



Request for a Screening Opinion in respect of the erection of a 28 MWp Solar PV Development at Preston Farm, Preston Candover, Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG25 2DS

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Submitted to: Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council

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Where field investigations have been carried out, these have been restricted to a level of detail required to achieve the stated objectives of the work.

This work has been undertaken in accordance with the quality management system of RSK ADAS Ltd.

Version History

Version	Date	Amendments
0.1	22/10/2020	Internal Draft
0.2	12/11/2020	Internal Review

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1 Introduction

This Screening Request has been prepared by ADAS on behalf of BSR Energy and is submitted in relation to a proposed 28 MWp solar PV development at Preston Farm, Preston Candover, Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG25 2DS. An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) screening opinion is requested from the Local Planning Authority, under the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (the '2017 Regulations'), to determine whether an EIA is required for the proposed development.

A proposed layout plan is included with this report at Appendix 2. This plan is indicative at this stage and details relating to the layout may vary. This report sets out the background to the proposed development and assesses potential for likely environmental effects of the proposed development. Table 1 below sets out the documents submitted alongside this statement.

Table 1: Documents Accompanying the Screening Request

Title	Description
Site Location Plan	Plan showing the location of the site at 1:1250 scale, providing context to the immediate surrounding area. This has been included in full within Appendix 1 of this document.
Site Layout Plan	A Plan showing the indicative layout of the proposed development. Included within Appendix 2 of this document.
Landscape and Visual Impacts	The baseline information and figures relevant to landscape and visual matters included with this screening report are as follows and can be found in Appendix 3: Figure 1: Topography Figure 2: County Landscape character assessment Figure 3: District Landscape character assessment and designations Figure 4: Context Figure 5: Visibility and viewpoints

2 Site Location and Description

2.1 Site Location

The site is located circa 10km south of Basingstoke and approximately 1.12km north west of the centre of the settlement of Preston Candover. Proposed Development

The site is located within the open countryside. The surrounding area is predominantly rural in nature, consisting of agricultural land separated by boundary hedgerows and a number of small farms and isolated houses. There are very limited views into the site from the surrounding area due to existing boundary vegetation and there are no sensitive receptors in proximity to the site.

2.2 Access

Direct access to the site is provided from the B3046. It is not envisaged that further enabling works will be required in regard to this access. Additionally, the construction period would be short in duration, and once the solar (PV) array is operational there would be very little additional traffic created by the development.

2.3 Planning History

A search of the Council's Public Access System shows no previous planning application history for the site. There is therefore no relevant planning history for the site as there have been no refusals for comparable developments and there is no extant planning permission for solar farm use of the site.

2.4 Proposed Development

The proposal is for the erection of a solar photovoltaic (PV) array, with a total installed capacity of up to 28 MWp. The proposal will be designed to minimise and mitigate the impact it will have on the character of the area, and will incorporate biodiversity and landscape enhancement measures into the scheme. This will be through the use of planting as well as making use of the existing topography and landscape features. These measures will be explored in greater detail in collaboration with the Council throughout the pre-application process.

In regard to the design of the array, each of the solar panels will be mounted on a fixed structure (this has been demonstrated within the Proposed Layout Plan, which is submitted in support of this pre-application advice request). The panels are covered by high transparency solar glass with an anti-reflective coating which minimises glare and glint, whilst also aiding in the maximum absorption of the available sunlight. The panels are dark grey/blue in colour and are mounted on a frame of anodized aluminium alloy and galvanized steel. The substation area is proposed to be built to the south east of the site and will include private switchgear, DNO switchgear, welfare unit and a spares container. The proposal also consists of inverters dotted throughout the site. Finally, off-site cabling works are proposed which will run south east to the point of connection as identified on the Site Location Plan which accompanies this screening request.

3 Consideration against Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations

3.1 Assessment

Part 2 of the 2017 Regulations provides thresholds for development for which an EIA is a mandatory requirement (Schedule 1) and where it is a discretionary requirement (Schedule 2).

The proposed development is not listed in Schedule 1. Schedule 2 (see extract below in Table 3) sets the following advisory threshold at which an EIA may be required.

Table 3: Schedule 2 Development

Description of proposed development	Applicable thresholds and criteria
3) Energy Industry	
(b) Industrial installations for the production of electricity, steam and hot water (unless included in Schedule 1).	The area of the development exceeds 0.5 hectares.

The development exceeds 0.5 hectares in area and is therefore a Schedule 2 development and the indicative screening thresholds set out in paragraph 58 of the Planning Practice Guidance (2019). The development therefore needs to be assessed against the criteria listed in Schedule 3.

Schedule 3 of the regulations provides criteria which should be used to assess Schedule 2 projects, together with the applicable thresholds, to determine if an EIA is required. These criteria are summarised as follows:

- Characteristics of the development.
- Location of the development.
- Characteristics of the potential impact.

An assessment of the proposal against these criteria is therefore made in the following tables 4-6:

Table 4: Characteristics of the development

Applicable threshold/criteria	Assessment
The size and design of the whole development	The development footprint will be limited to three field parcels bounded by hedgerows. Access will make use of existing tracks where possible. Developed components will be located as close to each other as possible to reduce the overall footprint of the built area.
Cumulation with other existing/approved development	The proposed development does not form part of a wider development proposal. Having undertaken research using Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council’s website, there is no evidence to indicate that there are any ‘existing and/or approved development’ as stated in the 2017 EIA Regulations that are considered to have likely significant effects on the Proposed Development. Within 1km of the site the only planning applications which have been submitted are for single dwellings / alternations to existing dwellings or ancillary development to existing agricultural farms.

<p>The use of natural resources, in particular land, soil, water and biodiversity</p>	<p>Although the proposed development would use natural resources at the site, with electricity being generated using solar energy, the proposal would result in fewer natural resources being used elsewhere such as fossil fuels.</p> <p>Maps provided by Natural England indicate that the site is classified as being Grade 3 agricultural land (good to moderate quality). It is noted that the National Planning Policy Framework (2019) currently indicates that the best and most versatile agricultural land constitutes Grades 1, 2 and 3a. As a result, it is acknowledged that a survey will be required to ascertain the specific grade of agricultural land on the proposed development site.</p> <p>In relation to ecology and biodiversity, the site is not subject to any local or national ecology designations, however the site does fall within a SSSI Impact Risk Zone. The proposal will be subject to a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) walkover survey to review any potential for ecology and any further assessments which may be required. These assessments will be agreed beforehand with BDBC and submitted with the full planning application for the road. If any impacts are identified as a result of this work, suitable mitigation measures will be proposed and agreed with BDBC.</p>
<p>The production of waste</p>	<p>The development will produce no waste whilst operational. Upon decommissioning the development components would be recycled where possible.</p> <p>During construction there will be some limited waste generated. The construction waste management will follow the principles of the waste hierarchy which is to prevent/reduce, reuse, recycle, recover and finally dispose. Where possible waste materials will be reused on site or recycled off-site. The reuse and recycling of waste will be facilitated by segregating waste as it arises. Separate waste containers will be provided onsite for the different waste types. However, it must be noted that these would be minimal and would be controlled through the Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP). Mitigation measures have also been discussed in section 3.1 below.</p>
<p>Pollution and nuisances</p>	<p>The scheme does not result in any complex or hazardous effects during either the operational phase of the development. The arrays and inverters will not generate any significant noise and the materials to be used in the array's construction are designed to absorb the light rather than reflect it.</p> <p>It is expected that the landscape screening will block all or partial view of the solar PV development from road users and the limited number of neighbouring dwellings nearby.</p> <p>During construction, the movement of plant and vehicles will result in air pollution and noise and the clearance of vegetation</p>

