGs)	Areas which are established around public water supplies where additional pollution control measures are needed. The Water Framework Directive requires that Drinking Water Protected Areas are identified and that they are given the necessary protection with the aim of avoiding deterioration in their quality in order to

Term	Definition
	reduce the level of purification treatment required in the production of drinking water.
Dungeness Substation	The existing substation located next to Dungeness A and B nuclear power stations. This is where the Grid Connection Cable will connect to.
Earthworks	The moving of soil or rock to reconfigure the topography of a site.
East Sussex County Council	The highway and transport authority for the western section of the study area, contained within the East Sussex County Council local government boundary.
Ecological Clerk of Works (ECOW)	Oversees the management of the risks on construction sites associated with managing biodiversity and can help to save costs and provide advice that reduces inefficiency.
Economic activity rates	A measure of whether or not a person was an active participant in the labour market during a period.
Elements	Individual parts which make up the landscape, such as, for example, trees, hedges and buildings.
Emergency Response Plan	An Emergency Response Plan detailing the construction, operation and decommissioning phases will be developed in consultation with the local fire and rescue service during the detailed design phase and prior to the construction of the BESS Sites. The plan shall include information that can support operators and firefighters in effectively responding to a fire incident at the BESS Sites. The Emergency Response Plan is not part of the DCO or the BSMP; however, it is a requirement under the NFCC guidance.
EMF	Electric and Magnetic Fields
Enclosure	A single or collection of boundaries surrounding a parcel of land. e.g.: hedgerows, walls, ditches, earth banks, fences etc.
Energy Management System	Energy Management System (EMS) monitors and controls the flow of energy within the BESS for efficient operation.
Enhancement	Proposals that seek to improve the landscape resource and the visual amenity of the Project site and its wider setting, over and above its baseline condition.
Environment Agency (EA)	A non-departmental public body of the British Government, with responsibilities relating to the protection and enhancement of the environment in England. The EA is responsible for flood management, waste management, regulating land and water pollution, and conservation.
Environmental effect	The consequence of an impact on the environment.
Environmental impact	A physical or measurable change to the environment attributable to the Project.
Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)	A formal process set down in Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (England) Regulations 2017 ²

² UK Legislation (2017). The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations

Term	Definition
	used to systematically identify, predict and assess the likely significant environmental impacts of a proposed project or development.
Environmental Statement (ES)	A collection of documents that reports the results and the likely significant impacts and effects of a project. Prepared to satisfy the requirements of The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 ('the EIA Regulations').
EPUK	Environmental Protection UK
EU	European Union
European Site	European sites are those that are designated through the Habitats Directive and Birds Directive (via national legislation as appropriate). Within England additional sites designated through international convention are given the same protection through policy – overall these are referred to as European sites (GLVIA3, 2013 Para 3.37).
Exceedance	A period of time when the concentration of a pollutant is greater than the appropriate air quality objective. This applies to specified locations with relevant exposure.
Feature	Particularly prominent or eye-catching elements in the landscape, such as tree clumps, church towers or wooded skylines OR a particular aspect of the Project proposal.
Fieldwork	Whereby Landscape Architects visit the Order Limits and publicly accessible locations in the surrounding area to determine the existing landscape character and views.
Fine Particulate Matter (PM _{2.5})	Small airborne particles less than 2.5 micrometres in aerodynamic diameter.
Flood Risk	A combination of the likelihood of a flood event occurring and the consequence of that event.
Flood Risk Assessment (FRA)	The technical assessment used for the planning application to determine the risk of flooding from various sources as a result of the Project.
Flood Zone	Flood Zone definitions are set out in the Planning Practice Guidance. There are three flood zones (1, 2 and 3) which refer to the annual probability of river and sea flooding, without the presence of flood defences.
Flood Zone 1	This is land assessed as having a less than 1 in 1,000 annual probability of river or sea flooding (<0.1% Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP)).
Flood Zone 2	This zone comprises land assessed as having between a 1 in 100 and 1 in 1,000 annual probability of river flooding (1% – 0.1%), or between a 1 in 200 and 1 in 1,000 annual probability of sea flooding (0.5% – 0.1%) in any year.

