



WHITESTONE
solar farm

WHITESTONE SOLAR FARM

Draft Environmental Statement

Volume 1, Chapter 1: Introduction

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whitstonesolarfarm.co.uk

DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

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Glossary

Term	Meaning
<i>Cable Corridor Options</i>	Corridors within which the high voltage cables would be constructed.
<i>Draft ES</i>	Draft Environmental Statement which presents the preliminary environmental information relating to the Proposed Development. The Draft ES has been prepared to present information for statutory consultation in accordance with current EIA regulation.
<i>Proposed Order Limits</i>	Total area comprising the Site and Cable Corridor Options.
<i>The Applicant</i>	Whitestone Net Zero Ltd
<i>The Application</i>	The Application will be submitted to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero for a Development Consent Order.
<i>The Proposed Development</i>	The proposed Whitestone Solar Farm.
<i>The Site</i>	The land planned to be used for solar PV array and associated infrastructure, BESS, substation, landscaping and habitat enhancement. The Site is split into W1, W2, and W3

Acronyms

Acronym	Meaning
<i>BESS</i>	Battery Energy Storage System

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Acronym	Meaning
<i>DCO</i>	Development Consent Order
<i>DESNZ</i>	The Department for Energy Security and Net Zero
<i>Draft ES</i>	Draft Environmental Statement
<i>DWD</i>	DWD Property and Planning Limited
<i>EIA</i>	Environmental Impact Assessment
<i>ERM</i>	Environmental Resources Management Limited
<i>ES</i>	Environmental Statement
<i>IEMA</i>	Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment
<i>ISEP</i>	Institute of Sustainability and Environmental Professionals
<i>LDC</i>	Land Drainage Consultancy Limited
<i>NGR</i>	National Grid Reference
<i>NSIP</i>	Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project
<i>PEI</i>	Preliminary environmental information
<i>PV</i>	Photovoltaic
<i>SoS</i>	Secretary of State
<i>W1</i>	Whitestone 1
<i>W2</i>	Whitestone 2
<i>W3</i>	Whitestone 3

Units

Units	Meaning
<i>ha</i>	Hectares
<i>km</i>	kilometres
<i>kV</i>	kilovolts
<i>MW</i>	Megawatts

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Overview

- 1.1.1 This Draft Environmental Statement (Draft ES) has been prepared by Environmental Resources Management Limited (ERM) on behalf of Whitestone Net Zero Ltd (the Applicant) in relation to the proposed Whitestone Solar Farm development (the Proposed Development). The Draft ES reports the preliminary environmental information (PEI) of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) being undertaken for the Proposed Development. The Proposed Development comprises the construction, operation, maintenance, and decommissioning of approximately 750 megawatts (MW) of solar photovoltaic (PV) generating modules and on-site Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) facilities. It also includes on-site substations and supporting infrastructure, and associated grid connection infrastructure which would allow for electricity to be exported to the new National Grid substation at Brinsworth (Brinsworth B)¹, for which the Applicant has secured a connection agreement. It should be noted that the new substation at Brinsworth is not part of the Proposed Development and is being taken forwards by National Grid in a separate planning application.
- 1.1.2 The Proposed Development would be sited across approximately 1,371 hectares (ha) of predominantly agricultural land (the Site) within South Yorkshire, approximately 7 km and 5 km to the east of Sheffield and Rotherham, respectively. The Site is split into three main areas, shown on within **Volume 2, Figure 3.2**:
- Whitestone 1 (W1), located south of Conisbrough (centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) SK 504964);
 - Whitestone 2 (W2), located between Aston in the west and Dinnington in the east (centred on NGR SK 477875); and
 - Whitestone 3 (W3), located south of Wales and Kiveton Park (centred on NGR SK 481807).
- 1.1.3 The Site would be connected by underground cables which would be located within proposed Cable Corridor Options. Together the Site, and the Cable Corridor Options, form the Proposed Development Consent Order Limits (the Proposed Order Limits) as shown on **Volume 2, Figure 3.1**. Further detail of the Proposed Development including details on site access, ancillary works, landscape and ecological enhancements and cabling are included in **Volume 1, Chapter 5: The Proposed Development**. Further detail regarding the Site can be found in **Volume 1, Chapter 3: The Site and Surrounding Area**.
- 1.1.4 As the Proposed Development is an onshore energy generating station, the capacity of which will exceed 50 MW of electricity, it is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) and therefore requires a Development Consent Order (DCO) under Sections 14(1)(a) and 15(2) of the Planning Act 2008

¹ National Grid (2024) *Project Summary Document: Substation Near Brinsworth*. Available at <https://www.nationalgrid.com/electricity-transmission/document/155231/download> [Accessed August 2025]

(as amended)². The Environmental Statement (ES) will be submitted as part of the application for a DCO (the Application). If granted, the DCO would authorise the construction, operation (including maintenance) and decommissioning of the Proposed Development. As a result of their national, strategic importance, DCOs are determined at a national level with the decision on whether to grant consent being made by the Secretary of State (SoS) for the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ).

