

York Local Plan Further Sites Consultation – Summary Of Responses
Appendix 8: Renewable Energy Methodology and Site Assessment

November 2015

Site, Para etc.	Comments	Ref.	Name (where business or organisation)
<p>Appendix 8 Methodology</p>	<p>Comment – disappointed to see that Appendix 8 concerned with renewable energy was restricted to solar photovoltaics. In the Local Plan Preferred Options maps there are many crosses indicated suitable sites for wind turbines. By suitable, this means that they are suitable as regard to the wind. No other criteria appear to have been considered. We believe that this gives a wrong impression and other criteria for selection should have been flagged up (for example the openness of the Green Belt) even if only as a caveat, particularly as these criteria have been well used in assessing residential (Appendix 2) and employment/retail (Appendix 3) sites.</p>	69/18849	Murton Parish Council
	<p>Comment – there is no need to use greenfield sites for solar energy. CYC has yet to make full use of its own social housing for the installation of solar panels and there are many commercial and industrial buildings suitable for photovoltaic energy generation.</p>	5775/20884	
<p>178 North Selby Mine</p>	<p>Objection – object to Council’s recommendation not to remove the site from the Green Belt. When amending existing Green Belt boundaries preference should be given to sites that no longer fulfil any of the five purposes for its original inclusion (NPPF, para 85). From the limited explanation offered it would appear this clear stance has been overlooked by the Council in their assessment of Site 178. Where it can be demonstrated that the site no longer fulfils the purposes for its inclusion within the Green Belt, the boundary should be amended accordingly. Assessment of how Site 178 against green belt purpose is provided, see response. The site is already heavily contained by a mix of mature landscaping and bunds associated with its previous use. The approved application proposes to retain these bunds and incorporate additional landscaping to further screen the site from public vantage points. The features that currently existing, together with the proposed additions mean that the site has clear defensible boundaries formed by physical features that are readily recognisable and will be permanent. Planning application (ref. 12/03385/FULM) was accompanied by an alternative sites assessment which clearly demonstrated the apparent lack of suitable sites for such technology. In their assessment, the Council accepted that there were clear locational advantages and the accepted lack of suitable sites, collectively, amounted to very special circumstances outweighing the presumption against inappropriate development. Planning permission was therefore granted on this basis. Despite this permission being in place, the site’s current designation as Green Belt would compromise the future operations of the approved development going forward. While the</p>	4382/18856	Barton Willmore on behalf of Peel Environmental Management (UK) Limited and North Selby Mine Waste Management Limited

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	<p>application proposals included all the necessary elements to carry out the development, the site’s current Green Belt designation will place unnecessary restrictions on future operators of the site e.g. future applications for minor additions or amendments e.g. additional security lighting or boundary treatments will need to be assessed against very restrictive Green Belt policy. The allocation of the site and its removal from the Green Belt would duly recognise the site’s ability to deliver a renewable source of electricity and therefore make an important contribution to upholding the Council’s own aims and aspirations.</p>		