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2017/572/contents>

Term	Definition
Flood Zone 3	This zone comprises land assessed as having a 1 in 100 or greater annual probability of river flooding (>1%), or a 1 in 200 or greater annual probability of flooding from the sea (>0.5%) in any year.
Floodplain	An area of low lying land located adjacent to a watercourse or surface waterbody that is susceptible to flooding.
Fluvial Flooding	Flooding that originates from rivers as a result of heavy or prolonged periods of rain or snow melt.
Geographical Information System (GIS)	A system that captures, stores, analyses, manages and presents data linked to location. It links spatial information to a digital database.
Geology	Geology is the study of solid earth, the material of which it is composed (principally rocks) and the processes by which they evolve.
Geomorphology	The scientific study of landforms, including their origin, development, form, and sediments at the surface of the Earth.
Geophysical survey	A non-intrusive pre-construction archaeological evaluation technique that exploits a variety of physical or chemical characteristics of rocks and soils etc, in an attempt to locate underground features of archaeological interest. Types of geophysical survey include magnetometer survey, magnetic susceptibility survey and resistivity survey.
Greenhouse Gas (GHG)	A greenhouse gas is a gas which is present in the Earth's atmosphere and released through anthropogenic activities. Within the atmosphere, these gases absorb and emit infrared radiation, contributing to global warming.
Grid Connection	A system where your own electrical power generation source or distribution is interconnected with the utility grid.
Grid Connection Corridor	Corridor which represents the maximum extent of land within which the cable route would be located.
Grid Connection Substation	A compound containing electrical equipment to enable connection to the National Grid.
Gross Value Added (GVA)	The value generated by any unit engaged in the production of goods and services. It is one measure of overall economic performance.
Groundwater	All water which is below the surface of the ground, within the part of the ground that is saturated and in direct contact with the ground or subsoil.
Groundwater	Water held below the ground's surface in the spaces in soils, superficial deposits and bedrock.
Groundwater dependent terrestrial ecosystem	A wetland that is critically dependent on groundwater flows and/or chemistries.
Groundwater Flooding	Flooding that occurs because of the groundwater table rising and resulting in emergence above ground. Groundwater flooding often occurs following extensive periods of heavy rainfall.

Term	Definition
Groundwater Vulnerability	The vulnerability of groundwater to a pollutant discharged at ground level based on hydrological, geological, hydrogeological and soil properties.
GVA	Gross Value Added. A measure of the economic value generated by a company/area/economic sector engaged in the production of goods and services.
GW	Gigawatt
Habitat	Species afforded additional protection through domestic legislation or regulation including the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended); The Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act (2006) and the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2017).
Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan (HMMP)	A plan which sets out the management and monitoring required to maintain biodiversity net gain (BNG) throughout the required period.
Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA)	A process of distinct stages that determines whether development plans could negatively impact on a protected European site beyond reasonable scientific doubt. A HRA must be undertaken in accordance with the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) and the Conservation of Offshore Marine Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) to determine if the protected features of a 'habitats site' (as defined in the NPPF) maybe impacted by the Project, before Natural England decide whether to undertake/permit/authorise it.
HDD	Horizontal Direction Drilling
HDV	Heavy Duty Vehicles (> 3.5 tonnes)
Heritage asset (or 'asset')	An item of heritage interest, for example an historic building or an archaeological find.
HGV	Heavy Goods Vehicle
HIA	Health Impact Assessment
Historic England	A non-departmental public body of the British Government. Tasked with protecting the historic environment of England by preserving and listing historic buildings/sites, scheduling ancient monuments, protecting wrecks, registering historic parks/gardens, advising government, and promoting the public's knowledge of, and enjoyment of, heritage.
Historic Environment Record (HER)	A database maintained by individual counties or local authorities, containing records of archaeological sites, historic buildings and other aspects.
Historic interest	What is already known about past lives and events that may be illustrated by or associated with a heritage asset. Heritage assets with historic interest provide a material record of our nation's history as well as meaning for communities derived from their collective experience of a place and can symbolise wider values such as faith and cultural identity.