1.2 The Applicant

- 1.2.1 The Proposed Development is being brought forward by Whitestone Net Zero Ltd (owned by Net Zero One Ltd). Net Zero One Ltd is a specialist renewable energy development business founded in 2021 to ensure there is sufficient funding to build, operate and decommission the Proposed Development and other similar projects.
- 1.2.2 The overall manager for the Proposed Development is Green Nation. Established in 2011, Green Nation has been among the leaders in making the energy transition work. It is a UK-based solar developer and manager of operational sites with extensive experience in both rooftop and ground-mounted solar projects. Green Nation currently manages 75 solar farms and more than 700 rooftop installations across the country. Its solar farm portfolio totals over 200 MW of electricity producing capacity for the UK.

1.3 Requirement For an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)

- 1.3.1 In the UK, NSIPs are generally required to be subject to an EIA under the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (as amended)³ (the EIA Regulations). EIA is a formal, iterative process which provides environmental information to decision-makers in order for them to make informed decisions when determining planning applications for proposed developments. The EIA process considers relevant environmental information to identify the potential significant environmental effects of a project and possible mitigation measures for avoiding, preventing, reducing or, where possible, offsetting these potential significant effects.
- 1.3.2 The requirement to undergo an EIA for schemes relevant to the NSIP planning process is determined by the definitions and criteria provided in Regulation 3 and Schedule 1, or Schedule 2 and Schedule 3 of the EIA Regulations³, where;
- Developments listed in Schedule 1 must be subject to EIA, and
 - Developments listed in Schedule 2 are only subject to EIA if they are considered “*likely to have significant effects on the environment by virtue of factors such as its nature, size or location*” – The criteria on which this judgement must be made are set out in Schedule 3.

² His Majesty's Office (HMSO) (2008) *Planning Act 2008 (as amended)*. Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/29/contents> [Accessed June 2025]

³ Department of Communities and Local Government (2017) *Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017*. Available at <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2017/572> [Accessed June 2025]

- 1.3.3** Based on the above, the Proposed Development is considered a Schedule 2(3)(a) development as it constitutes ‘*Industrial installations for the production of electricity, steam and hot water*’; and it is considered that due to the Proposed Development's nature, size and location, it has the potential to have significant effects on the environment. Further information on the EIA can be found in **Volume 1, Chapter 2: EIA Methodology**.

1.4 Purpose of the Draft Environmental Statement

- 1.4.1 This Draft ES presents the PEI for the Proposed Development and has been prepared to accompany formal consultation under Sections 42 and 47 of the Planning Act 2008².
- 1.4.2 Regulation 12(2) of the EIA Regulations³ defines preliminary environmental information as information “*which has been compiled by the applicant; and is reasonably required for the consultation bodies to develop an informed view of the likely significant environmental effects of the development (and associated development).*”
- 1.4.3 The Planning Inspectorate’s Advice Note 7⁴ states “*A good PEI document is one that enables consultees (both specialist and non-specialist) to understand the likely environmental effects of the Proposed Development and helps to inform their consultation responses on the Proposed Development during the pre-application stage.*”
- 1.4.4 This Draft ES presents the preliminary findings of environmental assessments undertaken to date to allow consultees to understand the likely environmental effects of the Proposed Development. This Draft ES incorporates survey and assessment data up to the summer of 2025. Any new data arising after this date will be presented in the ES.
- 1.4.5 The preliminary environmental information has been presented in the style of a Draft ES to enable consistency throughout the EIA process. The aim of this is to present the assessment in a logical and transparent manner, which can be tracked throughout the process of the Application and associated consultation.
- 1.4.6 The Applicant is seeking the views of consultees and the public on the information presented in this Draft ES. There is an opportunity for the design of the Proposed Development to be refined following feedback from consultees and the public, up to the point of submission of the Application.
- 1.4.7 Following formal consultation and the design of the Proposed Development being further refined, this Draft ES will be developed into the ES to be submitted as part of the Application.