	and ground works will also result in dust and could result in water pollution. The movement of maintenance vehicles will result in noise and air pollution. However, these would be minimal and would be controlled through the CEMP. Mitigation measures have also been discussed in section 3.1 below.
The risk of major accidents and/or disasters relevant to the development concerned, including those caused by climate change, in accordance with scientific knowledge	The construction works would not require use of significant quantities of hazardous or toxic material. The installation of the solar panels would be carried out by standard tried and tested methods and must adhere to health and safety legislation. The technology has a good safety record.
Risk to human health (for example, due to water contamination or air pollution)	A CEMP will be prepared in relation to the on-site construction works. This is a site-specific plan written with the aim of ensuring that environmental management practices are identified and applied throughout the construction of the proposed Solar Park. The CEMP will be used by the construction contractors, including all sub-contractors, to ensure compliance with their legal and contractual obligations, as well as implement best practice in construction environmental management. Mitigation measures have also been discussed in section 3.1 below.

An assessment of the proposal against the criteria for consideration of the location of development is provided in Table 5 below:

Table 5: Location of the development

The environmental sensitivity of geographical areas likely to be affected by development must be considered, with particular regard:	
Applicable threshold/criteria	Assessment
The existing and approved land use	The land is currently used for agricultural purposes, specifically arable farming. Outside of the development footprint, land will remain in agricultural production.
The relative abundance, quality and regenerative capacity of natural resources (including soil, land, water and biodiversity) in the area and its underground	The site is not located within or adjacent to any statutory designated sites for nature conservation, however the site does fall within a SSSI Impact Zone. The site currently consists of farmland and it is considered that generally the site has limited ecological value due to being managed and agricultural in nature. The nearest SSSI is located 7.2km away. The SSSI Impact Zone relates to Lapwing and Stone-curlew. The effects on the ecological designation will be fully assessed as part of a planning application and a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal, wintering bird and breeding bird surveys will be carried out as well as any other individual species-specific surveys as

	<p>deemed appropriate by the PEA. These assessments will be agreed beforehand with the Council and submitted with the full planning application for the solar PV development.</p> <p>Overall, it is considered that the proposed solar PV array and associated landscaping will provide more ecological benefits and strengthen ecological networks than the current agricultural use of the site. Subject to appropriate mitigation, it is not considered that any effects will be significant.</p> <p>Further to this, the applicant consider that taking the site out of agricultural use would further increase the bio-diversity benefits of the proposal, as there would be no need for the intensive use of fertiliser's, herbicides and pesticides on the land and there will be opportunities for net gains in biodiversity.</p>
<p>The absorption capacity of the natural environment with particular reference to certain defined areas</p> <p>The absorption capacity of the natural environment, paying particular attention to the following areas:</p> <p>(i) wetlands, riparian areas, river mouths;</p> <p>(ii) coastal zones and the marine environment;</p> <p>(iii) mountain and forest areas;</p> <p>(iv) nature reserves and parks;</p> <p>(v) European sites and other areas classified or protected under national legislation;</p> <p>(vi) areas in which there has already been a failure to meet the environmental quality standards, laid down in Union legislation and relevant to the project, or in which it is considered that there is such a failure;</p> <p>(vii) densely populated areas;</p> <p>(viii) landscapes and sites of historical, cultural or archaeological significance.</p>	<p><i>(i) wetlands, riparian areas, river mouths & (ii) coastal zones and the marine environment;</i></p> <p>Ecology</p> <p>The site is not located within or adjacent to any statutory designated sites for nature conservation, however the site does fall within a SSSI Impact Zone.</p> <p>The SSSI Impact Zone relates to Lapwing and Stone-curlew. The impacts on ecological designations will be fully assessed as part of a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal, wintering bird and breeding bird surveys as well as any other individual species-specific surveys as deemed appropriate by the PEA. These assessments will be agreed beforehand with the Council and submitted with the full planning application for the road. We can confirm that the site is free of any national and local ecological designations.</p> <p>Flood Risk</p> <p>Mapping from the Environment Agency indicates that the whole site is located within Flood Risk Zone 1, which is at the lowest risk of flooding from rivers and the sea.</p> <p>The solar PV panels will be erected on posts, the soil beneath would still be available for the infiltration of rainwater.</p> <p>Additionally, it is considered that as the proposal is for a solar (PV) array it is considered to be a flood compatible development, with safety or loss of life in the event of a flood considered not to be an issue due to no onsite personal being located at the completed solar array. Further to this, it is noted that the apparatus used are also waterproof, and will withstand being submerged in water for a period of time without incurring any major damage.</p> <p>A Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy will also be submitted with the planning application given the size of the proposal site (NPPF requirement for site of 1 hectare or more) and will ensure that the site is not at risk of flooding and does not increase flood risk elsewhere.</p>

	<p>(iii) Mountain and Forest areas</p> <p>Mapping from Natural England indicates that there are various areas of priority habitat woodland surrounding the site. These will be retained and enhanced as part of the proposed development.</p> <p>(iv) Nature reserves and parks</p> <p>There are no nature reserves on or in close proximity to the site.</p> <p>(v) European sites and other areas classified or protected under national legislation;</p> <p>The site is not subject to any local or national ecology designations, however the site does fall within a SSSI Impact Risk Zone which relates to Lapwing and Stone-curlew. The proposal will be subject to a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) walkover survey to review any potential for ecology and any further assessments which may be required. These assessments will be agreed beforehand with BDBC and submitted with the full planning application for the road. If any impacts are identified as a result of this work, suitable mitigation measures will be proposed and agreed with BDBC.</p> <p>(vi) areas in which there has already been a failure to meet the environmental quality standards</p> <p>The site is not considered to be in an area where there has been a failure to meet environmental quality standards in relation to air or water quality.</p> <p>The Environment Agency will be consulted as part of the planning application and pollution and waste control and mitigation measures will be outline within the CEMP, to ensure there are no significant effects.</p> <p>(vii) densely populated areas</p> <p>The site is situated in a rural area with no sensitive receptors. It is not sited within or adjacent to any densely populated areas. The small village of Greatworth is situated approximately 600m to the south.</p> <p>(viii) landscapes and sites of historical, cultural or archaeological significance</p> <p>A Landscape and Visual Appraisal (LVA) will be undertaken for the proposed development, considering the effects of the proposed scheme on the landscape as an environmental resource in its own right. The LVA would consider the potential visual change of views of the area, in addition to assessing the impact of the proposal on visual amenity.</p> <p>The landscape appraisal would consider the effects of the proposed scheme on the landscape as an environmental resource in its own right and the visual appraisal would consider the effect of visual change on people's views and visual amenity.</p> <p>The LVA will consider effects upon completion (winter) and residual effects will not be considered as the scheme is temporary in nature (40 years). A final judgement would be made on the overall level of effect upon landscape and visual receptors through a combination of sensitivity and magnitude of change. Overall effects would be described using a four-point scale of: major; moderate; minor; negligible. Professional judgement and experience would be drawn upon to undertake the appraisal of effects,</p>
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	<p>with reasoning provided in the text as to how this conclusion has been reached.</p> <p>The figures relevant to landscape and visual matters included with this screening request are as follows and can be found in Appendix 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Figure 1: Topography • Figure 2: Landscape Character • Figure 3: Designations • Figure 4: Landscape Context • Figure 5: Viewpoints and ZTV <p>There are no designated Heritage Assets on the site, and there does not appear to be any intervisibility with any off-site. The nearest Heritage Assets are circa 1.12km to the south east located within the settlement of Preston Candover. However, there is no intervisibility between the site and these heritage assets due to the separation distance and significant screening afforded by the existing boundary treatments.</p> <p>There are no Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Listed Buildings or Registered Parks and Gardens within 1km of the site.</p>
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An assessment of the proposal against the criteria for consideration of the characteristics of development is provided in Table 4 below:

Table 6: Characteristics of the potential impact

The likely significant effects of the development on the environment must be considered in relation to criteria set out in paragraphs 1 and 2 above, with regard to the impact of the development on the factors specified in regulation 4(2), taking into account	
Applicable threshold/criteria	Assessment:
(a) The magnitude and spatial extent of the impact (geographical area and size of the affected population)	The development will be sited within enclosed field boundaries with limited views available to the surrounding area. Longer-distance views will be restricted by significant existing boundary vegetation. The extent and size of the impact is likely to be restricted to the local vicinity and population.
(b) The nature of the impact	Given the nature of the development proposals, it is considered that whilst there may be some localised effects upon the environment as a consequence of the proposed development, these effects will be appropriately managed through the design of the solar PV development layout, incorporation of appropriate mitigation measures and with the adoption of best practice measures. The proposal is not considered to result in more wide-ranging effects.
(c) The transboundary nature of the impact	There will be no transboundary impacts.
(d) The magnitude and complexity of the impact	The complexity of the development is low, as it is consisting of one single main component (the panels) with a small amount of associated infrastructure. Aspects of the environment affected will be limited to localised impacts; therefore, the magnitude of the impact is considered to be low. There is unlikely to be any potential for significant effects.

(e) The probability of the impact	The impacts are predictable and can be reduced with careful design and mitigation. The effects will be appropriately managed through the design of the solar PV development, incorporation of appropriate mitigation measures and with the adoption of best practice measures.
(f) The expected onset, duration, frequency and reversibility of the impact	The proposed development has a life span of 40 years, after which the solar panels can be removed, and the site returned to previous condition. The impacts are therefore limited in duration and reversible.
(g) The cumulation of the impact with the nature of other existing and/or approved development	<p>The proposed development does not form part of a wider development proposal.</p> <p>Having undertaken research using Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council's website, there is no evidence to indicate that there are any 'existing and/or approved development' as stated in the 2017 EIA Regulations that are considered to have likely significant effects on the Proposed Development. Within 1km of the site the only planning applications which have been submitted are for single dwellings / alternations to existing dwellings or ancillary development to existing agricultural farms.</p> <p>As discussed above, there is not considered to be any likely significant effects associated with the proposed development in cumulation with the nature of existing or approved development.</p>
(h) The possibility of effectively reducing the impact	Mitigation has been considered and discussed below in section 3.2 in order to reduce any limited impacts from the proposal.

3.2 Proposed mitigation measures

Given the nature of the development proposals, it is considered that there may be some localised effects upon the environment. As a consequence of the proposed development, these effects will be appropriately managed through the design of the road layout, incorporation of appropriate mitigation measures and with the adoption of best practice measures. This includes consideration of the following:

Ecology & Landscape

- A landscape and visual appraisal (LVA) will be undertaken for the proposed scheme. The landscape appraisal would consider the effects of the proposed scheme on the landscape as an environmental resource in its own right and the visual appraisal would consider the effect of visual change on people's views and visual amenity.
- The LVA will identify mitigation proposals to reduce any adverse effects of the proposed development. This may include features such as landscape buffers and new boundary treatments to reduce landscape and visual impacts.
- The proposed route of the temporary access road would also be subject to a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) walkover survey to review any potential for ecology and any further assessments which may be required. These assessments will be agreed beforehand with BDBC and submitted with the full planning application for the solar PV development.

Traffic management

- A draft Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) will be submitted with the application in order to safeguard the amenity of nearby villages and in the interests of highway safety. This will

establish the principal mitigation measures that would be incorporated into the scheme to address potential impacts of construction activities and establish the principles of the management of working areas, temporary accesses and construction traffic routing.

- The application will also be supported by a Transport Statement that will set out the changes in traffic flows in further detail and the implications for those in capacity terms.

Pollution and Waste prevention measures

- A CEMP will be submitted to accompany the planning application. This will provide the broad principles of on-site construction methods and environmental mitigation, which would be taken into account in the more detailed method statements and risk assessments to be prepared by the Principle Contractor. In order to reduce any impacts from pollution the following measures would be employed.

Pollution prevention

- The Principle Contractor (or other 'responsible person' managing the site) is responsible for both the protection of "controlled waters" from pollution and for the prevention of pollution of the environment, harm to human health and detriment to local amenity by waste management activities under the Environmental Protection Act 1990. Further protection for the environment is afforded under the Water Resources Act 1991 (as amended), which outlines the functions of the Environment Agency and sets out offences relating to water, discharge consents, and possible defences to the offences.
- Under the Water Framework Directive (WFD) no deterioration may be allowed to occur to controlled waters, including surface and ground water. Therefore, no contaminated runoff may be allowed to enter either surface water drainage or be allowed to infiltrate the ground.
- All construction activities will be carried out in accordance with good practice, paying particular attention to the Environment Agency published Guidance for Pollution Prevention (GPP).
- No silt, or other debris from works, shall be allowed to enter any watercourse (including the field boundary ditches). Material will be stored as described below.
- An emergency protocol will be put in place to deal with any spills or other potentially contaminating incidents.

Storage of Plant and Machinery

- The site will predominantly operate with a 'just in time' delivery protocol and materials will not to be stored within 8m of any watercourse (including the field ditches). Fuels will be stored in a double-skinned, locked, and bunded fuel bowser as far away from watercourses as possible and away from the regular passage of site traffic. Refuelling will be carried out over a bespoke drip tray, which will be regularly maintained and inspected for the presence of rainwater. Any rainwater must be removed for specialist disposal. A spill kit will be located next to the bowser. Any other potentially hazardous material will also be stored within designated impermeable, bunded areas.
- Materials, plant, vehicles, spill kits and fuel storage areas will be protected from vandalism and inspected regularly for signs of tampering or damage. All keys will be removed from unattended vehicles/plant.

