

# **Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited**

Non-Material Change Application
Consultation and Publicity Statement



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### **Consultation and Publicity Statement**

#### **SECTION 153 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008**

CONSULTATION AND PUBLICITY STATEMENT UNDER REGULATION 7A OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011 ("THE 2011 REGULATIONS")

THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM ORDER 2023 (SI 2023/734) AS CORRECTED BY THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM (CORRECTION) ORDER 2023 (SI 2023/1241) ("THE ORDER")

- Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited ("Longfield") (company number 11618210) of registered office Alexander House, 1 Mandarin Road, Rainton Bridge Business Park, Houghton le Spring, Sunderland, England, DH4 5RA applied to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero (the "SoS") for consent to make a non-material change to the Order under Section 153 and paragraph 2 of Schedule 6 to the Planning Act 2008 (the "PA 2008") on 13 November 2025 (the "Application").
- 2. This document constitutes Longfield's consultation and publicity statement pursuant to Regulation 7A of the 2011 Regulations.
- 3. A copy of the notice published under Regulation 6 of the 2011 Regulations (the "**Notice**") is enclosed at Appendix A.
- 4. Longfield confirms that:
  - 4.1. As required under Regulation 6(1) of the 2011 Regulations, it published the Notice in each of the Essex Chronicle and the London Gazette on the following dates:
    - 13 November 2025; and
    - 20 November 2025.
  - 4.2. Copies of extracts from each of the Essex Chronicle and the London Gazette are enclosed at Appendix B.
- 5. Regulation 7(2) of the 2011 Regulations requires Longfield to notify and consult those persons specified in the 2011 Regulations, this being all those who were notified (in accordance with section 56 of the PA 2008) when the application for the Order was accepted by the SoS, as well as any other person who may be directly affected by the changes proposed in the Application. However, Regulation 7(3) of the 2011 Regulations also provides that Longfield need not consult a person or authority specified in the 2011 Regulations if they have the written consent of the SoS not to do so. Following the appropriate request from Longfield on 15 October 2025, the SoS confirmed on 5 November 2025 that the list of consultees for the Application could be narrowed to those listed in Appendix C (the "Consultees").
- 6. Longfield sent the Notice to the Consultees by post and email on 13 November 2025. Appendix D provides the covering letters and the Notice as sent to the Consultees.
- 7. The deadline specified for representations to be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate was 11.59pm on 22 December 2025.
- 8. The Application documents have been made available to view on the Planning Inspectorate's website (<a href="https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010118/documents">https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010118/documents</a>). The Notice also invited recipients unable to access the website to request hard copies of the documents at the cost of £20 per copy.



# Appendix A Copy of the published Regulation 6 Notice

#### LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED

# SECTION 153 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008 AND REGULATION 6 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011

# NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO MAKE A NON-MATERIAL CHANGE TO THE FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER:

# THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM ORDER 2023 (SI 2023/734) AS CORRECTED BY THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM (CORRECTION) ORDER 2023 (SI 2023/1241)

Notice is hereby given that an application has been made by Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited (company number 11618210) of registered office Alexander House, 1 Mandarin Road, Rainton Bridge Business Park, Houghton Le Spring, Sunderland, England, DH4 5RA (the "Applicant") to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero to make a non-material change to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 (as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023) (the "Order") under the Planning Act 2008 (the "NMC Application").

The Order includes provision authorising the construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of a solar photovoltaic electricity generating facility and Battery Storage Energy System with a total capacity exceeding 50MW and associated infrastructure (the "**Scheme**"). Longfield seeks to make four non-material changes (the "**NMCs**") to the Order.

<u>Change 1 – amending Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order to facilitate the installation of a dual</u> circuit

Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order authorises, at paragraph (i), works including the installation of one 400 kilovolt cable circuit connecting Work No. 3 (the new onsite substation) to Work No. 5 (the extension to the existing substation).

For resilience purposes, Longfield is seeking to install a second 400 kilovolt cable circuit as part of these works. Longfield is therefore proposing to amend the description of Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order to authorise this dualling.

Change 2 – amending Article 6 of the Order to modify the Hedgerows Regulations 1997

Article 6 of the Order identifies extant legislation that is authorised to be modified or disapplied by virtue of the Order being made.