1.5 Structure of the Draft Environmental Statement

- 1.5.1 The Draft ES comprises the following:
- Volume 1: Report Chapters;

⁴ Planning Inspectorate (2020) *Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects – Advice Note Seven: Environmental Impact Assessment: process, preliminary environmental information and environmental statements*. Available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/nationally-significant-infrastructure-projects-advice-note-seven-environmental-impact-assessment-process-preliminary-environmental-information-an> [Accessed June 2025]

- Volume 2: Report Figures;
- Volume 3: Technical Appendices; and
- Non-Technical Summary.

The structure of the Draft ES and corresponding information is detailed in **Table 1.1**.

Table 1.1: Structure of the Draft ES

Volume 1, Report Chapters	Description
Chapter 1: Introduction	Introduction to the Draft ES and structure, details on Chapters 6 to 15 (Technical Chapters), requirements of EIA regulations, and relevant legislation.
Chapter 2: EIA Methodology	The overall methodology for this EIA, for determining the significance of likely environmental effects.
Chapter 3: The Site and Surrounding Area	Description of the Proposed Order Limits, including an overview of the environmental characteristics of the Proposed Order Limits and the surrounding area.
Chapter 4: Alternatives and Design Evolution	An outline of the main reasons for the location and design of the Proposed Development, considering the environmental effects, technical and commercial requirements, need for the Proposed Development and alternate options.
Chapter 5: The Proposed Development	Description of the Proposed Development, including the design parameters of each works area, and management during construction, operation and maintenance, and decommissioning of the Proposed Development.
Chapter 6: Biodiversity and Nature Conservation Chapter 7: Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Chapter 8: Cultural Heritage and Archaeology Chapter 9: Ground Conditions and Land Quality Chapter 10: Water Resources and Flood Risk Chapter 11: Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Assessment Chapter 12: Air Quality Chapter 13: Traffic and Transport Chapter 14: Noise and Vibration	<p>The Draft ES considers the technical aspects of the Proposed Development which could result in likely significant environmental effects. Technical Chapters include methodologies for assessment of the Proposed Development with regard to receptors, measures for managing effects, and details on key consultation to date with statutory and non-statutory bodies that has informed the design.</p> <p>The Technical Chapters are structured as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction; • Legislation, Policy, and Guidance; • Consultation; • Issues Scoped out of Assessment; • Assessment Methodology; • Baseline Conditions; • Environmental Measures;

Volume 1, Report Chapters	Description
Chapter 15: Socio Economics, Tourism, Recreation, and Land Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment of Likely Significant Effects; and Summary of Residual Effects.
Chapter 16: Other Environmental Topics	<p>An assessment of Environmental Topics which have been scoped out of being assessed in their own Technical Chapter. Each topic generally follows a more concise version of the structure used for the Technical Chapters as detailed above. Other Environmental Topics covered are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waste; Glint and Glare; Telecommunications and Utilities; Major Accidents and Disasters; Electromagnetic Fields; and Human Health.
Chapter 17: Cumulative Effects	<p>An assessment of interaction effects resulting from other existing and / or approved developments together with the Proposed Development (inter-cumulative effects). This chapter will also consider the likely combination of significant environmental effects generated by the Proposed Development on a single receptor (intra-cumulative effects).</p>

1.6 Addressing the Requirements of the EIA Regulations

1.6.1 This Draft ES presents the findings to date of the EIA undertaken for the Proposed Development and has been compiled in accordance with the EIA Regulations³, specifically Regulation 14 and Schedule 4 relating to Environmental Statements. **Table 1.2** presents the requirements of the EIA regulations, and where these are addressed within the Draft ES. It should be noted that where information is only partially available or assessments are not fully completed in the Draft ES, the complete information and assessment conclusions will be provided in the relevant chapter within the ES.

Table 1.2: Requirements of the EIA Regulations and Applicable Chapters of the Draft ES

Specified Information	Reference within the Draft ES
Regulation 14(2): An Environmental Statement is a statement which includes at least -	
(a) a description of the proposed development comprising information on the site, design, size and other relevant features of the development;	Volume 1, Chapter 5: The Proposed Development