Dust Control Methods

- The rural location of the development means that there are no sensitive receptors in close proximity to the site. There are Public Rights of Way (PRoWs) which run both along the eastern and western site boundaries.
- Dust impacts can arise from on-site construction works such as earthworks as well as from dust deposited on the public highway by construction vehicles which then becomes re-suspended. Construction dust may lead to an adverse impact in terms of elevated particulate concentrations at neighbouring sensitive receptors or nuisance impacts, such as soiling of clean surfaces. Dust deposition can also affect sensitive habitats and fauna (e.g. foraging on habitats).
- Dust impacts will be controlled by good housekeeping and by following best practice. The CEMP will identify the potential sources of dust during the construction works and the measures that will

be employed to control the dust emissions. The responsibility for ensuring that the dust control measures are carried out lies with the Principle Contractor's Site Manager.

Wheel Wash facility

- A proprietary wheel cleaning bay will be provided on site at the exit of the construction compound. The specific equipment employed will be dependent on availability during the construction phase.
- The wheel wash facilities will be securely constructed with no overflow and the effluent will be contained for proper treatment and disposal.

Dust monitoring

- Dust emissions will be monitored by carrying out daily on and off-site visual inspections of dust emissions, particularly focusing on any visible dust being carried towards or across the site boundary. Inspection results will be logged.
- Regular site inspections will be undertaken by the Site Manager or their representative to monitor compliance with the dust control measures.
- All dust complaints and any exceptional incidents causing dust emissions will be logged, along with the actions taken to resolve the situation.

Waste Management

- All wastes will be removed from site using a registered waste carrier. Waste will only be disposed of at facilities/sites authorised to receive it, which have an appropriate permit, licence or registered exemption. Waste management licence, permit or exemptions must be obtained from the facility/site.
- The storage of hazardous waste prior to its removal will also be subject to the appropriate requirements.
- The construction waste management will follow the principles of the waste hierarchy which is to prevent/reduce, reuse, recycle, recover and finally dispose.
- Where possible waste materials will be reused on site or recycled off-site. The reuse and recycling of waste will be facilitated by segregating waste as it arises. Separate waste containers will be provided onsite for the different waste types and will use the National Colour Coding Scheme.
- No waste will be left on-site following the completion of works.

Noise and Vibration Control

- Noise and vibration nuisance could come from the operation of machinery on site and vehicle movements to and from the site as well as within the site.
- All works will be carried out in accordance with British Standard 5228 (BS 5228).
- Best Practicable Means (BPM) of noise control, as defined by Section 72 of the Control of Pollution Act 1974, will be applied during construction works to minimise noise (including vibration) at nearby residential properties and other sensitive receptors arising from construction activities.

4 Scope of planning application documents

The planning application will be submitted with the following assessments and reports in accordance with the Council's Validation Checklist:

Table 7: Documents Accompanying the Planning Application

Title	Description
Planning, Design and Access Statement	Document outlining the planned development of the site, its benefits, and the context of the surrounding area and compliance with planning policy.
Site Layout Plan	A Plan showing the indicative layout of the proposed development. Included within Appendix 2 of this document.
Site Location Plan	Plan showing the location of the site at 1:1250 scale, providing context to the immediate surrounding area. This has been included in full within Appendix 3 of this document.
Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy	An assessment completed to evaluate and assess the potential flood risk of the site, and how this may impact the proposed development.
Archaeological Desk Based Assessment	A desk-based assessment regarding any potential archaeological significance of the site.
Heritage Statement	A report to identify and assess the impact the proposed development would have on the setting and heritage significance of designated heritage assets (Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas etc.) and protected views.
Preliminary Ecological Assessment	A preliminary assessment of the ecological context of the site, in addition to a brief evaluation of the potential impact of the development on this. This will include a wintering bird survey, breeding birds survey and any other required species-specific surveys as deemed appropriate by the PEA.
Landscape and Visual Appraisal	An assessment focusing on the potential impact that the proposed development will have on the landscape and visual amenity of the surrounding area.
Transport Statement and Draft Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP)	Provide details of construction and operation, along with an appraisal of the permanent site access arrangements. A CTMP will be submitted with the application in order to safeguard the amenity of nearby villages and in the interests of highway safety. This will establish the principal mitigation measures that would be incorporated into the scheme to address potential impacts of construction activities and establish the principles of the management of working areas, temporary accesses and construction traffic routing.

Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP)	A CEMP will be prepared in relation to the on-site construction works. This is a site-specific plan written with the aim of ensuring that environmental management practices are identified and applied throughout the construction of the proposed Solar Park.
Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) Survey	This assessment will examine the ALC grade of the land which is to be used for the proposed Solar PV Development.
Arboriculture Report	An assessment focusing on the potential impacts of the proposed development on existing trees and hedgerows on the site.
Noise Assessment	An assessment of the potential noise impacts of the proposed development to ensure that there are no unacceptable adverse impacts from noise.

5 Conclusion

It is considered that the proposal is unlikely to have significant effects on the environment and therefore that an EIA is not required. A Screening Opinion is requested from Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council to confirm this.

The proposal is not sited within or adjacent to any sensitive areas as defined by the '2017 Regulations'.

Supporting documents will accompany a planning application to provide information on visual impacts, cultural heritage, archaeology, transport, flood risk and drainage, arboriculture, noise, agricultural land classification and ecology.

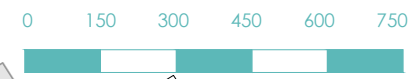
Given the nature of the development proposals, it is considered that whilst there may be some localised effects upon the environment as a consequence of the proposed development, these effects will be appropriately managed through the design of the solar project layout, incorporation of appropriate mitigation measures and with the adoption of best practice measures. The proposal is not considered to result in more wide-ranging effects.

The above screening request demonstrates that the proposed development will not have any significant effects in line with Schedule 3 of the "2017 Regulations". We therefore respectfully request that you issue a Screening Opinion which confirms that this application is not EIA. Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Location Plan