Term	Definition
HLE	Healthy Life Expectancy
HMSO	His Majesty's Stationery Office
Host Authority	the local authority (e.g., district, borough, or county council) within whose administrative boundary a proposed NSIP is located.
HVAC	Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning
IAIA	International Association for Impact Assessment
IAQM	Institute of Air Quality Management
ICNIRP	International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection
IEMA	Institute of Sustainability & Environmental Professionals
IMD	Indices of Multiple Deprivation
Importance	A measure of the degree to which the heritage significance of that asset is sought to be protected.
Important ecological feature	Set out within CIEEM guidance ³ , relevant important ecological features include: Designated Sites – Ramsar sites, SPA, SAC, SSSI, Marine Conservation Zones, NNR and LNR. National Biodiversity Lists Habitats and species of principal importance (HPI / SPI) for the conservation of biodiversity, Ancient Woodland Inventories (AWI).Biodiversity Action Plan lists – Local Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) priority species and habitats. Red Listed, Rare, Legally Protected Species - Species of conservation concern, Red Data Book (RDB) species, Birds of Conservation Concern (BoCC), Nationally rare and nationally scarce species, legally protected species.
Index of multiple deprivation	A statistical analysis series which measures relative socio-economic deprivation. The index of multiple deprivation – which contains analysis from several specific domains (such as access to education, or average income) is the most widely used measure.
IPH	Institute of Public Health
Iron Age	The period of human activity between 700 BCE and 43 CE
ISEP	Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment
Iterative design process	The process by which project design is amended and improved by successive stages of refinement which respond to growing understanding of environmental issues.
JSNA	Joint Strategic Needs Assessment
Kent County Council	The highway and transport authority for the majority of the study area, contained within the Kent County Council local government boundary.

^{3 3} Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland – Terrestrial, Freshwater, Coastal and Marine CIEEM V1.3 updated September 2024: [EclA-Guidelines-v1.3-Sept-2024.pdf](#)

Term	Definition
LA _{90,T}	The A-weighted sound level exceeded for 90% of the measurement period. Often referred to as the background sound level.
L _{Aeq,T}	A-weighted equivalent continuous sound level over a given time period. It is the sound level of a steady sound that has the same energy as a fluctuating sound over the same time period.
Land use	What land is used for, based on broad categories of functional land cover, such as urban and industrial use and the different types of agriculture and forestry.
Landform	The shape and form of the land surface which has resulted from combinations of geology, geomorphology, slope, elevation and physical processes.
Landscape	An area, as perceived by people, the character of which is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors.
Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA)	A tool used to identify and assess the likely significance of the effects of change resulting from development both on the landscape as an environmental resource in its own right and on people's views and visual amenity.
Landscape Character Areas (LCAs)	These are single unique areas which are the discrete geographical areas of a particular landscape type.
Landscape effects	Effects on the landscape as a resource in its own right.
Landscape receptor	Defined aspects of the landscape resource that have the potential to be affected by a proposal.
Landscape susceptibility	The ability of the landscape receptor (whether it be the overall character or quality/condition of a particular landscape type or area, or an individual element and/or feature, or a particular aesthetic and perceptual aspect) to accommodate the Project without undue consequences for the maintenance of the baseline situation and/or the achievement of landscape planning policies and strategies.
Landscape value	The relative value that is attached to different landscapes by society. A landscape may be valued by different stakeholders for a whole variety of reasons.
LAQM	Local Air Quality Management
LDV	Light Duty Vehicles (<3.5 tonnes)
Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) – Kent County Council (KCC) and East Sussex County Council (ESCC)	The LLFA manages flood risk from surface water, groundwater and ordinary watercourses within their boundary. They are also a statutory consultee which assesses surface water drainage strategies for major development projects. Dependant on future masterplan layouts and which boundaries they are situated within, the relevant LLFA (or both, if applicable) will be consulted.
Leakage	Relates to jobs that are filled from outside of a usual home-based commuting distance, such that not all the benefit of new employment is retained within the area close to the Project.