However, the list of legislation in Article 6 of the Order does not include the standard modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 in relation to the carrying out of development for the Scheme. This results in a requirement for Longfield to submit a Hedgerow Removal Notice under the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 every time that any hedgerow needs to be removed, including those already identified and assessed in Schedule 12 of the Order. This is an onerous and complex process that restricts the flexibility of the detailed design of the Scheme and poses a risk to the timing of phases of the Scheme due to determination timescales, and was clearly not the intention of the drafting of the Order. Longfield notes that this amendment will not result in uncontrolled hedgerow removal, as this continues to be controlled by the corresponding and relevant parts of the Order – for example, the vegetation removal plan, which is a certified document under Schedule 13 of the Order.

Longfield is therefore proposing to amend Article 6 of the Order to include the modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997. This approach has been consented in recent solar DCOs, including the Oaklands Farm Solar Park Order 2025.

# <u>Change 3 – amending Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order to require one submission of the BNG</u> Strategy

Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order requires Longfield to submit (for approval by the relevant planning authority) a landscape and ecological management plan ("LEMP") for each phase of the Scheme. As currently written in the Order, each LEMP requires the submission of a Biodiversity Net Gain ("BNG") Strategy to detail how the Scheme is achieving the minimum 87% BNG during the operation of the Scheme.

However, a targeted LEMP has been submitted for various permitted preliminary works (including vegetation removal) without containing a BNG Strategy, as information regarding BNG was not available at the time of the submission of that LEMP (as the landscape design for the Scheme had not yet been developed, nor did it form part of the works to which that LEMP related). Therefore, Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order has only partially been discharged in relation to that LEMP, which represents an inefficient process.

Longfield is therefore proposing to amend Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order to alter the approach such that only one site-wide BNG Strategy is required to be submitted as part of the site-wide LEMP for the Scheme's main site construction works (which are the works that give rise to BNG considerations).

#### Change 4 – amending Article 6(4) of the Order to address interactions with other planning applications

There are four small areas of overlap between the Order and two adjacent planning permissions relating to the extraction of minerals at Bulls Lodge Quarry (i.e. in proximity to the existing substation). The overlaps are de minimis and neither the Order nor the other planning permissions are prejudiced from ongoing implementation.

However, for the sake of clarity and good order, Longfield is proposing to amend Article 6(4) of the Order to expressly provide for these overlaps to occur. Longfield notes that Article 6(4), as currently written in the Order, already addresses one of the areas of overlap, which lies directly to the north of the existing substation. The proposed change is to ensure that all of the overlaps are covered by Article 6(4), making the Order explicit in this regard whilst continuing to not prejudice the ongoing implementation of the Order and the other planning permissions.

#### Overall

The NMCs proposed to the Order by Longfield are necessary for the reasons set out above. None of the NMCs will give rise to any materially new or materially different environmental effects to those originally assessed as part of the application for the Order, nor would they require additional compulsory acquisition of land, nor would they have new or different effects on local residents or business or any additional implications in respect of habitats regulation assessment; therefore, Longfield considers that the proposed changes are non-material in nature.

A copy of the NMC Application and its accompanying documents are available for inspection, free of charge, via the Planning Inspectorate's website at the below address until at least the end of the consultation period referred to below:

Planning Inspectorate website (documents tab):

https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010118/documents

If you require a hard copy of the NMC Application and its accompanying documents (for example because you do not have access to a computer and are unable to view the documents on PINS' website), you can request hard copies by contacting the Applicant at info@longfieldsolarfarm.co.uk or on 0800 0194 576. Each hard copy is available at the cost of £20 per copy.

Any representation about the NMC Application must be made by email to: <a href="mailto:LongfieldSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk">LongfieldSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk</a>, or in writing to:

National Infrastructure Planning, the Planning Inspectorate, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Bristol, BS1 6PN.

Please quote reference EN010118 on any correspondence. Consultation responses will be published on the relevant project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website.

Please note that representations must be received by the Planning Inspectorate by 11.59pm on 22 December 2025.

#### LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED

13 November 2025



# **Appendix B** Copies of the published Regulation 6 Notice in the various newspapers

**Essex Chronicle (13 November 2025)** 

# ESSEX COVERING CHELMSFORD, MALDON, BURNHAM, BRAINTREE, WITHAM & SURROUNDING AREAS

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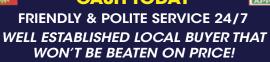
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## **Public Notices**

#### Planning

LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED **SECTION 153 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008** AND REGULATION 6 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT **CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011** 

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO MAKE A NON-MATERIAL CHANGE TO THE FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER:

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National Infrastructure Planning, the Planning Inspectorate, Temple Quay House, 2 The

Square, Bristol, BS1 6PN.