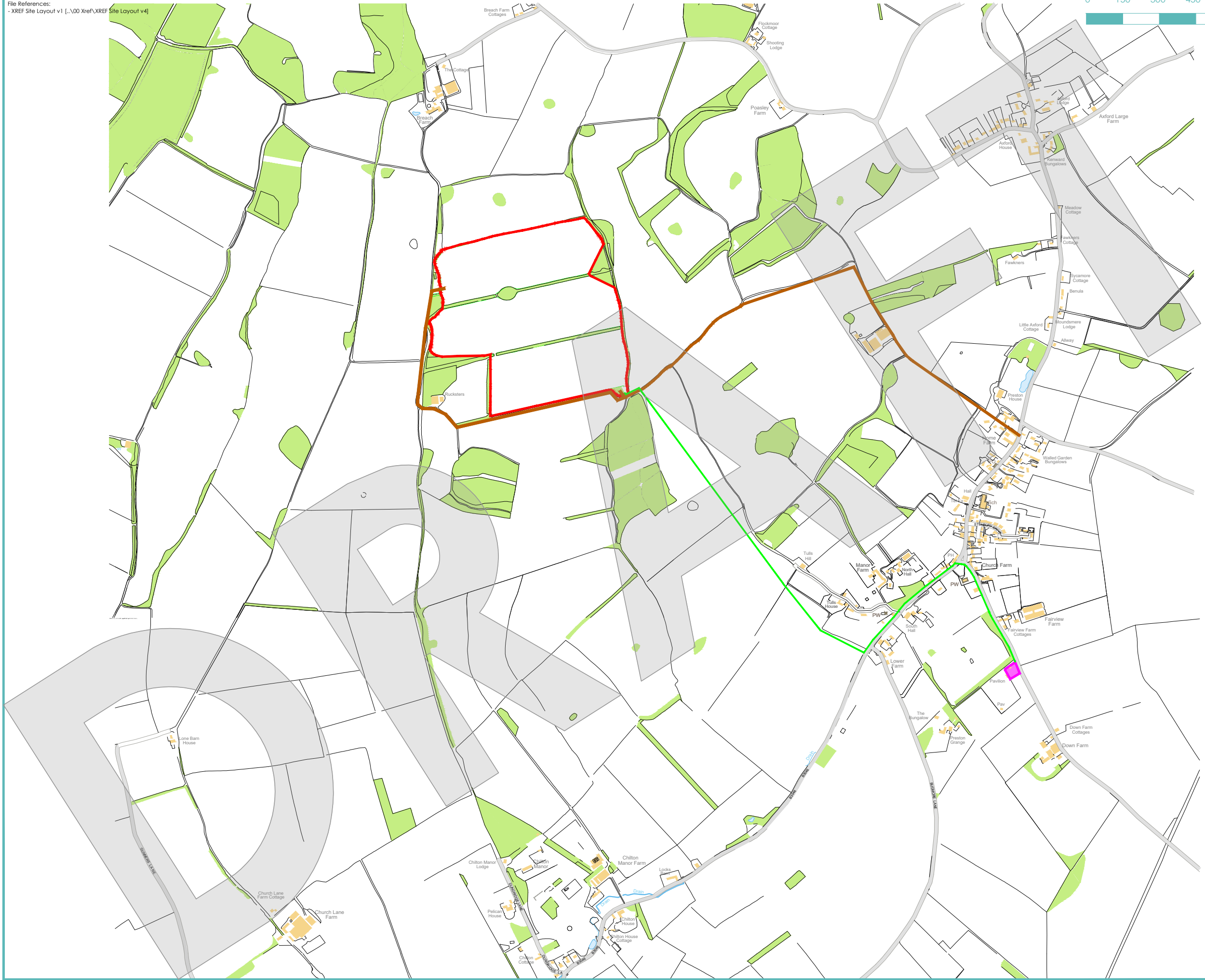


Notes: Unless otherwise stated, this drawing is for information only. Do not scale. Use figured dimensions only. Check all dimensions on site and advise of any discrepancies before commencing work on site.

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- Key:**
- Site Boundary
 - Retained Land
 - Access Track
 - Cable Route
 - POC



Rev:	Revision History:	Date:	By:
01	Initial Issue	15/01/21	JA

35 and 35a The Mallings E:info@brillshrenewables.com
 Lower Charlton Trading Estate, T:01458 224900
 Shepton Mallet, W:www.brillshrenewables.com
 Somerset,BA4 5QE
 United Kingdom

Project:
Preston Solar Farm

Location:
**Preston Farm
 Preston Candover
 Bassingstoke, Hampshire
 RG25 2DS**

Title:
Site Location Plan

Scale: 1:15000 @A3

Issue Notes:
 Initial Issue

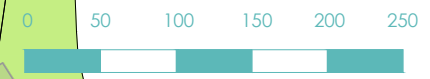


Drawn By: JA	Issue Date: 15/01/21
Checked By: MB	Checked Date: 15/01/21
Approved By: Initials	Approved Date: Date

Drawing Number:
1662-0200-05

Drawing Status:
 Issued for Approval Issue:
 01

Appendix 2: Proposed Site Layout Plan



Notes: Unless otherwise stated, this drawing is for information only. Do not scale. Use figured dimensions only. Check all dimensions on site and advise of any discrepancies before commencing work on site.

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OS License No. :- 100022432

- Key:**
- Site Boundary
 - - - Fence
 - Solar Arrays
 - Construction Compound
 - Substation Area
 - Inverter
 - Access Track
 - Cable Route
 - CCTV
 - Private Switch
 - DNO

Site Information:

Modules: Longi 540W
 Orientation: 2 in Portrait
 Tilt Angle: 23°
 Inverters: 6

Rev:	Revision History:	Date:	By:
01	Initial Issue	10/12/20	JA

35 and 35a The Mallings E:info@brillshrenewables.com
 Lower Charlton Trading Estate, T:01458 224900
 Shepton Mallet, W:www.brillshrenewables.com
 Somerset,BA4 5QE
 United Kingdom