Term	Definition
Light Goods Vehicle (LGV)	A vehicle that is used to transport goods and materials and has a gross combination mass of less than 3,500 kg.
Listed Building	A building or structure which is considered to be of 'special architectural or historic interest'.
Local Wildlife Site (LWS)	Designated as non-statutory protected sites at the country level, Local Wildlife Sites (LWS) are also known as Sites of Biological Importance (SBI) or Sites of Interest for Nature Conservation (SINC). They are locally important sites for the conservation of wildlife.
LSOA	Lower layer Super Output Area
Magnitude (of effect)	A term that combines judgements about the size and scale of the effect, the extent of the area over which it occurs, whether it is reversible or irreversible and whether it is short or long term in duration.
Medieval	The period of human activity between 1066 CE and 1550 CE
Minerals Safeguarding Assessment	A technical report that evaluates whether a proposed non-mineral development will sterilise underlying mineral resources.
Mitigation	Measures including any process, activity, or design to avoid, prevent, reduce, or, if possible, offset any identified significant adverse effects on the environment.
Modern	The period of human activity from 1900 to the present day.
MW	Megawatt
National Character Area (NCA)	A National Character Area is a broad division of landscape to form the basic units of countryside character, on which strategies for both ecological and landscape issues can be based. There are 159 NCAs, each of which is distinctive with a unique 'sense of place'.
National Grid	The UK's largest electricity distribution network serves nearly 8 million customers with power in the East and West Midlands, South West and Wales. A National Grid 'connection' provides power between a power generating source and/or storage system, and the grid.
National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)	The National Planning Policy Framework sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these should be applied. Planning law requires that applications for planning permission be determined in accordance with the development plan, unless material considerations indicate otherwise.
National Planning Practice Guidance ('NPPG')	The National Planning Practice Guidance adds further context to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and it is intended that the two documents should be read together.
National Policy Statements ('NPSs')	National Policy Statements set out government policy for the delivery of Nationally Significant Infrastructure projects, providing a legal framework for planning determinations. This provides useful guidance for developers, promoters, statutory and non-statutory consultees, and the public.

Term	Definition
National trails	Long distance routes for walking, cycling and horse riding through some of the best landscapes in the UK.
Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects ('NSIPs')	Large scale infrastructure projects that may be too complex or big to process through the normal local planning process. These are nationally significant projects which support the nation's essential systems.
Natural England	Natural England is a non-departmental public body in the United Kingdom. It is responsible for ensuring that England's natural environment; including its land, flora and fauna, freshwater and marine environments, geology and soils, are protected and improved. It advises the English Government and acts as a government agent in the delivery of conservation designations, i.e. National Nature Reserves, Local Nature Reserves, National Parks, Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), Special Protection Areas (SPAs).
Natural Flood Management (NFM)	Natural Flood Management involves managing flood and coastal erosion risk by protecting, restoring and representing the natural 'regulating' function of catchments, rivers, floodplains and coasts e.g. restoring the function of Sphagnum Moss via replanting, bunds etc.
Natural geological hazards	The geology of an area can pose hazards when land is developed, for example issues relating to shrink-swell clay, natural cavities, landslides, the presence of soluble rocks, compressible ground, collapsible deposits, and running sand.
Neolithic	New Stone Age. The period of human activity between 4,500 BCE and 2,500 BCE.
Net Zero	Refers to balancing the amount of greenhouse gases emitted into the atmosphere with the amount removed, resulting in no overall increase in global emissions. Achieving net zero is essential for limiting global warming to 1.5°C or 2°C above pre-industrial levels, as outlined in the Paris Agreement.
NHS	National Health Service
Nitrogen Oxides (NO _x)	A mixture of nitrogen dioxide (NO ₂) and nitric oxide (NO).
NO ₂	Nitrogen dioxide
Noise	In basic terms, unwanted sound. In the context of this assessment, environmental sound sources which typically includes transportation and industrial/commercial.
Noise Modelling	The use of computer software to predict noise levels.
Noise Monitoring	The measurement of sound levels at a specific location.
Noise Sensitive Receptor (NSR)	Receptors which are particularly sensitive to noise. Examples include residential dwellings, hospitals, healthcare facilities, education facilities, community facilities, quiet areas designated under the European Noise Directive (END), international and national or statutorily designated sites, public rights of way and cultural heritage assets.