Square, DISIO, DST 0FIN.

Please quote reference EN010118 on any correspondence. Consultation responses will be published on the relevant project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website. 
Please note that representations must be received by the Planning Inspectorate by

11 59pm on 22 December 2025 LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED

#### CHELMSFORD CITY COUNCIL

Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) Order 2015

Notice is given that the Local Planning Authority has received the following applications within a conservation area or affecting a listed building:

13A Moulsham Street Retrospective - 5 rear windows and front canopy. Proposed Replacement 5 front windows. **Ref No. 25/01486/FUL** 

23A Maldon Road Danbury First floor side window. Ref No. 25/01491/FUL

32 - 34 Maldon Road Great Baddow 6 pv panels to rear. Ref No. 25/01498/FUL

Applications can be viewed on our website at www.chelmsford.gov.uk/planning or at the Council offices in Duke Street, Chelmsford during normal opening hours.

Comments can be submitted on the website or by writing to the Council at P.O. Box 7544, Chelms CM1 1JE by **5 December 2025.** 

Comments submitted will be available for the public to read and if an appeal is made will be passed to the Secretary of State. See our website for further

Paul Brookes, Director of Sustainable Communities

#### Alcohol & Licensing

#### Sex Establishment Licence Application for Renewal

Notice of application for a renewal of a sex establishment licence pursuant to Schedule 3 Local Government Miscellaneous Provisions Act 1982.

TAKE NOTICE that on 12th November 2025 Admiral Bars (Herts) Limited applied to Chelmsford City Council for the renewal of a sex establishment licence for

Club Tantalize, 20 Barrack Square, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 0UU.

#### Days and hours of operation:

Sunday to Saturday 21:00 to 05:00 the day following.

**Activity:** Table dance, pole dance, lap dance, striptease and entertainment of a like kind.

The application may be inspected (By appointment only) at the Council Offices at Civic Centre, Duke Street, Chelmsford, Essex, CM1 1JE.

Any person wishing to make objections on the application shall do so in writing at the Council Offices at Civic Centre, Duke Street, Chelmsford, Essex, CM1 1JE or by email licensing@chelmsford.gov.uk. The grounds of the objection must be stated in general terms. The objection must be received by the Council no later than 9th December 2025

Dated 12th November 2025

Keystone Law Limited

Solicitors and authorised agents for the applicant.

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#### **Essex Chronicle (20 November 2025)**



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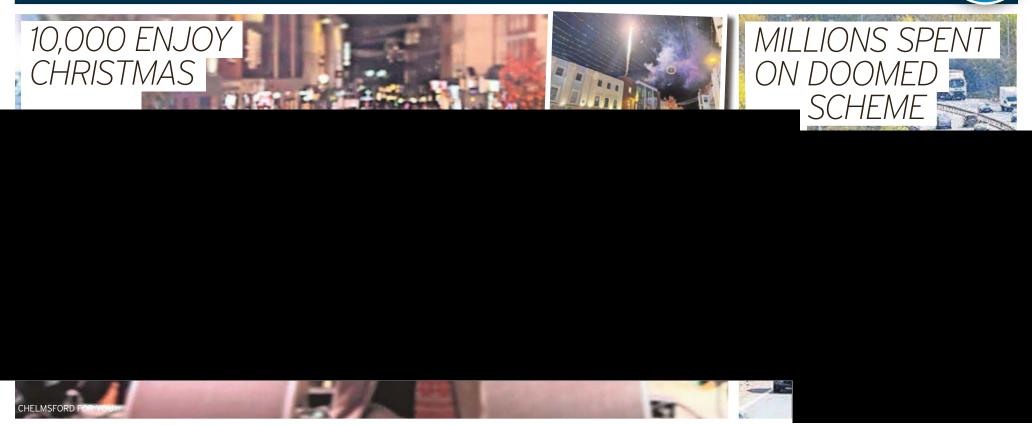
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# Mum and children 'scared' by protest

'EVERYONE DESERVES TO FEEL SECURE IN THEIR HOME': PAGE 5

#### **Public Notices**

#### Alcohol & Licensing

Licensing Act 2003

Notice is hereby given that Ismail Emin has applied to Chelmsford City Council for the grant of a Premises Licence for the premises known as 38 Duke Street, Chelmsford, CM1 1HY.