Project:
Preston Solar Farm

Location:
Preston Farm
Preston Candover
Bassingstoke, Hampshire
RG25 2DS

Title:
Solar Park Layout

Scale: 1:5000 @A3

Issue Notes:
Initial Issue

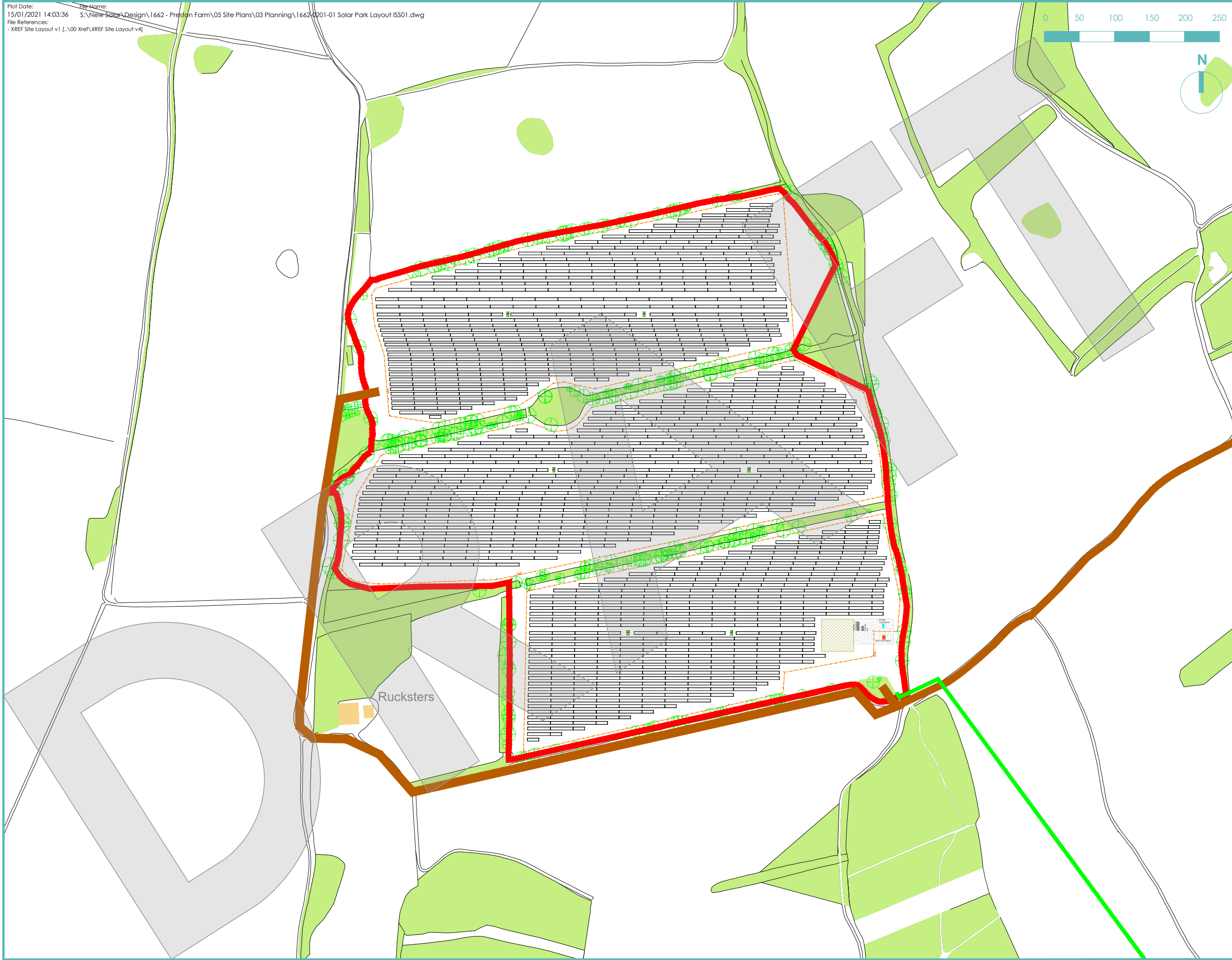


Drawn By: JA	Issue Date: 10/12/20
Checked By: MB	Checked Date: 10/12/20
Approved By: Initials	Approved Date: Date

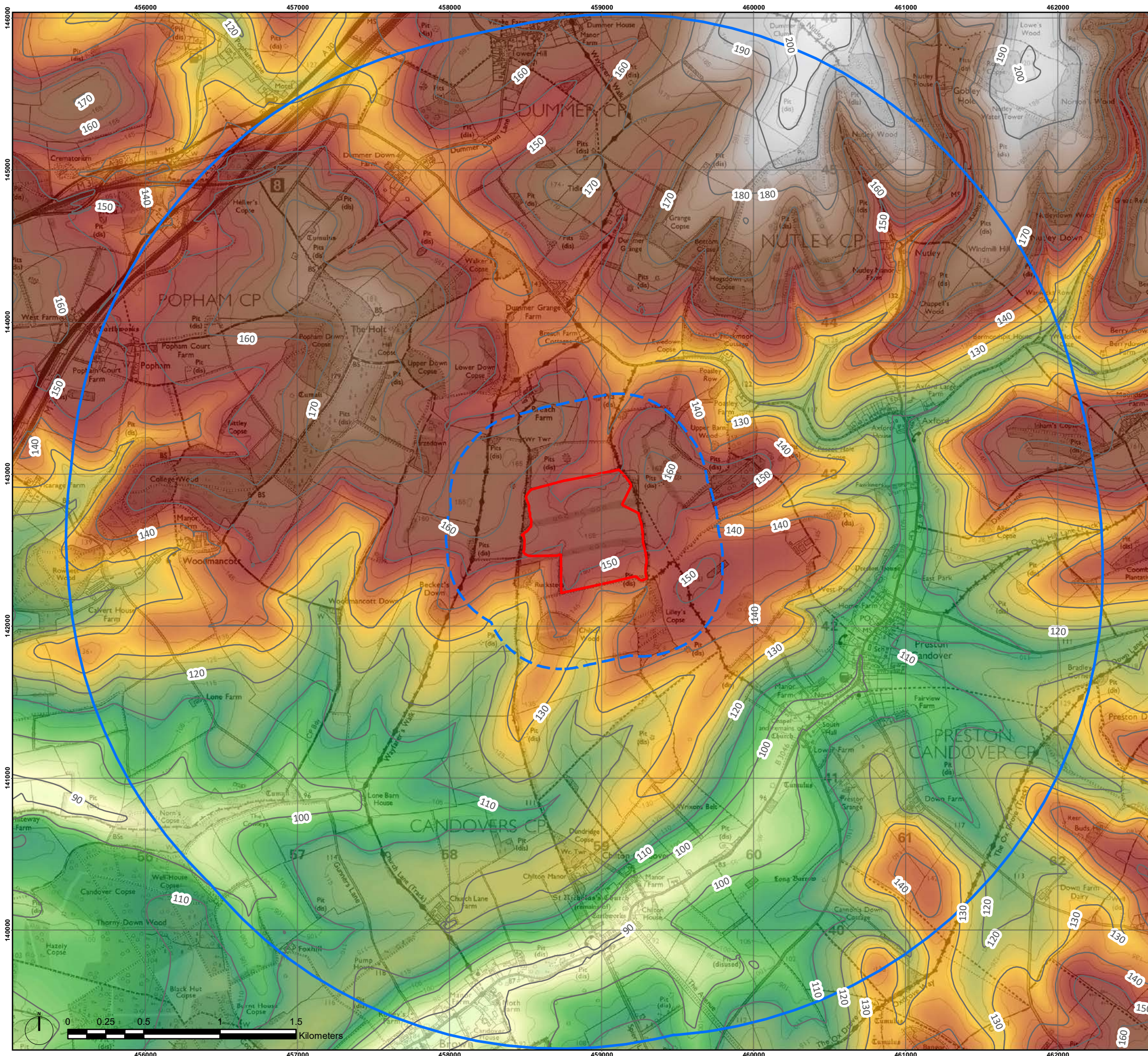
Drawing Number:
1662-0201-01

Drawing Status:
Issued For Approval





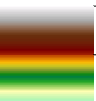
Issue:
01



Appendix 3: Landscape Plans



LEGEND

-  Site
 -  500m_buffer
 -  3km_study_area
 -  Contour line
- m (AOD)**
-  High : 210
 - Low : 70

Elevations created using OS Terrain 50 data
Contains OS data © Crown copyright (2020).