Term	Definition
Non-designated heritage asset	A heritage asset (including locally listed assets) which has no statutory designation, although this does not mean that the heritage asset in question does not have value or importance and is not a material planning consideration.
Non-host landscapes	Geographic areas of land which do not cover the Order Limits.
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
NSIP	Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project
Objectives	A nationally defined set of health-based concentrations for nine pollutants, seven of which are incorporated in regulations, setting out the extent to which the standards should be achieved by a defined date. There are also vegetation-based objectives for sulphur dioxide and nitrogen oxides.
oCEMP	outline Construction Environment Management Plan
oESSMP	outline Employment Skills and Supply Chain Management Plan
OHID	Office for Health Improvement and Disparities
oLEMP	outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan
ONS	Office for National Statistics
oRoWAS	Outline Rights of Way Access Strategy
Outline Decommissioning Environment Management Plan (oDEMP)	Records the roles and responsibilities for those managing demolition activities for the Project at end of life, and details appropriate controls to prevent and mitigate potential significant effects, arrangements for inspection, and for the auditing and reporting of incidents.
Outline Drainage Strategy	The technical assessment attached to the FRA which details the management of surface water runoff and foul flows as a result of the Project.
Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)	The oLEMP sets out the short, and long-term landscape and ecological management actions for the Scheme, outlining operational guidance for how to establish, monitor and manage landscape and ecology mitigation and enhancement (including biodiversity net gain) measures embedded in the design.
outline Operation Environmental Management Plan (oOEMP)	The oOEMP identifies specific environmental guidance related to the operational activities of the scheme such as environmental mitigation measures, monitoring and performance measures. It defines environmental commitments and actions that will be implemented during the operation and maintenance of the scheme.
Outline Soil Management Plan (oSMP)	A management plan prepared during pre-application that sets out guidelines for the storage, handling, reuse and protection of soils during each stage of the Project's life.
Palaeolithic	Old Stone Age. The period of human and pre-human activity before around 10,000 BCE.
Particulate Matter (PM ₁₀)	Small airborne particles, more specifically particulate matter less than 10 micrometres in aerodynamic diameter.