The application is to permit the

Supply of alcohol (on the premises): Monday to Sunday: 07:00 to 04:00

Late night refreshment: Monday to Sunday: 07:00 to 04:00

A record of the application can be inspected at the Licensing Authority, Chelmsford City Council, Civic Centre, Duke Street, Chelmsford CM1 1JE or on the council's website.

Any interested party or responsible authority may make representations in writing to the Licensing Authority no later than 16 December 2025.

It is an offence to knowingly or recklessly make a false statement in connection with an application, the maximum fine for which is £5,000.

# <u>Licensing Act 2003 - Public Notice of</u> <u>Application For A Full Variation Of A Premises</u>

Licence (under Section 34 of the Act)
TNS DeLi Ltd, 160 Moulsham Street, Chelmsford, Essex
CM2 0LD TNS Deli Ltd applies for the license to be varied at the above address to allow:

Alcohol to be consumed on and off the premises between

1000-2000 Monday to Saturday.

Any representations by a Responsible Authority or any persons must be made in writing within 28 days of the posting of this notice. All representations must be made by 10.12.25 in writing addressed to: The Licensing Team, Civic Centre, Duke Street, Chelmsford CM1 1JE or by email to licensing@chelmsford.gov.uk Representations after this date cannot be considered. It is an offence to knowingly or recklessly make a false statement in connection with an application punishable on summary conviction by a fine. The full application can be viewed with licensing department upon request.

Licensing Act 2003 Notice of application for a New Premises Licence Licensing Act 2003 Notice of application for a New Premises Licence
Co-operative Group Food Limited have applied for a new Premises Licence at Co-op, 39
High Street, Chelmsford CM1 1BE for the sale of alcohol for consumption off the premises
Monday to Sunday inclusive 07:00-23:00. The premises shall close to the public at 19:00
and re-open at 07:00 on the following day, All sales between 19:00-23:00 will be for online delivery only, Conditions will apply, Anyone wishing to make a representation may do
so in writing to The Licensing Team, Civic Centre, Duke Street, Chelmsford GM1 1JE or
by email to: licensing@chelmsford.gov.uk by 9 December 2025.The Application may be
viewed during normal office hours at Council Offices or at www.chemsford.gov.uk it is an
offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application and is punishable by a fine of any amount on summary conviction for the offence.

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#### **Planning**

#### LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED

SECTION 153 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008 AND REGULATION 6 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011 NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO MAKE A NON-MATERIAL CHANGE TO THE FOLLOWINGDEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER: THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM ORDER 2023 (SI 2023/734) AS CORRECTED BY THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM (CORRECTION) ORDER 2023 (SI 2023/1241)

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If you require a hard copy of the NMC Application and its accompanying documents (for example because you do not have access to a computer and are unable to view the documents on PINS' website), you can request hard copies by contacting the Applicant at info@longfieldsolarfarm.co.uk or on 0800 0194 576. Each hard copy is available at the cost of £20 per copy.

Any representation about the NMC Application must be made by email to:

<u>LongfieldSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk</u>, or in writing to:

National Infrastructure Planning, the Planning Inspectorate, Temple Quay House, 2 The

Please quote reference EN010118 on any correspondence. Consultation responses will be published on the relevant project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website. Please note that representations must be received by the Planning Inspectorate by 11.59pm on

22 December 2025. LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED 20 November 2025

# Self-Serve **online Any** item **any** price **free** online

#### CHELMSFORD CITY COUNCIL

Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) Order 2015

Notice is given that the Local Planning Authority has received the following applications within a conservation area or affecting a listed building:

4 Tindal Square Chelmsford Prior approval for change of use of first & second floor to 3-bed apartment with terrace & storage. Ref No. 25/00003/PRIOR

Dukes Manor The Street Roxwell Conversion & part

replacement of outbuilding to create 1 dwelling & carl lodge. Ref No. 25/01524/FUL & Ref No. 25/01525/LBC Garden Cottages The Street Pleshey Subdivision of dwelling to 2no. dwellings. Retention of extension commenced under reference 20/01107/FUL. Ref No. 25/01425/FUL

MenKind 39 High Street Chelmsford 1 illuminated fascia & 1 illuminated projecting sign.