01	-	17/11/2020
Issue.	Issue Details	Date

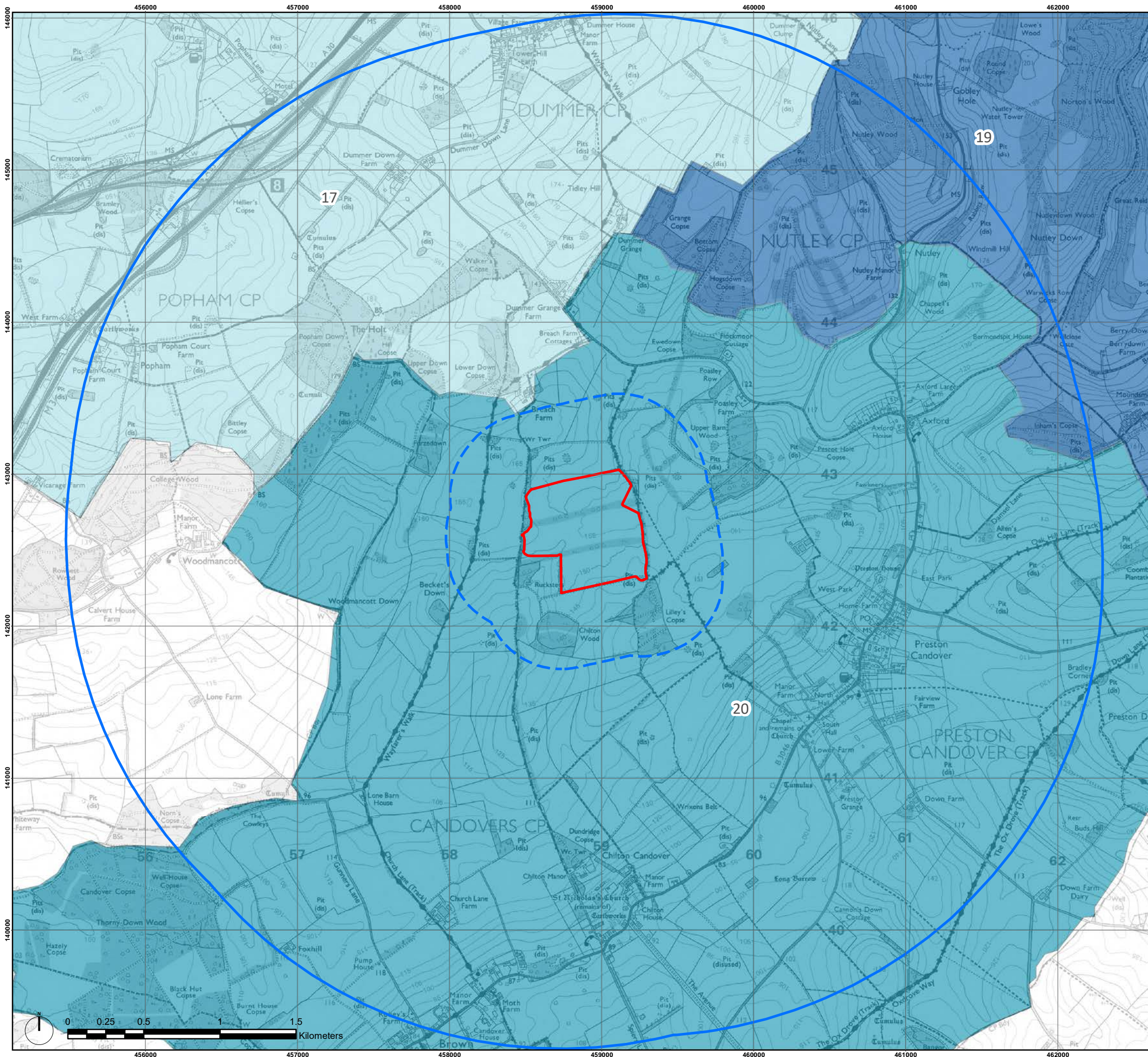
Client:
BSR Energy Limited
 Project:
Preston Farm
 Drawing Title:
Figure 1: Topography
 Drawing No: 1051020-BSR9001-PRE-L-001
 Scale: 1:25,000 at A3
 Drawn by: PV Date: 16/11/2020
 Checked by: DH Date: 16/11/2020

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 Tel: 01235 355630

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LEGEND

- Site
- 500m buffer
- 3km study area

Basingstoke and Deane LCA

- 17. Dummer and Popham Down
- 19. Ellisfield Clay Plateau and Valley
- 20. Candover Valley

Landscape character area data copyright Landscape Design Associates data interpreted from the Basingstoke and Deane Landscape Assessment (2001). See original for details.

01 Issue.	- Issue Details	17/11/2020 Date
-----------	-----------------	-----------------

Client:
BSR Energy Limited
 Project:
Preston Farm

Drawing Title:
Figure 2: Basingstoke and Deane LCA
 Drawing No: 1051020-BSR9001-PRE-L-002

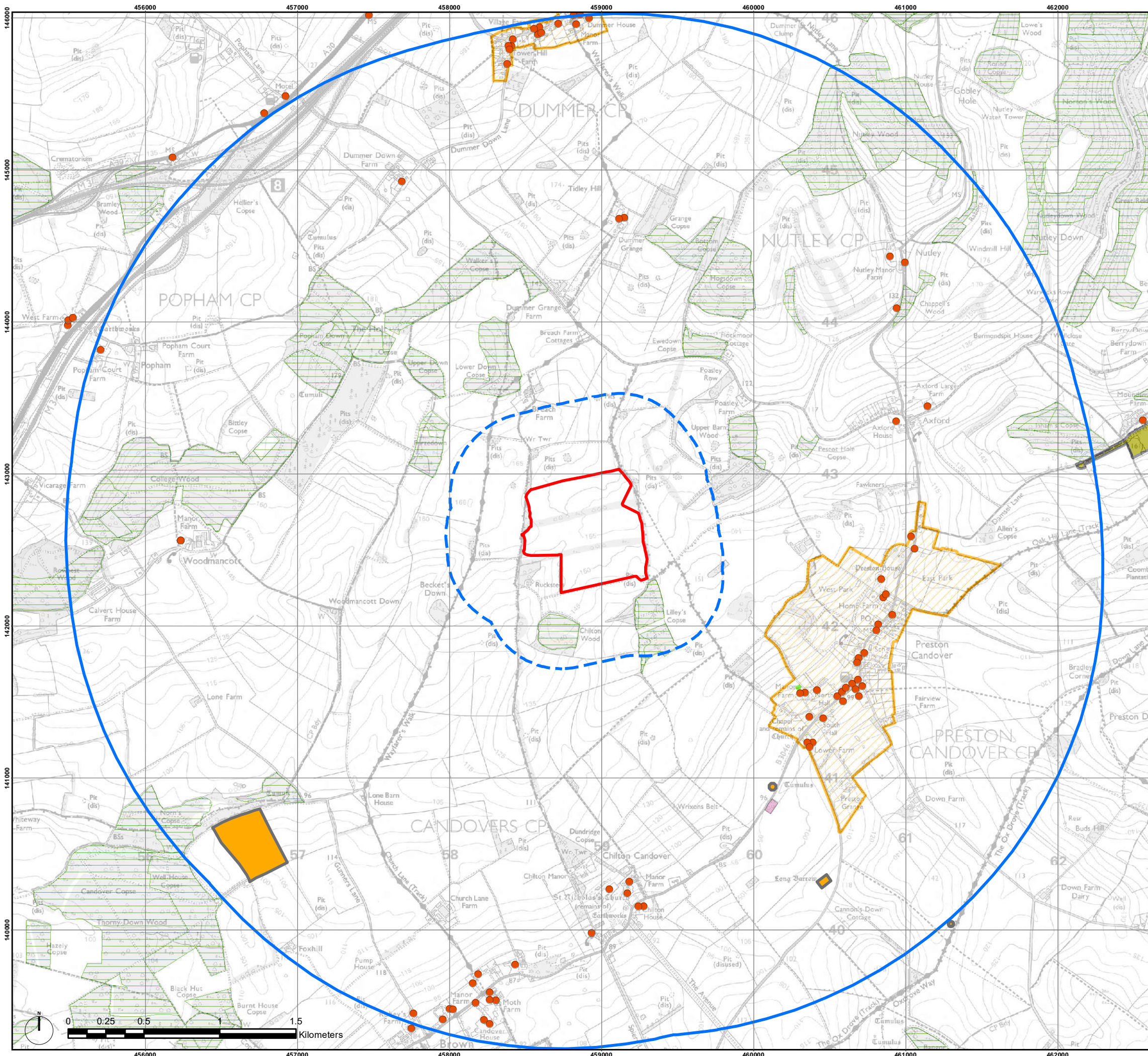
Scale: 1:25,000 at A3
 Drawn by: PV Date: 16/11/2020
 Checked by: DH Date: 16/11/2020

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LEGEND

- Site
- 500m buffer
- 3km study area
- Listed Building
- Scheduled Monument
- Conservation Area
- Parks and Garden
- Ancient Woodland
- Common Land
- Traditional Orchard

Conservation Area data copyright Basingstoke and Deane Council. Interpreted from localplan documents.