Specified Information	Reference within the Draft ES
(b) a description of the likely significant effects of the proposed development on the environment;	Volume 1, Chapters 6-17 Volume 2, Report Figures (supporting Volume 1) Volume 3, Technical Appendices (supporting Volume 1)
(c) a description of any features of the proposed development, or measures envisaged in order to avoid, prevent or reduce and, if possible, offset likely significant adverse effects on the environment;	Volume 1: Chapter 3: The Site and Surrounding Area Chapter 5: The Proposed Development Chapters 6-17 Volume 2, Report Figures (supporting Volume 1) Volume 3, Technical Appendices (supporting Volume 1)
(d) a description of the reasonable alternatives studied by the applicant, which are relevant to the proposed development and its specific characteristics, and an indication of the main reasons for the option chosen, taking into account the effects of the development on the environment;	Volume 1, Chapter 4: Alternatives and Design Evolution
(e) a non-technical summary of the information referred to in sub-paragraphs (a) to (d); and	Draft ES Non-Technical Summary
(f) any additional information specified in Schedule 4 relevant to the specific characteristics of the particular development or type of development and to the environmental features likely to be significantly affected.	Volume 1, Chapters 6-17 Volume 2, Report Figures (supporting Volume 1) Volume 3, Technical Appendices (supporting Volume 1)
Regulation 14(3) The Environmental Statement must -	
(a) where a scoping opinion has been adopted, be based on the most recent scoping opinion adopted (so far as the proposed development remains materially the same as the proposed development which was subject to that opinion);	Volume 1, Chapter 2: EIA Methodology
(b) include the information reasonably required for reaching a reasoned conclusion on the significant effects of the development on the environment, taking into account current knowledge and methods of assessment; and	Volume 1, Chapters 6-17 Volume 2, Report Figures (supporting Volume 1) Volume 3, Technical Appendices (supporting Volume 1)

Specified Information	Reference within the Draft ES
(c) be prepared, taking into account the results of any relevant UK environmental assessment, which is reasonably available to the applicant with a view to avoiding duplication of assessment.	Where relevant within Volume 1, Chapters 6-17
Regulation 14(4) In order to ensure the completeness and quality of the Environmental Statement -	
(a) the applicant must ensure that the environmental statement is prepared by competent experts; and	Volume 1, Chapter 1: Introduction
(b) the environmental statement must be accompanied by a statement from the applicant outlining the relevant expertise or qualifications of such experts.	N/A – Outlined in Volume 1, Chapter 1: Introduction and to be updated in the ES
Schedule 4(1) A description of the development including in particular	
(a) a description of the location of the development;	Volume 1, Chapter 3: The Site and Surrounding Area
(b) a description of the physical characteristics of the whole development, including, where relevant, requisite demolition works, and the land-use requirements during the construction and operational phases;	Volume 1: Chapter 3: The Site and Surrounding Area Chapter 5: The Proposed Development
(c) a description of the main characteristics of the operational phase of the development (in particular any production process), for instance, energy demand and energy used, nature and quantity of the materials and natural resources (including water, land, soil and biodiversity) used;	Volume 1: Chapter 3: The Site and Surrounding Area Chapter 5: The Proposed Development
(d) an estimate, by type and quantity, of expected residues and emissions (such as water, air, soil and subsoil pollution, noise, vibration, light, heat, radiation and quantities and types of waste produced during the construction and operation phases.	Volume 1, Chapters 6-17 Volume 2, Report Figures (supporting Volume 1) Volume 3, Technical Appendices (supporting Volume 1)
Schedule 4(2) A description of the reasonable alternatives (for example in terms of development design, technology, location, size and scale) studied by the developer, which are relevant to the proposed project and its specific characteristics, and an indication of the main reasons for	Volume 1, Chapter 4: Alternatives and Design Evolution

Specified Information	Reference within the Draft ES
selecting the chosen option, including a comparison of the environmental effects.	
<p>Schedule 4(3) A description of the relevant aspects of the current state of the environment (baseline scenario) and an outline of the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the development as far as natural changes from the baseline scenario can be assessed with reasonable effort on the basis of the availability of environmental information and scientific knowledge.</p>	<p>Volume 1, Chapters 6-17 Volume 2, Report Figures (supporting Volume 1) Volume 3, Technical Appendices (supporting Volume 1)</p>
<p>Schedule 4(4) A description of the factors specified in regulation 4(2) likely to be significantly affected by the development: population, human health, biodiversity (for example fauna and flora), land (for example land take), soil (for example organic matter, erosion, compaction, sealing), water (for example hydromorphological changes, quantity and quality), air, climate (for example greenhouse gas emissions, impacts relevant to adaptation), material assets, cultural heritage, including architectural and archaeological aspects, and landscape.</p>	<p>Volume 1: Chapter 2: EIA Methodology Chapters 6-17 Volume 3, Technical Appendices (supporting Volume 1)</p>
<p>Schedule 4(5) A description of the likely significant effects of the development on the environment resulting from, inter alia:</p>	
<p>(a) the construction and existence of the development, including, where relevant, demolition works;</p>	<p>Volume 1, Chapters 6-17 Volume 2, Report Figures (supporting Volume 1) Volume 3, Technical Appendices (supporting Volume 1)</p>
<p>(b) the use of natural resources, in particular land, soil, water and biodiversity, considering as far as possible the sustainable availability of these resources;</p>	<p>Volume 1: Chapter 5: The Proposed Development Chapter 6: Biodiversity and Nature Conservation Chapter 9: Ground Conditions and Land Quality Chapter 10: Water Resources and Flood Risk Volume 3, Technical Appendices (supporting Volume 1)</p>
<p>(c) the emission of pollutants, noise, vibration, light, heat and radiation, the</p>	<p>Volume 1:</p>

