

West Burton C - Formal Consultation

Introduction

EDF Energy is developing its proposals for a new gas-fired peaking plant power station with an output of up to 299 megawatts (MW) at its existing West Burton Power Station Site in Nottinghamshire, to be known as 'West Burton C' (the Project).

The proposals have been informed by feedback from the informal stage of consultation (**5 July - 2 August 2017**), as well as ongoing engagement with stakeholders, technical work and environmental studies. The key points of feedback received related to:

- the potential for amenity effects (e.g. noise and air quality) on those living along the principal transport routes to the Site and the capacity of the roads to accommodate large vehicles;

- the need to understand the potential environmental effects, particularly in terms of air quality, noise and visual effects, as a result of the Project, including those arising from the combined activities from the existing power stations; and

- queries around the future of the West Burton A power station and the rationale for the Project.

This exhibition responds to those queries, signposting to where in the other consultation documents further detail is provided.



This exhibition also provides an overview of the following:

- key details of the proposed Project and development site;
- the likely significant environmental effects and approach to mitigation; and
- the consenting process, including details of how stakeholders can be involved in the process.

Formal Consultation

EDF Energy is currently seeking formal feedback on its proposals and related assessments in line with Sections 42 and 47 of the Planning Act 2008. The formal consultation provides stakeholders with an opportunity to ask any questions. All feedback will be used to inform further activities in preparing our application for development consent, which we anticipate submitting to the Planning Inspectorate in early 2018.

As well as this exhibition, which provides an overview, fuller details are provided within the Preliminary

Environmental Impact (PEI) Report and Non-Technical Summary which support this stage of consultation. Refer to the section '**How to Engage**' for details of how to access the consultation documents and how to engage with the Project team during this formal consultation period, which runs from **Thursday 7 September to Monday 16 October 2017** (5pm). Regard will be had to all comments received during this period in developing our proposals and related assessments.

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Background

EDF Energy invests in a wide range of energy technologies to meet the United Kingdom's (UK) future demand for electricity. With the growth of renewable generation, the ability to meet short periods of peak demand and/or shortfalls in electricity production and provide technical services to the National Grid with flexible generation is increasingly important. EDF Energy will be seeking consent to construct a 299MW gas-fired power station to meet these needs. Once operational it would provide generation at the times when requirements arise, therefore it would not run continuously.

EDF Energy's Nottinghamshire power stations comprise 4,000MW of coal generation at West Burton A (WBA) and Cottam and 1,300MW of gas generation at West Burton B (WBB), sufficient to power around 9 million homes. These stations play an important part in the energy mix, providing secure and flexible generation until new lower carbon generation comes on line. **Figure 1.1** illustrates the location of the West Burton Power Station Site, with **Figure 1.2** illustrating the location of the Proposed West Burton C Site (the Site) that is to the north of the existing stations.

