

17.0 CUMULATIVE EFFECTS

- 17.1 The Project has been the subject of a comprehensive environmental assessment in accordance with the **Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (England & Wales) Regulations 1999** and the subsequent **Town & Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment (Amendment) (England) Regulations** Sept 2008.
- 17.2 Cumulative impact and effect arises as a result of a number of different factors and combined changes. These generally fall into three categories:-
- i) *The cumulative effects arising from the combination of the different environmental topics as outlined in the Environmental Statement;*
 - ii) *Cumulative effects arising from a range of developments (projects), occurring at different locations or over a period of time. Separately, such individual projects may not create an unacceptable degree of adverse impact but collectively the results may potentially be significant;*
 - iii) *Cumulative effects caused by the Project in conjunction with other developments that occurred in the past, present or are likely to occur in the foreseeable future.*
- 17.3 As identified in the second point above, cumulative or combined effects are those that are likely to arise when the Project is considered in relation to other foreseeable developments (projects) either located in the immediate vicinity or that have a relationship with a similar environmental resource. Individually the impact of a Project may be of minor magnitude but when combined with the impact from other projects could increase the overall significance of an effect on an environmental resource. The results of this process enable the local planning authority to ensure that this and any future developments are mutually compatible and remain within the environmental capacity of the area considered.
- 17.4 Other projects that may take place in the future, including proposed SUE's at Barwell and Earl Shilton are considered within individual chapters of the **ES**.
- 17.5 The EIA process has also considered the cumulative effects of all components of this Project. Impact assessment of specific environmental topics and the cumulative impact is based on the predicted change to take place to the existing condition of the environment as a result of the Project. Significance of cumulative impact is a judgement based upon:-
- *The context in which the impact is likely to occur;*
 - *Intensity or severity of the impact;*
 - *Importance to the community / consultees of the resulting effect.*
- 17.6 These individual topics are summarised in **Table 17a** below. In addition, the **Non Technical Summary** includes a short description of the effects for *all* environmental issues contained within this **ES**.

Table 17a: Cumulative Effects of Individual Topics of the New Lubbesthorpe Project

ES Topic	<u>Overall Environmental Effect of Project</u>	Comments
Planning Policy	NA	The Project is in accordance with National, Regional and Local Planning guidance.
Alternatives	NA	Blaby LDF Core Strategy Submission Version, July 2009 identifies the site as the preferred location for both the SUE and the SES.
Socio Economics	Significant Beneficial	The Project would provide jobs, housing, schools and a broad range of community benefits for the new community and the wider area.
Landscape and Visual Resources	Slight to Moderate Beneficial	Although the site falls within a green field landscape it is not exceptional or protected. The Project would be relatively well contained visually and includes a substantial framework of GI including existing woodland, many of the hedgerows and mature trees, new woodland planting, open space and recreation grounds.
Ecological Resources (including Arboriculture)	Significant Beneficial	Appropriate mitigation approaches have been adopted. The Project's significant GI of more than 40 percent of the Project area would ensure that the site's bio-diversity is significantly enhanced.
Cultural Heritage and Archaeology	Moderate Adverse	Slight adverse effect on the setting of the SMs within and in the vicinity of the Project site and upon the listed buildings near to the area. Moderate adverse effect upon potential archaeological remains and upon the historic landscape as a result of some ancient hedgerow loss.
Agricultural Land Quality	Moderate Adverse	The Project would result in the loss of 337 ha agricultural land, although this is mainly sub-grade 3b land with some sub-grade 3a and grade 2.
Water, Hydrology and Drainage	Negligible-Moderate Beneficial	An appropriate Sustainable Drainage Strategy as part of the GI is promoted which would attenuate surface water discharge from the Project.
Land Contamination	Slight Beneficial	The Project's remediation operations would provide an enhancement of the baseline condition of the site and surrounding area.

ES Topic	Overall Environmental Effect of Project	Comments
Noise and Vibration/Acoustics	Negligible-Slight Adverse	Appropriate measures have been introduced to mitigate areas of the Project potentially sensitive to noise and vibration, both from existing sources and those resulting from the Project itself. The slight adverse effects are attributed to the proposed Meridian Way motorway bridge. No residual significant adverse effects occur.
Air Quality	Negligible–Slight Adverse	The slight adverse effects could include emissions from traffic. Overall, there are no significant adverse effects on air quality arising from the Project.
Waste	Slight Adverse	The Project would be built to current standards for Sustainable Homes. Target standards would be implemented as well as appropriate mitigation.
Traffic and Transport	Slight Adverse	The Project includes highway improvements and accessibility measures to mitigate the effects of the development proposals. A Framework Plan would be provided to encourage a reduction in employee's car journeys. A residential travel pack would be issued to all residents. There would be provision of public transport system, new footways and cycleways.
Infrastructure and Services	Slight Adverse	The Project introduces appropriate infrastructure and services to serve the new development.

- 17.7 In the above table each environmental topic is individually assessed in terms of the overall predicted impact that would result from the development proposals. The significance of this impact is then assessed. While some topics were assessed as having an adverse effect, the majority of these would be slight to negligible overall. A number of topics would ultimately result in significant beneficial environmental effects arising from the Project.

Cumulative Effects arising from the New Lubbesthorpe Project and other projects

- 17.8 The Scoping Report (**Appendix 1B**) requested that Blaby District Council identify projects which the Council considered should be assessed as part of the ES Cumulative Effects Chapter.
- 17.9 Proposals for Sustainable Urban Extensions at both Barwell and Earl Shilton (on the A47) form part of the Hinckley and Bosworth Core Strategy, Adopted December 2009. Potential

cumulative effects that may arise as a result of these projects, in respect of New Lubbesthorpe, are considered within this **ES**.

- 17.10 On the assumption that each project would seek to mitigate for any significant adverse effects through a well considered design response, and given the limited available published information on the potential environmental effects arising from these projects, the cumulative effects coming forward in conjunction with New Lubbesthorpe, is not considered to have a significant adverse effect on the environmental resource.