Specified Information	Reference within the Draft ES
creation of nuisances, and the disposal and recovery of waste;	<p>Chapter 5: The Proposed Development Chapter 7: Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Chapter 11: Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Assessment Chapter 12: Air Quality Chapter 14 Noise and Vibration Chapter 16: Other Environmental Topics Chapter 17: Cumulative Effects Volume 3, Technical Appendices (supporting Volume 1)</p>
(d) the risks to human health, cultural heritage or the environment (for example due to accidents or disasters);	<p>Volume 1: Chapter 5: The Proposed Development Chapters 6-17 Volume 3, Technical Appendices (supporting Volume 1)</p>
(e) the cumulation of effects with other existing and/or approved projects, taking into account any existing environmental problems relating to areas of particular environmental importance likely to be affected or the use of natural resources;	<p>Volume 1, Chapter 17 Cumulative Effects Volume 3, Technical Appendices (supporting Volume 1)</p>
(f) the impact of the project on climate (for example the nature and magnitude of greenhouse gas emissions) and the vulnerability of the project to climate change;	<p>Volume 1: Chapter 10: Water Resources and Flood Risk Chapter 11: Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Assessment Volume 3, Technical Appendices (supporting Volume 1)</p>
(g) the technologies and the substances used.	<p>Volume 1, Chapter 5: The Proposed Development</p>
the description of the likely significant effects on the factors specified in regulation 4(2) should cover the direct effects and any indirect, secondary, cumulative, transboundary, short-term, medium-term and long-term, permanent and temporary, positive and negative effects of the development. This description should take into account the environmental protection objectives established at Union level which are relevant to the project, including in particular those established Directive 92/43/EEC(1) and Directive 2009/147/EC.	<p>Volume 1, Chapters 6-17 Volume 2, Report Figures (supporting Volume 1) Volume 3, Technical Appendices (supporting Volume 1)</p>

Specified Information	Reference within the Draft ES
<p>Schedule 4(6) A description of the forecasting methods or evidence, used to identify and assess the significant effects on the environment, including details of difficulties (for example technical deficiencies or lack of knowledge) encountered compiling the required information and the main uncertainties involved.</p>	<p>Volume 1, Chapters 6-17 Volume 2, Report Figures (supporting Volume 1) Volume 3, Technical Appendices (supporting Volume 1)</p>
<p>Schedule 4(7) A description of the measures envisaged to avoid, prevent, reduce or, if possible, offset any identified significant adverse effects on the environment and, where appropriate, of any proposed monitoring arrangements (for example the preparation of a post-project analysis). That description should explain the extent, to which significant adverse effects on the environment are avoided, prevented, reduced or offset, and should cover both the construction and operational phases.</p>	<p>Volume 1, Chapters 6-17 Volume 2, Report Figures (supporting Volume 1) Volume 3, Technical Appendices (supporting Volume 1)</p>
<p>Schedule 4(8) a description of the expected significant adverse effects of the development on the environment deriving from the vulnerability of the development to risks of major accidents and/or disasters which are relevant to the project concerned. Relevant information available and obtained through risk assessments pursuant to EU legislation such as Directive 2012/18/EU(3) of the European Parliament and of the Council or Council Directive 2009/71/Euratom(4) or UK environmental assessments may be used for this purpose provided that the requirements of this Directive are met. Where appropriate, this description should include measures envisaged to prevent or mitigate the significant adverse effects of such events on the environment and details of the preparedness for and proposed response to such emergencies.</p>	<p>Volume 1, Chapter 16: Other Environmental Topics</p>
<p>Schedule 4(9)</p>	<p>Draft ES Non-Technical Summary</p>

Specified Information	Reference within the Draft ES
A non-technical summary of the information provided under paragraphs 1 to 8.	
Schedule 4(10) A reference list detailing the sources used for the descriptions and assessments included in the Environmental Statement.	Provided in footnotes of each chapter.

