

# 11. Existing Gas Infrastructure

- 11.1. As shown on the submitted Infrastructure Layout (Figure 4 – Ref O5009-RES-LAY-DR-PT-003 Rev 6) and as detailed within the submitted Design and Access Statement, appropriate buffers have been incorporated in the design of the proposed development to protect the existing gas assets that intersect the site. A buffer of 24.4m has been applied to the routes of all underground gas pipelines where no solar infrastructure is proposed. Furthermore, all inverters have been located at least 60m from all underground gas pipelines.

## Scotia Gas Networks

- 11.2. This section seeks to address comments made by Scotia Gas Networks (SGN) on 21 December 2023. Through consultation with SGN, the applicant has agreed wording of suitable planning conditions to protect underground gas pipelines. These conditions have been agreed on other projects between the applicant and SGN. The following conditions are suggested:

*Energisation of the Solar Farm shall not occur until the applicant has undertaken a study to determine the interference levels on the SGN pipelines from steady state and fault conditions of the electrical infrastructure associated with the proposed development, taking into consideration the SGN pipeline(s) and associated equipment. If required, the applicant shall also design appropriate mitigation to ensure that any induced fault voltage is within appropriate limits (in accordance with BS EN 50122-1). The results of this modelling (and mitigation, if required) will be submitted for the prior written approval of the Planning Authority, in consultation with SGN, before energisation.*

- 11.3. Concerning the construction works on site, we propose the below condition to ensure such works are undertaken in accordance with your requirements:

*Solar Farm construction works shall be planned, consented and executed in accordance with SGN document SGN/WI/SW/2.*

## National Gas

- 11.4. This section seeks to address comments made by National Gas (NG) on 13/03/2024. NG have issued (Ref: GE5\_31908746) a “No Objection: Under Condition” response to the proposed development. Through consultation with NG regarding High-Pressure Gas Pipeline – Feeder 5. FM5 – Farmington to Dunton Green, the applicant has agreed suitable wording for planning conditions. The following conditions are suggested:

*The pipeline has a 24.4m easement in operation (12.2m either side of pipe). No development, construction or landscaping is permitted within the easement without formal written approval from National Gas Transmission. There are specific criteria that must be adhered to for developing solar farms in close proximity, to National Gas Transmission’s gas pipelines. Solar Farms can be built adjacent to pipelines but never within the easement.*



*Utility crossings over National Gas Transmission's gas pipelines are restricted and will require 'Deeds of Consent / Indemnity'. The developer is to engage with National Gas Transmission for further guidance in the early stages of design to ensure that electrical interference, security, future access, and construction methods can be mutually agreed prior to undertaking any works on site.*

*Energisation of the Solar Farm shall not occur until the applicant has undertaken a study to determine the interference levels on the National Gas pipeline FM5 from steady state and fault conditions of the electrical infrastructure associated with the proposed development, taking into consideration the National Gas pipeline and associated equipment. If required, the applicant shall also design appropriate mitigation to ensure that any induced fault voltage is within appropriate limits (in accordance with BS EN 50122-1). The results of this modelling (and mitigation, if required) will be submitted for the prior written approval of the Planning Authority, in consultation with National Gas, before energisation. The applicant will enter into a deed of consent with National Gas Transmission prior to installing any permanent apparatus within the pipeline easement.*