

# South Brooks Solar Farm

## Preliminary Environmental Information

Volume 2: Environmental Summary

Chapter 17: Cumulative Effects

Document Reference: EN0110027  
May 2026  
Blue Planet Solar Limited



## Table of Contents

17	Cumulative Effects	480
17.1	Understanding Cumulative Assessment	480
17.2	Key Cumulative Developments Identified	481
17.3	Next Steps	481

---

## 17 Cumulative Effects

### 17.1 Understanding Cumulative Assessment

17.1.1 The approach to cumulative effects assessment is aligned with the PINS advice note<sup>142</sup>, to which the overarching approach is set out into four distinct phases:

- The establishment of a long list of development (Stage 1);
- The establishment of a short list (Stage 2);
- Information gathering (Stage 3); and
- Cumulative assessment (Stage 4).

17.1.2 Stage 1 of the cumulative effects assessment establishes whether there are other existing and/or approved developments to be included within the assessment, as well as a quantification of the Zone of Influence (ZOI) for each environmental aspect scoped in for assessment.

17.1.3 Stage 2 includes the development of threshold criteria to the long list identified at Stage 1, which then establishes a short list which would be included within the assessment as part of the ES.

17.1.4 Stage 3 gathers all available information on each of the shortlisted developments to inform the Stage 4 assessment which, in line with the PINS advice note, assesses cumulative effects of the Project with other developments identified within Stages 1 to 3 above and would be presented as a separate chapter of the ES. Each technical aspect of the ES would consider the potential for cumulative effects associated with the schemes identified.

17.1.5 The principal purpose of completing a cumulative assessment within the EIA is to determine the combined effects of the Project with other identified developments in proximity, which could result in significant effects.

17.1.6 As part of this work, an in-combination effects assessment will also take place as part of the ES. An in-combination assessment looks at the potential effects that have been identified across environmental disciplines (multiple distinct impacts), and whether they could 'combine' to create a new impact, which may be more significant. This is different to the cumulative effects assessment which specifically

---

<sup>142</sup> The Planning Inspectorate (2025). Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: Advice on Cumulative Effects Assessment [Online] available at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/nationally-significant-infrastructure-projects-advice-on-cumulative-effects-assessment>

assesses the combined impacts of the Project alongside other existing, approved or Projects in proximity to the Site.

## 17.2 Key Cumulative Developments Identified

17.2.1 At this early stage of the assessment, the key cumulative developments in proximity to the Project are outlined below:

- South Kent Energy Park – A proposed solar farm and associated BESS on land either side of the A259 near Old Romney, with a proposed electricity generation of up to 500MW. This is a DCO project currently at pre-application stage;
- Dungeness B Decommissioning – An application for consent from the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) to decommission and dismantle the Dungeness B Nuclear Power Station. This project is currently in the pre-application stage;
- Shepway Energy Park – A proposed solar farm and associated BESS on land parcels north and east of Newchurch, with a proposed electricity generation of up to 200MW and up to 400MW of battery storage. This is a DCO project currently at pre-application stage; and
- St Mary in the Marsh Solar Farm – A proposed solar farm for up to 16MW of electricity generation. This planning application was granted consent by Folkestone and Hythe District Council in January 2026.

17.2.2 **Figure 17-1: Key Cumulative Developments Identified** below indicates, at this early stage of the assessment, the key cumulative developments that the Applicant is aware of, including other DCO projects in proximity to the Project.

## 17.3 Next Steps

17.3.1 With regard to the DCO applications in proximity to the Project, the Applicant is undertaking ongoing engaging with the other developers. This engagement seeks to identify any potential constraints and opportunities to work together on, such as traffic management, shared or complementary infrastructure requirements, overlap within proposed Works Plans, and opportunities for ecological and landscape mitigation and enhancement. At this stage, information available on the other developments remains limited, however this will continue to be kept under review as the Project continues, as well as the ongoing engagement with the other developers. A more comprehensive assessment of interrelationships will be undertaken and reported within the ES. This will include a continually developed review of cumulative effects and opportunities for coordination as further information becomes available. Details of this work will also be presented in a Joint Interrelationships Report, which will be submitted as part of the DCO application.

- 17.3.2 Further work is required to inform the cumulative effects assessment as part of the DCO application in line with PINS guidance<sup>143</sup>. This will include:
- Consultation with local authorities to agree the scope and methodology of the cumulative development long list and subsequent short list;
  - Information gathering on each of the short listed developments to inform the assessment for the ES; and
  - The assessment of cumulative effects of the Project with other developments identified.
- 17.3.3 At this stage it is proposed to present the cumulative and in-combination assessments as a separate chapter within the ES.
- 17.3.4 Between Phase Two Consultation and the finalisation of the ES as part of the DCO application, the process of identifying any new potential cumulative developments will continue. However, a proportionate cut-off point will be incorporated to allow for a robust assessment to take place.

