



A1.4 - EIA Statement of Competence



This appendix to the Steeple Renewables PEIR sets out the relevant expertise of each of the topic authors that have contributed to it.

Topic	Author and Company Credentials
<p>Planning</p> <p>Environmental Impact Assessment</p> <p>Landscape and Visual Impact and Residential Amenity</p> <p>Cultural Heritage</p> <p>Socioeconomics</p> <p>Transport and Access</p> 	<p><u>Planning and EIA</u></p> <p>Pegasus Group (Pegasus) is the consultancy that has compiled this Environmental Statement (ES). This consultancy was established in 2003 and has over the years expanded to a company that strives for “good development” across the whole of the UK. Pegasus is Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA) ‘Quality Mark’ Accredited and its ESs and the processes that it undertakes to create them are regularly subjected to external review via this accreditation to ensure that all Pegasus Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) are legally compliant and apply best practice.</p> <p><u>Landscape and Visual Impact and Residential Amenity</u></p> <p>Kate Curtis FLI is a Chartered Landscape Architect and a Fellow of the Landscape Institute. She has worked as a Landscape Architect for thirty years, largely in consultancy following a placement at English Heritage and a post graduate job at British Waterways. She has been Chartered since 1999.</p> <p>Kate is employed as a Senior Director in the Environment Team at Pegasus Group Ltd. Pegasus undertakes all aspects of planning, urban design, environmental impact assessment, landscape assessment, including character assessment and landscape design.</p> <p>Kate has worked on a wide range of development projects within the United Kingdom including residential developments; mixed use schemes; energy proposals; employment sites and business parks; leisure and recreation schemes; education projects and sports facilities. Included in this portfolio of work, Kate has detailed and extensive experience of many Solar schemes, from some of the early pioneering developments and at all scales, including other current and approved NSIP projects. This work includes the iterative design of mitigation measures and habitat</p>

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	<p>creation proposals and the assessment of the potential impacts of the schemes.</p> <p><u>Cultural Heritage</u></p> <p>Laura Garcia (Senior Director, Heritage) and Donald Sutherland (Principal Consultant, Heritage) have authored this chapter of the PEIR.</p> <p>Laura Garcia BA (Hons), is a Member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (MCIfA) and has been a heritage professional for over 20 years and has extensive experience of undertaking heritage assessments at all stages of the project lifecycle and under numerous consenting regimes, including schemes of national significance for renewable energy projects across the UK. She has provided heritage advice at all stages of projects including acting as heritage expert witness at hearings, examinations and inquires, and is familiar with the heritage requirements of the planning regimes of all the devolved administrations.</p> <p>Laura has particular expertise in large-scale infrastructure projects and energy schemes and in the analysis and assessment of the significance of the large volumes of heritage assets that can be affected by renewable energy schemes. Through this expertise, she is able to provide robust assessments of how change resulting from developments would affect significance, particularly for these types of scheme, via changes within their setting. She has particular experience in the assessment of solar and wind turbines schemes across the UK. This includes proposed schemes but also the assessment of life-extension/re-powering proposals and the particular considerations that apply to these applications in relation to the historic environment.</p> <p>Laura has acted as heritage expert witness, giving evidence at planning inquires and hearings, including the Longhedge Solar Inquiry and the Cotmoor Solar Farm Inquiry. She is due to give evidence at a number of hearings and inquiries within the next year and due to appear at the examination as the Heritage Expert for a DCO currently at Examination Stage.</p> <p>Donald Sutherland LLB (Hons) BA MSc holds a Bachelor of Laws from the University of Aberdeen, a Bachelor of Arts in Ancient History and Archaeology from the University of Leicester, and a</p>