1.7 Addressing the Requirements as set out in the Planning Inspectorate Guidance

1.7.1 Annex 1 to Guidance Note Seven⁴ presents “*the information specified in Schedule 4 that will always be ‘relevant’ for inclusion in an ES*”. **Table 1.3** presents this information, and where details have been included in this Draft ES.

Table 1.3: Requirements of the EIA Regulations of Particular Relevance as Identified by the Planning Inspectorate.

Specified Information		Chapter Reference
1.	a description of the Proposed Development including location, physical characteristics, operational characteristics, and expected residues and emissions;	Volume 1: Chapter 3: The Site and Surrounding Area Chapter 5: The Proposed Development Chapter 10: Water Resources and Flood Risk Chapter 11: Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Assessment Chapter 12: Air Quality Chapter 14: Noise and Vibration Chapter 16: Other Environmental Topics
2.	a description of the baseline scenario including the future baseline without development as far as can be assessed;	Volume 1: Chapter 3: The Site and Surrounding Area Chapter 4: Alternatives and Design Evolution Chapters 6-17
3.	a description of the methods used to predict significant effects;	Volume 1, Chapter 2: EIA Methodology Volume 1, Chapters 6-17 Volume 2, Report Figures (supporting Volume 1) Volume 3, Technical Appendices (supporting Volume 1)

Specified Information		Chapter Reference
4.	a description of the likely significant effects (both positive and negative) of the Proposed Development having regard to impacts that are; direct and indirect, secondary, cumulative, transboundary, short, medium or long-term, permanent and temporary; and	Volume 1, Chapters 6-17 Volume 2, Report Figures (supporting Volume 1) Volume 3, Technical Appendices (supporting Volume 1)
5.	a description of avoidance and mitigation measures and to what extent these will be effective and a description of any proposed monitoring arrangements.	Volume 1, Chapters 6-17 Volume 3, Technical Appendices (supporting Volume 1)

1.8 Project Team and Competency

1.8.1 The delivery of the EIA for the Proposed Development is being led by ERM with support from other specialist organisations. ERM is a member of the Institute of Sustainability and Environmental Professionals' (ISEP's), formally the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment's (IEMA's) EIA Quality Mark. This scheme allows organisations to make a commitment to excellence in EIA activities and have this commitment independently reviewed.



1.8.2 In accordance with Regulation 14(4) of the EIA Regulations³, the ES will be prepared by competent experts and will outline the relevant expertise or qualifications of such experts. The sections of this Draft ES, and the environmental topics that will be addressed in the ES, will be compiled by EIA practitioners and technical experts from the organisations shown in **Table 1.4**.

Table 1.4: EIA Team

EIA Topic or Draft ES Section	Provider/Author
Introduction	ERM
EIA Methodology	ERM
The Site and Surrounding Area	ERM
Alternatives and Design Iterations	ERM / DWD / AECOM
The Proposed Development	ERM / AECOM
Biodiversity and Nature Conservation	ERM / Peak Ecology / Logika
Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment	ERM
Cultural Heritage and Archaeology	ERM / Headland Archaeology
Ground Conditions and Land Quality	ERM / LDC
Water Resources and Flood Risk	ERM
Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Assessment	ERM

EIA Topic or Draft ES Section	Provider/Author
Air Quality	ERM
Traffic and Transport	ERM / AECOM
Noise and Vibration	ERM
Socio-Economics, Tourism and Recreation and Land Use	ERM
Other Environmental Topics	ERM
Cumulative Effects	ERM
Non-Technical Summary	ERM

1.9 Draft ES Availability

1.9.1 The Draft ES is available for viewing by the public on the Whitestone Solar Farm website at:

<https://whitstonesolarfarm.co.uk/>

1.9.2 If you would like further information about this Draft ES, the consultation or the Proposed Development, please contact the project team by using one of these methods:

- Call Freephone: 0800 688 9936 (9:00am to 5:30pm, Monday to Friday)
- Email: info@whitstonesolarfarm.co.uk
- Write to: Whitestone Solar Farm, FREEPOST SEC Newgate UK Local (no stamp is needed)



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Contact

Whitestone Net Zero Ltd

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