Term	Definition
Peak particle velocity (PPV)	A measure of the magnitude of vibration, representing the greatest instantaneous particle velocity in a given time period. Measured in mm/s.
Perception	Combines the sensory (that we receive through our senses) with the cognitive (our knowledge and understanding gained from many sources and experiences).
Planning Inspectorate (PINs)	The Planning Inspectorate (PINS) is an agency of the UK government that deals with with planning appeals, national infrastructure planning applications, examinations of local plans and other planning-related and specialist casework in England and Wales.
Pluvial Flooding	Flooding that occurs due to high intensity rainfall and results in water ponding or flowing overland.
Population	Groups of individuals who share common characteristics. A population is typically defined in relation to two or more characteristics. For example, the community with a strong stake in a particular economic market (e.g. housing or tourism) has both a geographical characteristic and a market dependence characteristic.
Post-medieval	The period of human activity between 1550 CE and 1900 CE.
Power Conversion Stations (PCS)	A facility within the electrical grid which converts electrical power from one form to another, typically from alternating current (AC) to direct current (DC) or vice versa.
PPG	Planning Practice Guidance
Prehistoric	The period before the year 43 CE.
Preliminary Environmental Information (PEI)	Information that details likely significant effects from the scheme and helps inform consultees' consultation responses during Phase Two Consultation because it contains further detailed environmental design, constraints and opportunities information. It enables the design of the Project and the EIA to consider any comments received through this consultation.
Preliminary Risk Assessment	This is a report which provides the first stage of a land contamination assessment. It assesses available desk-based information to develop a 'conceptual site model' for the Site. This enables potentially unacceptable risks from contamination to be identified, and recommendations to be proposed for any further work to refine the conceptual site model.
Protected species	Species afforded additional protection through domestic legislation or regulation including the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended); The Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act (2006) and the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2017).
Public Rights of Way (PRoW)	A footpath, bridleway, restricted byway or byway open to all traffic.
Rating level, $L_{A,T,r}$	The specific sound level plus any adjustment for the characteristic features of the sound.

Term	Definition
Receptor	A component of the natural or built environment—such as human beings, water, air, soil, or biodiversity—that is potentially affected by a proposed project's impacts. For Social Impact Assessment, receptors are the defined communities. Within these communities there will be workforces, residents, visitors, businesses, services, events, neighbourhoods, facilities, assets, sites, routes, habitats and spaces. The community will also be set within a wider context of markets, identity and other societal influences.
Rochdale Envelope	The Rochdale Envelope is a recognised approach where aspects of the Project design are not fully resolved, however, can be accommodated within maximum parameters and limits. This allows the application to assess the reasonable worst-case scenario.
Roman	The period of human activity between 43 CE and 410 CE.
Saline intrusion	Migration of salt water into freshwater coastal aquifers.
Saxon	The period of human activity between 410 CE and 1066 CE.
Seascape	Landscapes with views of the coast or seas, and coasts and adjacent marine environments with cultural, historical and archaeological links with each other.
Sensitivity	A term applied to specific receptors, combining judgements of the susceptibility of the receptor to the specific type of change or development proposed and the value related to that receptor. This applies to both landscape and visual receptors.
Sensory changes	Changes to the way a heritage asset is experienced through sensory perception, including sight, sound and smell.
Setting	The surroundings within which a heritage asset is experienced and any element which contributes to the understanding of its significance.
Sewer Flooding	Flooding that originates from sewerage infrastructure, causing overland flows. This can occur due to a failure of the drainage system (blockage or collapse), the system being over capacity causing surcharging or outfalls being either blocked or submerged due to high water levels.
Significance	A measure of the importance or gravity of the environmental effect, defined by significance criteria specific to the environmental topic.
Significant effects	An effect that either supports or undermines biodiversity conservation objectives for 'important ecological features' or for biodiversity in general as defined by CIEEM (2018, updated 2024) ⁴ .
Site	The Site refers to the land where the Project is situated. This is the existing land, its boundaries and its surrounding features and structures.