---

<sup>143</sup> The Planning Inspectorate (2025). Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: Advice on Cumulative Effects Assessment [Online] available at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/nationally-significant-infrastructure-projects-advice-on-cumulative-effects-assessment>

**Drawing number**

Figure 17-1








**Project/Location**

South Brooks Solar Farm

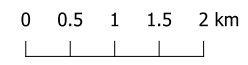
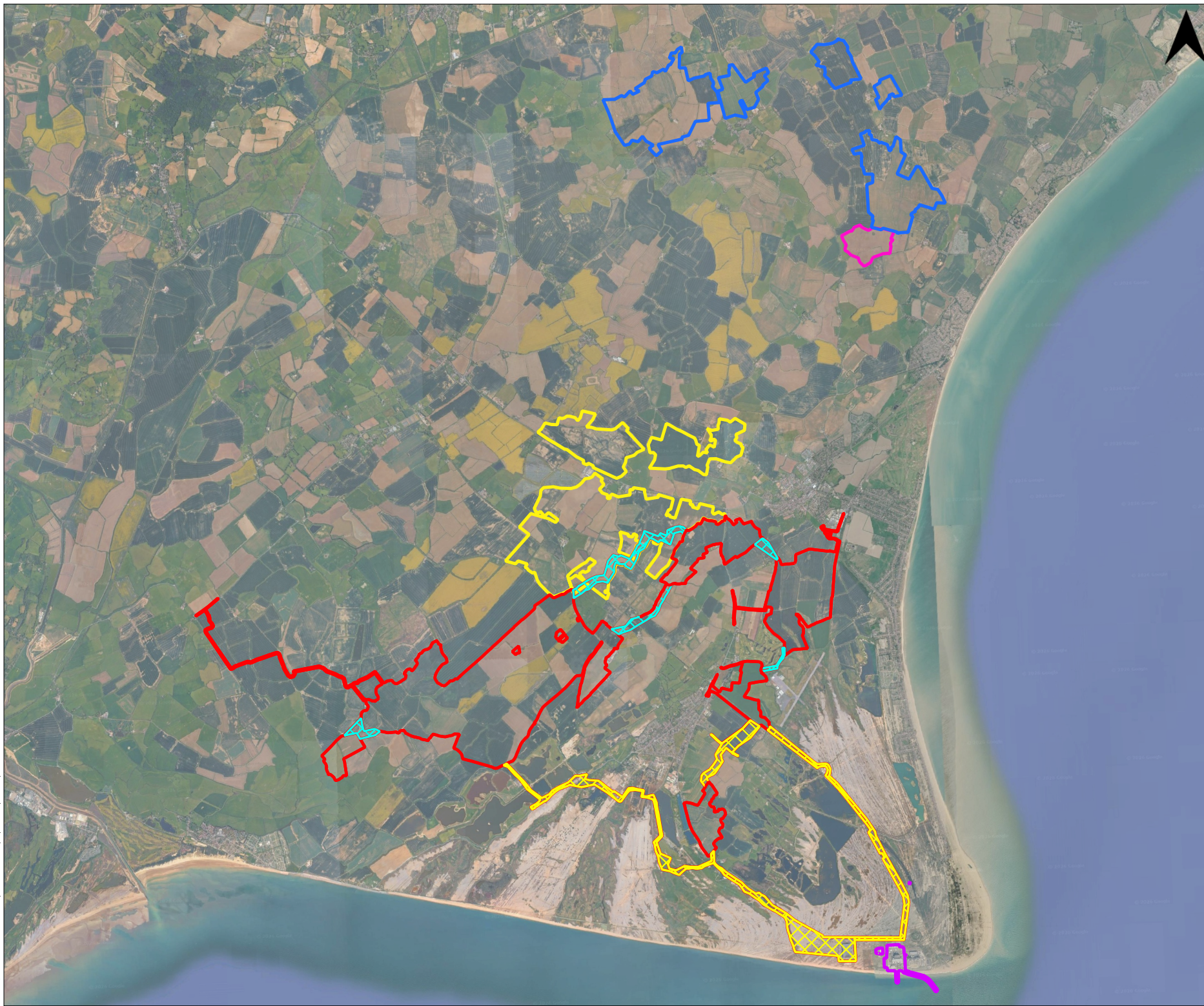
**Drawing title**

Key Cumulative Developments Identified

**Legend**

-  Site Boundary
-  Grid Connection Cable Routes
-  Interconnecting Cable Routes
- Cumulative developments**
-  Dungeness B Decommissioning
-  Shepway Energy Park
-  South Kent Energy Park
-  St Mary in the Marsh Solar Farm

Drawing Notes: The site boundary is for indicative purposes only and requires confirmation on site.





[www.southbrookssolarfarm.co.uk](http://www.southbrookssolarfarm.co.uk)