

Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited
Alexander House 1
Mandarin Road
Rainton Bridge Business Park
Houghton le Spring
DH4 5RA

18 January 2023

The Planning Inspectorate National
Infrastructure Directorate Temple
Quay House
Temple Quay
Bristol
BS1 6PN

FAO: Bart Bartkowiak Dear

Mr Bartkowiak,

Planning Act 2008 – Application for a Development Consent Order for Longfield Solar Farm

Application Ref: EN010118

We are writing to provide the submissions made on behalf of Longfield Solar Farm Limited at Deadline 8 of the examination of the Application for development consent.

Appendix A of this letter details the submissions made on behalf of Longfield Solar Farm Limited in relation to this deadline, which should be read in conjunction with the updated Guide to the Application. For each document, Appendix A details the document name, reference, description/reason for submission and information regarding whether it is a new document or a revision of a previously submitted document. However, in summary the submissions are as follows:

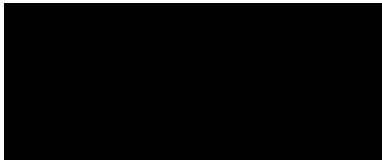
1. Section 106 Agreement – This agreement has been signed and completed by all parties on 18 January 2023. A scanned, consolidated copy of the agreement is provided at this deadline.
2. Side Agreement with National Grid – The confidential side agreement has been signed and completed on 18 January 2023. As previously reported, the agreed protective provisions are included in the draft DCO. The draft DCO has been updated at this deadline to record that the side agreement has been entered into.
3. Framework Agreement with Network Rail – The confidential framework agreement is agreed and has been signed by the Applicant. Network Rail is expected to sign shortly, and the agreement will then complete. The Applicant has been informed that Network Rail anticipates being able to withdraw its objection shortly following completion of the framework agreement. The Applicant will provide an update to the Secretary of State when this occurs.
4. Side Agreement with Eastern Power Networks plc (EPN) / UKPN – The confidential side agreement is agreed and has been signed by the Applicant. EPN is expected to sign shortly, and the agreement will then complete. The Applicant will provide an update to the Secretary of State once the agreement is complete.
5. Statement of Common Ground with the Local Authorities – A signed clean version, plus a track change version is included.
6. Statement of Common Ground with Highways England – We have noticed that the signed version was made in track change form. Therefore, we have submitted a signed clean, and signed track change version of the SoCG at this deadline for completeness; noting the final position remains as reported at Deadline 1.
7. The Statement of Commonality has been updated to reflect points 5 and 6 above.

The Applicant notes the submissions made by the Local Access Forum and Professor Alder at Deadline 7. The Applicant has responded to the matters raised in each of those submissions comprehensively at previously deadlines, particularly written submissions following the hearings [REP3-039] and responses to written submissions and responses to the ExA's questions (including REP1a-002, REP1b-042, REP6-026, REP7-005). Responses have included the provision of further evidence to justify the approach taken, as well as making changes and embedding additional commitments and controls into the Project.

The Applicant believes that there is a strong case for granting a development consent order for the Longfield solar farm project. The Applicant has worked constructively with the Interested Parties and the Statements of Common Ground particularly demonstrate the acceptability of the project to those parties. Furthermore, the Applicant has worked hard to ensure any potential adverse impacts would be mitigated by the proposed terms of the Order.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require anything further on any matters associated with this letter.

Yours sincerely,



Carly Vince
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Appendix A – List of Deadline 8 Submission Documents

Ref	Name	Description	Type
1.2(H)	Guide to the Application	This is version 9 of the Guide to the Application, which sets out all of the documents submitted in support of the Application and Examination stages.	Revision – supersedes Guide to the Application [REP7-002] . Clean version submitted.
3.1(G)	Draft Development Consent Order	The dDCO has been updated to reflect the updates detailed in the body of this letter, above.	Revision – supersedes Draft Development Consent Order [REP7-006] . PDF versions of clean and tracked changes versions, plus schedule of changes and confirmation email and report of Parliamentary validation.
8.4(E)	Statement of Common Ground with Braintree District Council, Chelmsford City and Essex County Council (the Host Authorities)	Updated Statement of Common Ground with Braintree District Council, Chelmsford City and Essex County Council (the Host Authorities).	Revision – supersedes Statement of Common [REP7-025] . Clean, signed version is submitted.
8.4(C)	Statement of Common Ground with National Highways	Signed versions in clean and track change form between the parties.	Resubmitted in signed clean and signed track change form, as the Deadline 4 version was only submitted in track change form.
8.5(F)	Statement of Commonality	Summary of the discussions, progress made and outstanding matters with regard to the Statements of Common Ground listed above.	Revision – supersedes Statement of Commonality [REP7-027] . Clean and tracked changes versions submitted.

8.20(A)	Deed of Development Consent Obligations and Other Covenants	The final signed version of the legal agreement.	Clean version submitted.
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