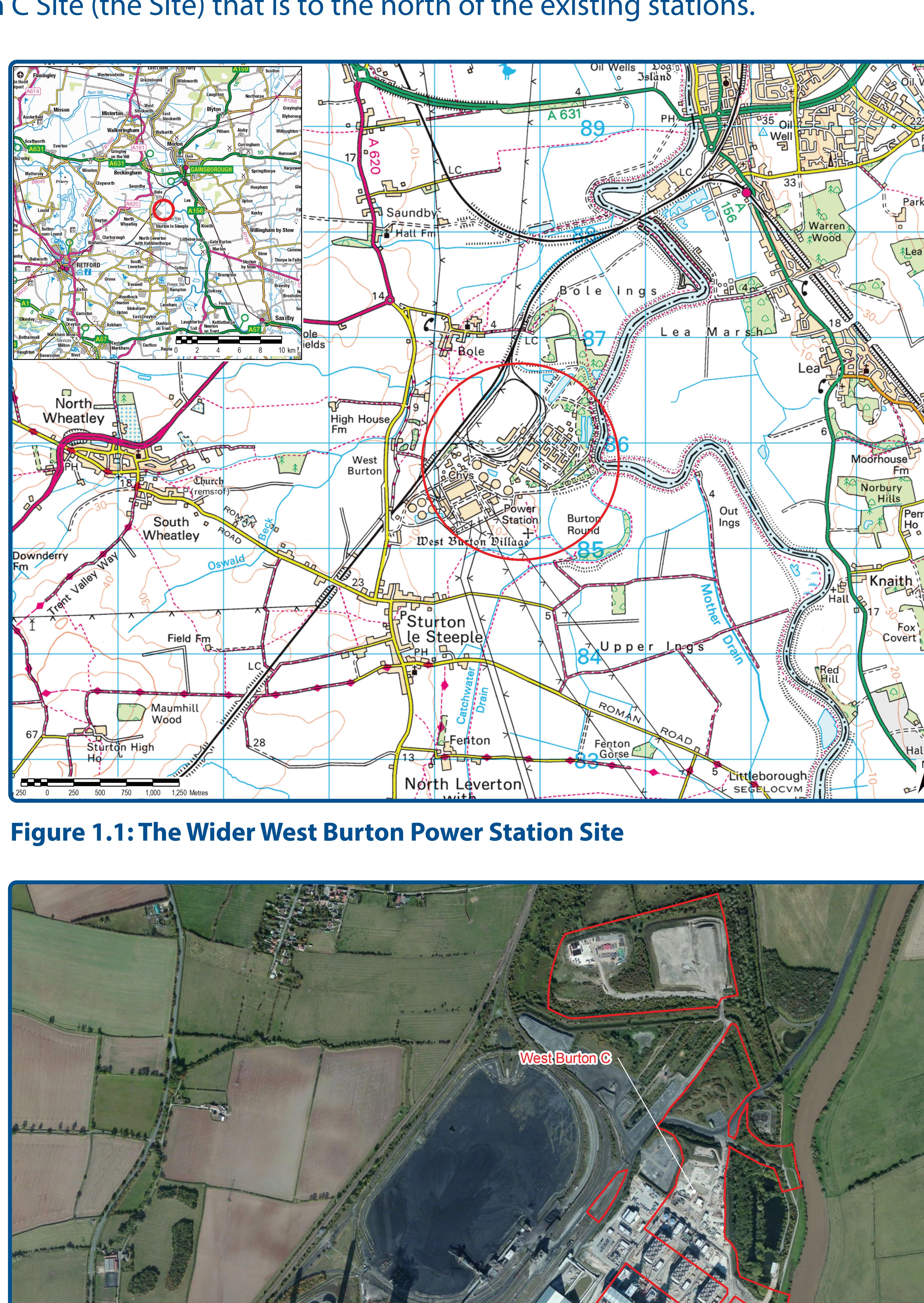


Figure 1.1: The Wider West Burton Power Station Site

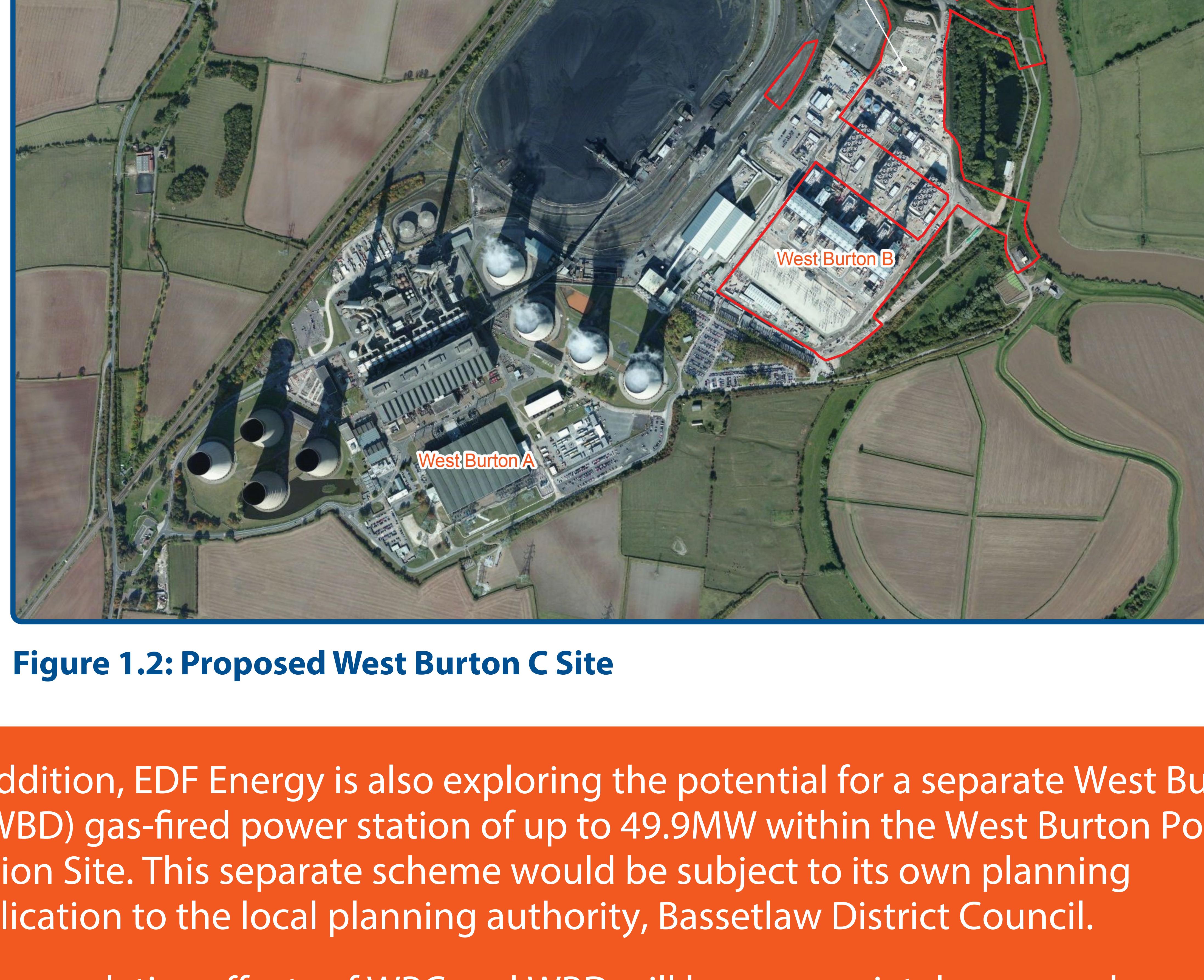


Figure 1.2: Proposed West Burton C Site

In addition, EDF Energy is also exploring the potential for a separate West Burton D (WBD) gas-fired power station of up to 49.9MW within the West Burton Power Station Site. This separate scheme would be subject to its own planning application to the local planning authority, Bassetlaw District Council.

Any cumulative effects of WBC and WBD will be appropriately assessed as part of the EIAs undertaken. At the time of submitting an application for WBD, consultation would be undertaken with all stakeholders to seek their views. Therefore, this exhibition solely relates to the West Burton C Project.

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The Project

The West Burton C Project would provide up to 299MW of generation capacity for export onto the National Grid. It would comprise Open Cycle Gas Turbines (OCGTs), either as a single large unit or multiple (up to six) aero-derivative units, with associated stack(s) and auxiliary plant infrastructure required for a power station.



In an OCGT natural gas is used as the fuel, which is mixed and combusted with compressed air in the turbine. The hot combustion gases expand, rotating the turbine blades at high speed. This drives the generators to produce electricity for export to the National Grid electricity transmission system.

The Project would help to:

- reduce a future shortfall in the UK's flexible electricity generation capacity, and support the further growth of renewable electricity supply by improving security of supply;
- create up to 200 jobs during the construction period;
- create up to 15 operational roles; and
- create economic benefits to the local economy, through contract opportunities and positive knock-on effects for local businesses.

Consenting Process

The Project is classified as a 'Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project' (NSIP) under the Planning Act 2008. This means a Development Consent Order (DCO) is required from central Government to allow EDF Energy to build and operate the power station. EDF Energy will submit an application for development consent to the Planning Inspectorate, the Government agency responsible for examining NSIP applications. The Planning Inspectorate will examine the application and make a recommendation to the Secretary of State who makes a final decision on whether or not to grant consent.

EDF Energy's application will be examined and determined in accordance with the National Policy Statements for energy. These statements set out the need for new energy infrastructure and outline the factors that would be taken into account when assessing proposals. For further information on the application process refer to <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/>

Next Steps

Figure 1.3 details the key steps that EDF Energy will go through in seeking to secure a DCO for the project.