All other designation from Natural England © Natural England copyright. Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2020.

01 Issue. 17/11/2020
Date

Client: Issue Details

BSR Energy Limited

Project:

Preston Farm

Drawing Title:

Figure 3: Designations

Drawing No: 1051020-BSR9001-PRE-L-003

Scale: 1:25,000 at A3

Drawn by: PV Date: 16/11/2020

Checked by: DH Date: 16/11/2020

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LEGEND

- Site
- 500m buffer
- Contour line
- Public Right of Way (PRoW)

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01 Issue.	-	17/11/2020 Date
	Issue Details	

Client:
BSR Energy Limited
 Project:
Preston Farm

Drawing Title:
Figure 4: Context
 Drawing No: 1051020-BSR9001-PRE-L-004

Scale: 1:7,500 at A3
 Drawn by: PV Date: 16/11/2020
 Checked by: DH Date: 16/11/2020

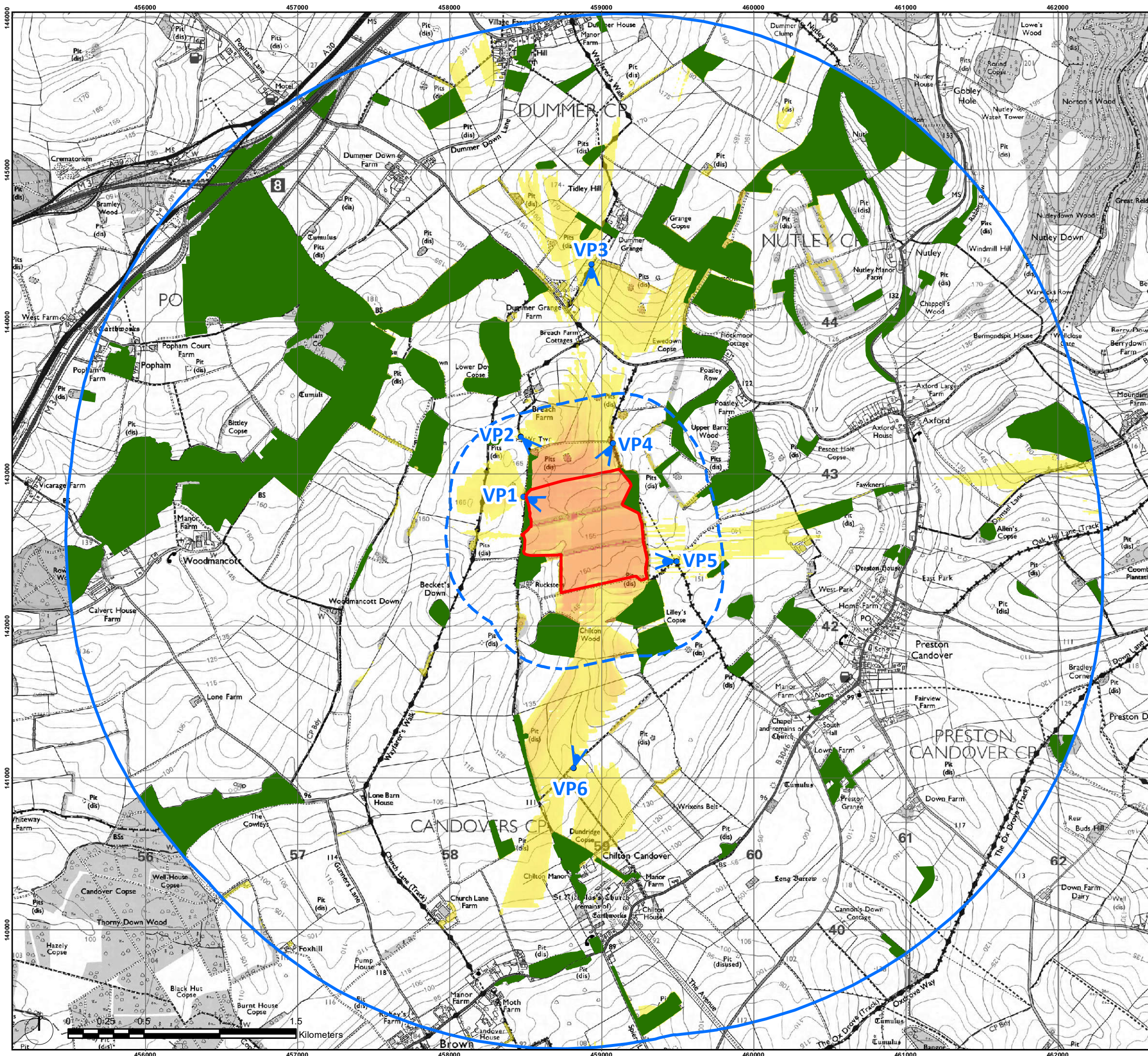
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Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community



LEGEND

- Site
- 500m buffer
- 3km study area
- National Forest Inventory
- draft viewpoints

- Zone of theoretical visibility**
- Higher proportion of the proposals visible
 - Lower proportion of the proposals visible

Areas shown in red / orange / yellow are areas where the proposed development may be visible from.

This Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) was produced, based on a OS Digital Surface Model (DSM). This ZTV takes into account the large blocks of vegetation and gives a representation of where the proposed development could be seen from, given the study areas complex land form. The ZTV is based on a height of the building.

The maps indicate theoretical visibility only - that is, the areas within which there may be a line of sight, but the proposal may not actually be visible in reality due to localised screening which is not represented by the Digital Surface Model.

This Zone of Theoretical Visibility does convey how much of the proposed development may be visible from the areas shown. Areas in red would see a greater proportion of development such as a large number of panels, whilst area in yellow might a small part of tips of a small numberf.

The DSM data was downloaded from data.gov.uk. Contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0.

01 Issue. 17/11/2020
Date

Client: **BSR Energy Limited**
 Project: **Preston Farm**
 Drawing Title: **Figure 5: ZTV**

Drawing No: 1051020-BSR9001-PRE-L-005
 Scale: 1:25,000 at A3
 Drawn by: PV Date: 16/11/2020
 Checked by: DH Date: 16/11/2020

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