Term	Definition
Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	A Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) is a statutory conservation designation made by Natural England. It is an area of protected land or water that contains unique species or habitats (natural heritage) of high scientific value for conservation in terms of their flora (i.e. plants), fauna (i.e. animals), and geology (i.e. rocks) and geomorphology (i.e. landform).
SMP	Soil Management Plan - the detailed, post-consent document specifying how soils will be stripped, stored, handled and reinstated.
Social determinants	Describes the categories of factors set out in guidance that affect social outcomes. Social determinants are scoped into or out of the assessment depending on their potential for likely significant effects on communities.
Social outcomes	Outcomes on the viability or vitality of the community, acting on its fundamental defining characteristics. This includes considering not only the strength of societal components (e.g. levels of employment), but also the strength of societal connections (e.g. community cohesion).
Soil associations	British soil classification system that groups similar soil based on soil properties and geographical location.
Soil droughtiness	Indicates the degree to which a shortage of soil water influences the range of crops which may be grown and level of yield which may be achieved and is a key factor limiting ALC grading.
Soil health	Describes the biological and chemical conditions of soil and its ability to function effectively as a living ecosystem. Recent guidance from ISEP ⁵ emphasises that soil health is increasingly recognised in environmental assessment policy.
Soil pit	An excavated hole, typically around 1m ³ , used to expose the soil profile for detailed examination of soil structure, texture, horizons, and any factors that influence ALC grading. Pits are used to validate the auger findings and confirm soil types across a site.
Soil structure	Refers to the physical arrangement of soil particles into aggregates.
Soil wetness	The extent to which excess water imposes restrictions on crop growth and cultivations and is a key factor limiting ALC grading.
Solar Farm	Proposed generating station comprised of solar PV modules mounted on racks and connected via cabling infrastructure to the national grid.
Solar Photovoltaic (PV) module	The packaged assembly of solar cells designed to convert sunlight into electrical energy. The module also known as a solar panel.
Solar PV mounting structure	The frameworks used to attach PV modules to the ground, and to ensure the modules are positioned for optimal sunlight exposure and stability.

⁵ ISEP (2025). Soil Health and Environmental Assessment. [online]. Available at: <https://www.isepglobal.org/resources/blogs/2026/january/new-isep-advice-note-soil-health-in-environmental-assessment/>

Term	Definition
Sound	The physical vibration in the air, propagating away from a source, whether heard or not.
Source Protection Zones (SPZs)	Zones which show the level of risk to a source of water from contamination. An Inner zone (SPZ 1) is defined as a zone with a 50 day travel time of pollutant to source (50 metres default minimum radius). An Outer zone (SPZ 2) is defined as a zone with a 400 day travel time of pollutant to source (250m or 500m minimum radius around the source depending on the amount of water taken). A Total catchment (SPZ 3) is the area around a supply source within which all the groundwater ends up at the abstraction point.
South East of England	An area of England defined as one of the nine official regions of England used for statistical purposes. The area includes the nine counties of Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, East Sussex, Hampshire, the Isle of Wight, Kent, Oxfordshire, Surrey and West Sussex. This area is defined by Nomis, a service provided by the Office for National Statistics.
Special Area of Conservation (SAC)	A SAC is a protected area designated under the EU Habitats Directive to protect one or more special habitats and/or species listed in the directive i.e. rare, endangered or vulnerable habitat, or species of community interest. The UK has designated SACs under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) and ensures these are either maintained at, or restored to, a favourable conservation status.
Special Protection Area (SPA)	An area designated under the Wild Birds Directive (Directive 79/409/EEC) to protect important bird habitats. Implemented under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981
Specific sound level, $L_s = L_{Aeq,T}$	The A-weighted equivalent continuous sound pressure level produced by the specific sound source at the reference location over a reference time interval, T.
Stakeholders	Organisations and individuals who can affect or are affected by South Brooks Solar Farm
Standards	A nationally defined set of concentrations for nine pollutants below which health effects do not occur or are minimal.
Statutory consultees	Organisations that the Client is required to consult under s42 of the Planning Act 2008. Statutory consultees are listed in Schedule 1 of the APFP 2009
Strategic Road Network (SRN)	The trunk road network operated by National Highways on behalf of the Secretary of State for Transport and the Department for Transport.
Surface Water	Water that collects on or runs over the ground's surface.
Susceptibility	The ability of a defined landscape or visual receptor to accommodate the specific Project without undue negative consequences.
Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS)	Methods of managing surface water run-off that mimics natural drainage processes, which are implemented to reduce flood risk, improve water quality and also enhance biodiversity and amenity, in comparison to other drainage methods.