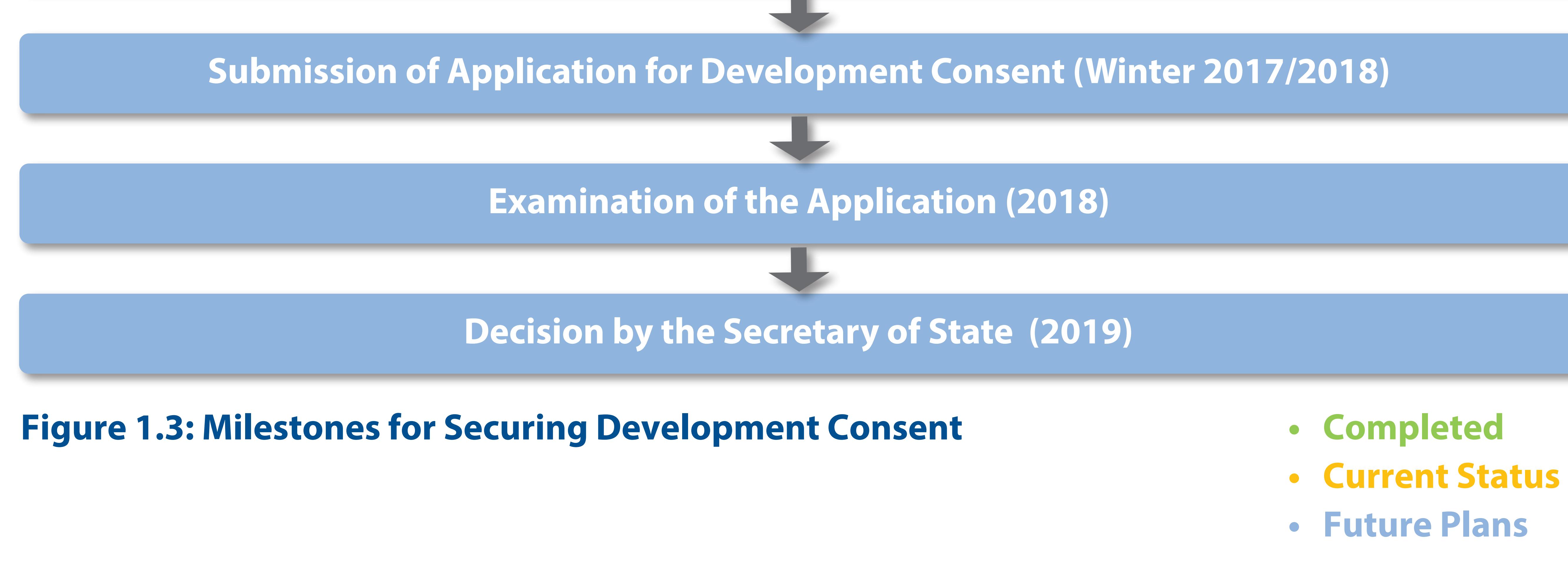


Figure 1.3: Milestones for Securing Development Consent

- Completed
- Current Status
- Future Plans

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The Site

The Site covers an area of approximately 38.3 hectares (ha) of which approximately 21.8ha comprises the built development and construction laydown area, with a further approximately 16.5ha of land proposed for ecology and landscaping works as shown on **Figure 1.4**.

