

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Cleve Hill Solar Park](#)  
**Subject:** Cleve Hill Solar Park EN010085 Ref 20018862 - Objection ACL report - Oral presentation summary  
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31<sup>st</sup> July  
2019

Ref:

20018862

**Cleve Hill Solar Park Development – Agricultural Land Classification – Objections – Summary of Oral Presentation on Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> July 2019**

Dear Madam or Sir,

Please find below a summary of my oral presentation given on Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> July 2019.

I detailed that in my professional capacity that I have undertaken several Agricultural Land Classifications for solar power installations. Whilst reviewing the ALC presented by Cleve Hill Solar Park it appeared that it followed the guidelines detailed in the MAFF 1988 guidelines.

However, by a more detailed assessment of the field observation presented in the same report, I noted that the ALC report did in fact not follow the MAFF 1988 guidelines. I also stated that the field survey was 'biased' in relation to being undertaken at the time of year following an extremely wet February 2017 followed by two weeks of rainfall during the duration of the field survey at the beginning of March 2017.

I also mentioned that the report was incomplete and had missing data and that some assessment criteria to determine Wetness Class for two observation locations have been incorrectly interpreted.

I detailed that a large number of observation points have been entirely incorrectly interpreted in accordance with MAFF 1988 guidelines based on the presence of calcium carbonate in the soils. As each field survey sampling point was equivalent to about 2 ha of land, a considerable percentage of land could be reclassified as Grade 3a based on this fact alone.

I detailed that no quantitative data (as defined by the MAFF 1988 guidelines) has been presented in the report demonstrating that the soils at the site are water logged for the duration of more than 91-180 days.

I made reference to a local metrological monitoring station in close proximity to Cleve Hill Farm. I stated that I re-evaluated the Wetness Class across the site, based on actual and local metrological data and considering that a large part of the land has naturally calcareous soils, it was my opinion that over 75% of the land at Cleve Hill Farm can be graded as Grade 2 (very good agricultural land) and Subgrade 3a (good agricultural land) in accordance with MAFF 1988 guidelines.

***In my closing remark I stated that the proposed land should not have been considered for the Cleve Hill Solar Park development from an early stage, as land classified as Grade 3a or Grade 2, in accordance to current planning conditions, are not acceptable for such a development.***

I hope the summary of my oral presentation on the 16/07/2019 meets your requirements.

If I may add, I would like to request an issue specific hearing in September 2019 in relation to the Agricultural Land Classification as it is my opinion that the agricultural land was incorrectly classified and should never been considered for potential development of the Cleve Hill Solar Park.

Yours sincerely,

Bruno Erasin, BSc, PhD

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