Term	Definition
Sustrans National Cycle Network	A UK-wide network of signed paths and routes for walking, wheeling, cycling and exploring outdoors.
tCO ₂ e	Metric tonnes of carbon dioxide (CO ₂) equivalence, or tCO ₂ e, where equivalence means having the same warming effect ('global warming potential') as CO ₂ , typically measured over 100 years (The Greenhouse Gas Protocol, 2004 ⁶).
The EIA Regulations	The requirements and schedules set out within The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017.
the Project	Refers collectively to all elements required to construct and operate the proposed South Brooks Solar Farm.
Tidal Flooding	Flooding that occurs as a result of high tides or storm surge events in which water flows from the sea towards land and inundates low lying areas. This includes tidal river flooding, where they are influenced by tides.
Townscape	The character and composition of the built environment including the buildings and the relationships between them, the different types of urban open space, including green spaces, and the relationship between buildings and open spaces.
Tranquillity	A state of calm and quietude associated with peace, considered to be a significant asset of landscape.
Transect	A transect is a path along which one counts and records occurrences of the objects of study (e.g. plants etc.).
Transport Assessment (TA)	An assessment report reviewing the impact of traffic on a given study area.
UK	United Kingdom
UK Climate Projections (UKCP18)	UK Climate Projections 2018 are the latest set of climate projections for the UK, providing detailed information on how the UK's climate might change up to the year 2100. They include data on temperature, rainfall, sea-level rise, and extreme weather events to support climate risk assessments and adaptation planning.
UKHSA	UK Health Security Agency
Vibration	Vibration may be expressed in terms of displacement, velocity or acceleration. Velocity and acceleration are most commonly used when assessing the risk of building damage, human comfort or structure borne noise issues.
Visual amenity	The overall pleasantness of the views people enjoy of their surroundings, which provides an attractive visual setting or backdrop for the enjoyment of activities of the people living, working, recreating, visiting or travelling through an area
Visual effects	Effects on specific views and on the general visual amenity experienced by people.

⁶ The Greenhouse Gas Protocol. (2004). Available at: <https://ghgprotocol.org/sites/default/files/standards/ghg-protocol-revised.pdf> [Accessed 25 February 2026]

Term	Definition
Visual Receptors	Visual receptors are individuals or defined groups of people whose visual amenity or viewing experience may be affected by development.
Visual susceptibility	The occupation or activity of people experiencing the view at particular locations and the extent to which their attention or interest may therefore be focussed on the views and the visual amenity they experience at particular locations.
Visual value	Value attached by society to a view, e.g. via planning designations, mapping, guidebooks or references in art.
Water Abstraction	Water abstraction is the process of extracting water from natural sources such as rivers, streams, groundwater aquifers or the sea.
Water Framework Directive (WFD)	The legal framework to protect and improve the quality of surface water and groundwater in Europe. The main aims of the WFD are to prevent deterioration and enhance the status of aquatic ecosystems (including groundwater), promote sustainable water use, reduce pollution, and contribute to the mitigation of floods and droughts. The Directive requires that Environmental Objectives be set for all surface waters and groundwater to enable them to achieve Good Ecological Potential/Status by a certain date. Good Ecological Potential/Status is defined as the condition of a waterbody which shows only slight deviations from natural, undisturbed conditions.
Wetlands	Areas of marsh, fen, peatland or water, whether natural or artificial, permanent or temporary, with water that is static or flowing, fresh, brackish or salt, including areas of marine water the depth of which at low tide does not exceed six meters (Treaty of the Ramsar Wetland Convention).
WHO	World Health Organisation
Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI)	A detailed method statement/planning document that outlines the proposed methodology for all archaeological works on a site with a known or potential interest.
Zone of Influence	The area over which receptors may be affected by impacts or changes because of the proposed project and associated activities.
Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV)	Computer generated mapping which illustrates the theoretical visibility of an object in relation to a person standing anywhere within the Study Area.
$\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	Microgrammes per cubic metre



www.southbrookssolarfarm.co.uk