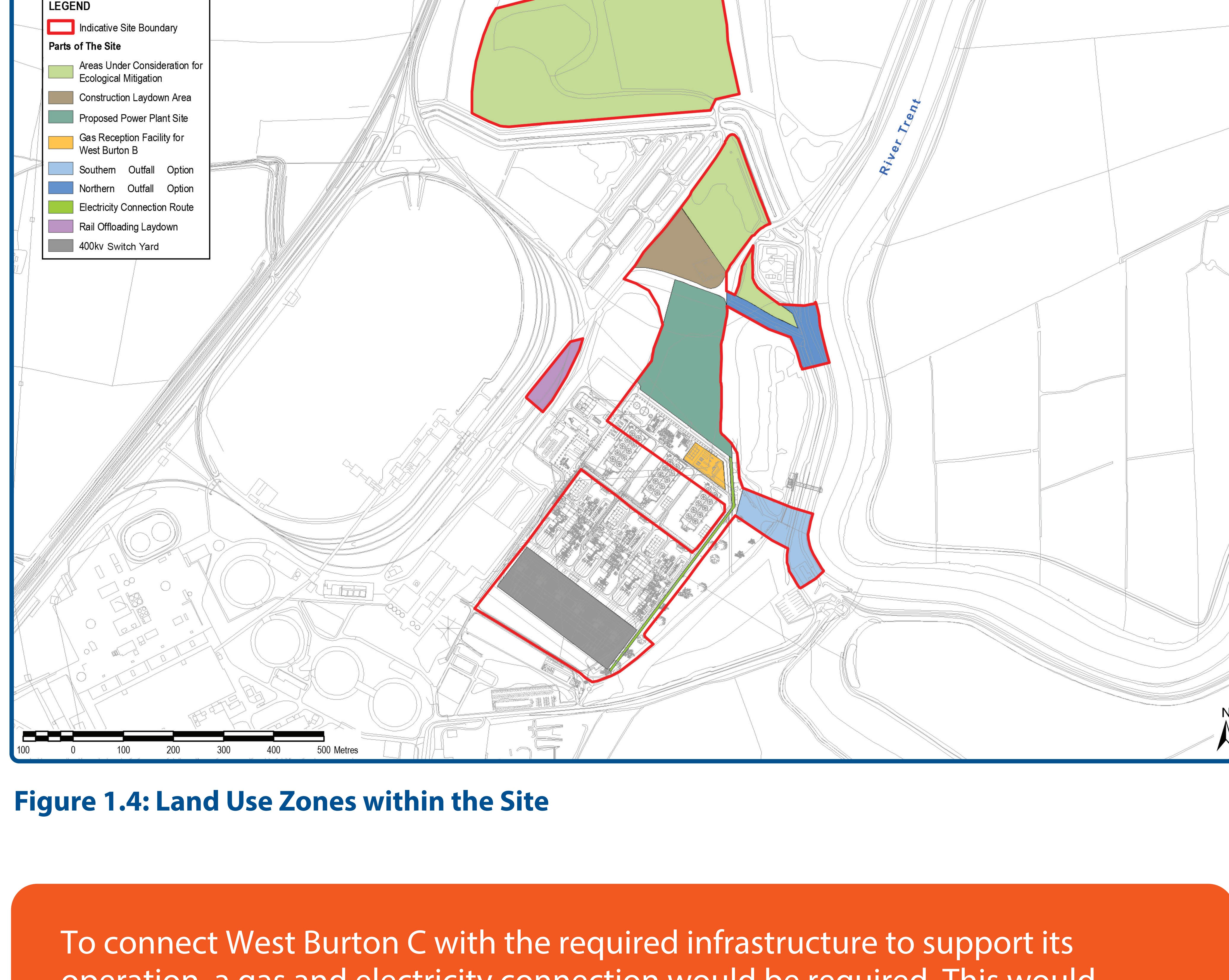


Figure 1.4: Land Use Zones within the Site

To connect West Burton C with the required infrastructure to support its operation, a gas and electricity connection would be required. This would involve a gas pipeline connection and associated conditioning and metering infrastructure to supply gas from the WBB gas reception facility and an electricity connection route to tie-in with the existing 400kV switch yard within WBB. The exact locations of these tie-ins are yet to be determined and are subject to ongoing feasibility assessment.

Currently the Applicant is exploring the feasibility of discharging uncontaminated surface water from the Site into the existing drainage system of WBA/ WBB. However, in the event that this is not feasible, two potential options – a northern and southern option – are included to allow direct discharge of uncontaminated surface water to the River Trent. The Site boundary includes the land as required for both these outfall options and the impacts associated with the outfalls have been assessed in the PEI Report.

Given that the Proposed Development would result in the permanent loss of the newly created habitats associated with landscaping and ecological enhancement of WBB, and in order to provide for biodiversity offsetting, enhancement and mitigation for both the permanent and temporary loss of habitat used by protected species, areas of the Site are proposed for landscaping and ecological mitigation and enhancement.



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Environmental Considerations

EDF Energy is currently assessing the potential significant environmental effects of the Proposed Development during the construction, operation and decommissioning periods.

The technical assessments cover:

- air quality;
- traffic and transport;
- noise and vibration;
- ecology;
- landscape and visual amenity;
- ground conditions and hydrogeology;
- flood risk, hydrology and water resources;
- socio-economics;
- cultural heritage; and
- sustainability and climate change.

