

Vital Energi Utilities Limited
Century House
Roman Road
Blackburn
BB1 2LD

Diss Business Hub
Hopper Way
Diss
IP22 4GT
T: 01379 413011

www.greenlightco.co.uk

17 April 2023

Nesting bird check for development at Chamber House Solar Farm, Rochdale, OL10 1RL.

This document provides the results of the nesting bird check of the grassland located at the Chamber House Solar Farm, Rochdale, OL10 1RL on April 14th, 2023. The survey is required prior to the installation of solar panels.

The vegetation on site was assessed for its potential to support breeding birds by an independent and experienced ecologist – Stuart Thomas MICEEM. Survey conditions were as follows: 10°C, light wind and overcast, with frequent light showers.

The vegetation was inspected by a transect around the perimeter of the site, followed by internal transects which focused particular attention to the marshy areas of *Juncus spp.* and tussocky pockets of grassland. All observed signs of potential nesting activity, including carrying nesting material and alarm calling were recorded. Please note, all hedgerows and trees on site were not inspected, as work to the hedgerows and trees were completed prior to the breeding bird season.

Birds in the UK are classified into three categories of conservation importance – red, amber and green, Factors such as global threat level, population decline, breeding population decline, and contraction of breeding range are taken into account to determine classification.

The following bird species were observed during the site visit:

Red listed:

Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>
Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>
Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>
Mistle thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>
Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>

Amber listed:

Black-headed gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>
Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>
Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniculus</i>
Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>
Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>

Green listed:

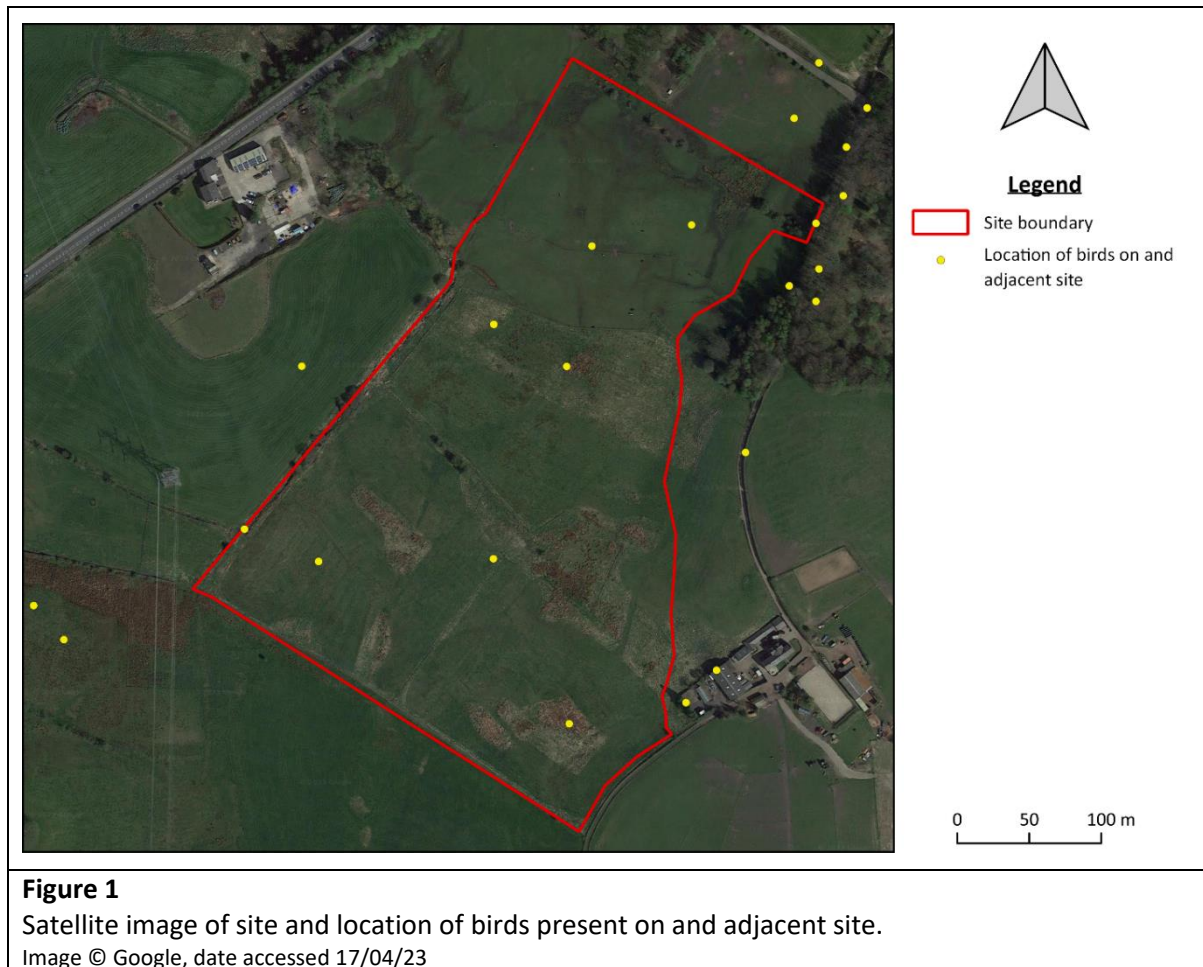
Blue tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>
Carrion crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>
Chiffchaff	<i>Pyloscopus collybita</i>
Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>
Great tit	<i>Parus major</i>
Great-Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>
Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>
Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>

The site provides suitable nesting habitats for amber and red listed species within the *Juncus spp.* and tussocky pockets of grassland; however, no birds were observed presenting any signs of nesting, and no nests were observed. Two lapwings *Vanellus Vanellus* were recorded nesting within the wet field located west of the site, however the proposed development will not disturb the nesting lapwings.

No suitable breeding sites for barn owls were identified on the survey site.

In conclusion, we consider that the proposed works will have no significant impact on the local nesting birds.

Please note, it is possible for birds to create a nest as soon as the survey has been undertaken. Works must be undertaken within 10 days of the site visit, otherwise another nesting bird survey will be required.



Please contact us if you have any further queries.

Kind regards,

Drafted by:

Ebonie Lambo-Hills M.Sc., B.Sc. (Hons)

Reviewed by:

Nathan Duszynski M.Sc., B.Sc. (Hons), ACIEEM