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	<p>Master of Science in Maritime Archaeology from the University of Southampton. He has been a heritage professional for over 9 years and has extensive experience managing archaeological fieldwork and undertaking heritage assessments across all stages of projects lifespans, with a particular focus on large-scale energy projects across England and Scotland.</p> <p>Donald has acted as Lead Heritage Consultant on numerous projects and has particular expertise in assessing and articulating the significance of heritage assets and the contribution made by setting. He has a proven track record of negotiation and consultation with statutory and local stakeholders, as well as providing advice during masterplanning.</p> <p>Donald has extensive experience in providing specialist heritage input on projects across the UK, across various sectors, including residential, commercial, and the energy sector.</p> <p><u>Socioeconomics</u></p> <p>Laura Day (Director, Economics) and Cameron Davis (Analyst, Economics) have authored this chapter of the PEIR.</p> <p>Laura Day (BA (Hons), MA, PIEMA, MIED) is a Director in the Economics team at Pegasus Group. Laura has over 16 years' experience working in Socioeconomics and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) coordination. Her experience spans a range of sectors including renewable energy, energy infrastructure, residential, commercial, retail. This has included experience on DCO and TCPA consenting routes. Laura's work has involved consideration of a wide range of socio-economic related assessment including, but not limited to, social infrastructure analysis, skills and employment, accommodation demand analysis, equality impact assessment and health impact assessment.</p> <p>Cameron Davis (BA, MIED) is an Analyst in the Economics team at Pegasus Group. Cameron has over 2 years' experience working in Socioeconomics. His experience spans a range of sectors including renewable energy and infrastructure, residential, commercial, retail, older persons' accommodation, and regeneration schemes. This has included experience on DCO and</p>

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	<p>TCPA consenting routes. Cameron’s work has involved consideration of a wide range of socio-economic related assessment including, but not limited to, equality impact assessment, health impact assessment, skills and employment analysis, need assessments and accommodation demand analysis.</p> <p><u>Transport and Access</u></p> <p>The lead author, Karen Evans, has over 28 years' experience in the field of transport planning and is a Member of the Chartered Institution of Highways and Transportation (MCIHT) and a Member of the Chartered Institution of Civil Engineering.</p>
<p>Ecology and Biodiversity</p> 	<p>The Ecology Chapter of the PEIR was co-authored and reviewed by James Gillespie and Daniel Foster of BSG Ecology. Below is a summary of their professional experience.</p> <p>James Gillespie is a Director at BSG Ecology and has worked as a professional ecologist since 1990. He has BSc and PGDip in ecology topics and is a Full member of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM). James authors and reviews complex ecology chapters for Environmental Statements, and provides regular advice to clients on challenging ecology and biodiversity issues, green infrastructure planning and development proposals, including for NSIP and renewable energy projects.</p> <p>Daniel Foster is a Principal Ecologist at BSG Ecology and has worked as a professional ecologist since 2005. He has a BSc (Hons) in environmental conservation and is a Full member of CIEEM. He has extensive experience in managing the ecology input, and preparation and review of Ecological Impact Assessments for a range of large developments in the UK, including renewable energy schemes.</p>
<p>Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Flood Risk and Drainage</p> 	<p>Alison Cadge BSc (Hons) MSc MCIWEM C.WEM (lead author) is a chartered hydrologist with 19 years’ experience providing flood risk, hydrology and sustainable drainage consultancy supporting all stages of property acquisition, planning and development. She works within RSK’s Land and Development Engineering (LDE) division, which specialises in sustainable engineering and environmental consultancy. She has an in-depth knowledge of the</p>

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	<p>UK planning framework, proven technical expertise, and significant experience consulting and negotiating with project stakeholders and statutory consultees. Alison has managed, authored and reviewed water related input to Environmental Impact Assessments and supporting technical assessments (e.g. Flood Risk Assessments, Water Framework Directive Assessments, Surface Water Drainage Strategies) for a range of projects across the UK including energy projects, residential schemes, mixed use and infrastructure projects.</p>
<p>Noise and Vibration</p> 	<p>This chapter has been written by Mike Craven BSc, MIOA, a Senior Acoustic Specialist at RES. Mike has 18 years' experience in dealing with noise and vibration associated with renewable development projects.</p>
<p>Climate Change</p> 	<p>The chapter has been written by LUC and 3ADAPT, consultants competent in climate change impact assessment. The lead author, Joanna Wright (MA MSc FIEMA CEnv), has over 30 years of professional EIA experience with LUC and postgraduate masters level qualifications in both EIA and carbon management.</p>