Each assessment considers potential effects of the Project on environmental sensitivities (including nearby residential communities, the River Trent, the Lea Marsh Site of Specific Scientific Interest, archaeological features and Conservation Areas) close to the Site. These assessments have been informed by desk-based assessments, modelling work, site surveys, engagement with

stakeholders and professional expertise. These assessments provide the information necessary to address the related queries raised at the informal consultation stage in terms of the potential environmental effects arising from the Proposed Development.

The assessment work undertaken to date is detailed in the Preliminary Environmental Information (PEI) Report which supports this stage of consultation. The PEI Report details: the baseline (i.e. current) environmental context; the preliminary assessment of the likely significant environmental effects (positive and negative) of the construction, operation and decommissioning periods of the Project; and a preliminary view of potential mitigation measures, where required. The outputs of the PEI Report are summarised in the Non-Technical Summary. The section '**How to Engage**' details how stakeholders can access the consultation documents and engage in this consultation. The assessments undertaken to date identify the following significant effect may arise:

- **landscape and visual** - a single adverse significant effect has been identified from a viewpoint on a public right of way in the vicinity of Bole (referred to as Viewpoint 4) as the Proposed Development would increase the proportion of power related development within the scene, albeit the Proposed Development would be seen against the backdrop of an existing power station. Refer to **Chapter 10** of the PEI Report for details.



Existing View from residential properties and Public Right of Way at Bole (Viewpoint 4)

Indicative View from residential properties and Public Right of Way at Bole (Viewpoint 4) - Single Open Cycle Gas Turbine

Indicative View from residential properties and Public Right of Way at Bole (Viewpoint 4) - Multiple Aero-Derivative Gas Turbines

In terms of other impacts, following the implementation of standard industry measures no significant noise effects are predicted, and all construction activities would be undertaken in accordance with details to be approved by the local planning authority. Refer to **Chapter 8** of the PEI Report for details.

A number of environmental impact avoidance, design and mitigation measures have been identified to mitigate and control environmental effects (e.g. air quality) during construction, operation and decommissioning of the proposed power station. Where these are not embedded in the design of the Proposed Development, they will be secured through a number of 'requirements' (similar to planning conditions attaching to a planning permission) contained within a DCO.

An Environmental Statement will accompany the application for development consent, which will detail the full baseline environmental context, all likely significant environmental effects (positive and negative) of each period (i.e. construction, operation and decommissioning) and mitigation measures, as well as an assessment of cumulative impacts of this Project with other schemes.

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How to Engage

We have distributed a newsletter to households within 3km of the mid-point of the Site and those within 10km of the mid-point of the Site where their village lies along a key transport route to the Site, as illustrated in **Figure 1.5.**

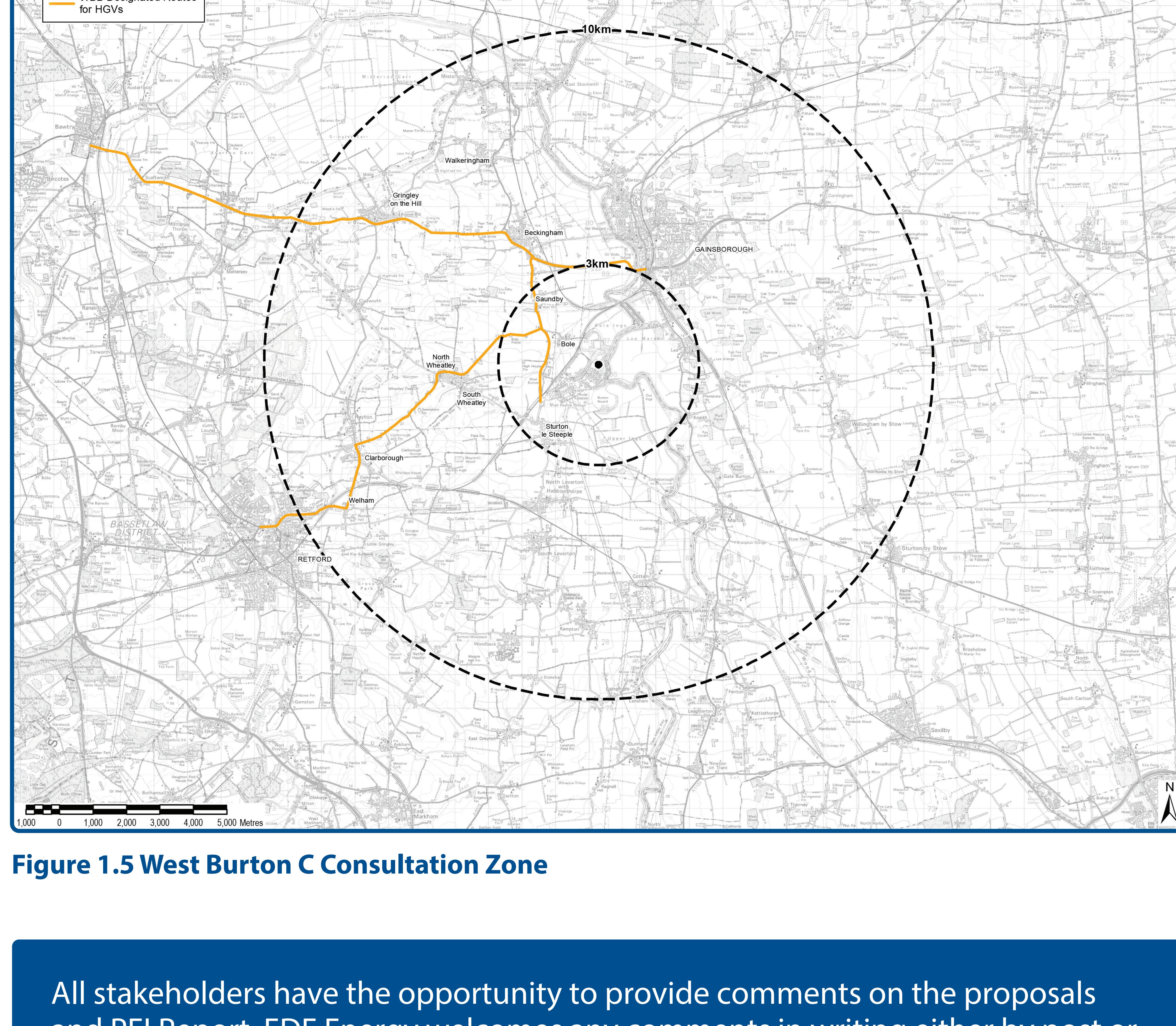


Figure 1.5 West Burton C Consultation Zone

All stakeholders have the opportunity to provide comments on the proposals and PEI Report. EDF Energy welcomes any comments in writing either by post or email, using either the questionnaire (provided at this exhibition) or other forms, sending this to either of the following by **5pm Monday 16 October 2017**:

- Post to **FREEPOST WBC CONSULTATION** (no stamp is required)
- Email to enquiries@westburtonc.co.uk

The Project team will also be available by phone (**0800 520 2524**).

Copies of the consultation documents, which comprise the Preliminary Environmental Information (PEI) Report, Non-Technical Summary, Statement of Community Consultation and the newsletter (and include plans and maps showing the nature and location of the Project), can be accessed via our webpage (www.westburtonc.co.uk) or at the following locations between **Thursday 7 September and Monday 16 October 2017** (5pm):

- **Gainsborough Library** - Cobden Street, Gainsborough, Lincolnshire, DN21 2NG (Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm and Saturday 9am - 1pm);
- **Retford Library** - Churchgate, Retford, Nottinghamshire, DN22 6PE (Monday to Friday 9.30am - 6pm and Saturday 9.30am - 4pm);
- **Bassetlaw District Council Worksop office** - Queen's Buildings, Potter Street, Worksop, Nottinghamshire, S80 2AH (Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm);
- **Bassetlaw District Council Retford office** - 17B The Square, Retford, Nottinghamshire, DN22 6DB (Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm);
- **West Lindsey District Council's office** - Guildhall, Marshall's Yard, Gainsborough, DN21 2NA (Monday to Tuesday and Thursday to Friday 9am - 5pm and Wednesday 10am - 5pm).

A hard copy of all the consultation documents is available on request for a copying charge of £150. Requests should be made to enquiries@westburtonc.co.uk