Ref No. 25/01537/ADV

MenKind 39 High Street Chelmsford CM1 1BE Replacement shopfront. Ref No. 25/01536/FUL

203 Main Road Great Leighs Demolish extension.

Construction of single storey side extension. Rear dormer windows and repositioning of stairs. **Ref No. 25/01508/LBC** 

203 Main Road Great Leighs Demolish extension. Construction of single storey side extension. Rear dormer windows and repositioning of stairs. New access. Ref No. 25/01507/FUL

Cape Cottage Gay Bowers Lane Danbury Variation of condition of 25/01069/FUL Reduce the size of cartlodge. Ref No. 25/01069/S73

2 High Street Stock Ingatestone Single storey rear extension, workshop & internal works.

Ref No. 25/01529/FUL & Ref No. 25/01530/LBC

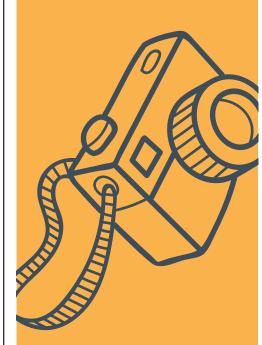
Applications can be viewed on our website at www.chelmsford.gov.uk/planning or at the Council offices in Duke Street, Chelmsford during normal opening hours.

Comments can be submitted on the website or by writing to the Council at P.O. Box 7544, Chelmsford, CM1 1JE by 12 December 2025.

Comments submitted will be available for the public to read and if an appeal is made will be passed to the Secretary of State. See our website for further

Paul Brookes, Director of Sustainable Communities

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**London Gazette (13 November 2025)** 



## CONTAINING ALL NOTICES PUBLISHED ONLINE ON 13 NOVEMBER 2025

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\* Containing all notices published online on 13 November 2025

0800 021 7877 (4996865)

LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED SECTION 153 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008 AND REGULATION 6 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO MAKE A NON-MATERIAL CHANGE TO THE FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER: THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM ORDER 2023 (SI 2023/734) AS CORRECTED BY THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM (CORRECTION) ORDER 2023 (SI 2023/1241)

Notice is hereby given that an application has been made by Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited (company number 11618210) of registered office Alexander House, 1 Mandarin Road, Rainton Bridge Business Park, Houghton Le Spring, Sunderland, England, DH4 5RA (the "Applicant") to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero to make a non-material change to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 (as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023) (the "Order") under the Planning Act 2008 (the "NMC Application").

The Order includes provision authorising the construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of a solar photovoltaic electricity generating facility and Battery Storage Energy System with a total capacity exceeding 50MW and associated infrastructure (the "Scheme"). Longfield seeks to make four non-material changes (the "NMCs") to the Order.

Change 1 – amending Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order to facilitate the installation of a dual circuit

Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order authorises, at paragraph (i), works including the installation of one 400 kilovolt cable circuit connecting Work No. 3 (the new onsite substation) to Work No. 5 (the extension to the existing substation).

For resilience purposes, Longfield is seeking to install a second 400 kilovolt cable circuit as part of these works. Longfield is therefore proposing to amend the description of Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order to authorise this dualling.

Change 2 – amending Article 6 of the Order to modify the Hedgerows Regulations 1997

Article 6 of the Order identifies extant legislation that is authorised to be modified or disapplied by virtue of the Order being made.

However, the list of legislation in Article 6 of the Order does not include the standard modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 in relation to the carrying out of development for the Scheme. This results in a requirement for Longfield to submit a Hedgerow Removal Notice under the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 every time that any hedgerow needs to be removed, including those already identified and assessed in Schedule 12 of the Order. This is an onerous and complex process that restricts the flexibility of the detailed design of the Scheme and poses a risk to the timing of phases of the Scheme due to determination timescales, and was clearly not the intention of the drafting of the Order. Longfield notes that this amendment will not result in uncontrolled hedgerow removal, as this continues to be controlled by the corresponding and relevant parts of the Order – for example, the vegetation removal plan, which is a certified document under Schedule 13 of the Order.

Longfield is therefore proposing to amend Article 6 of the Order to include the modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997. This approach has been consented in recent solar DCOs, including the Oaklands Farm Solar Park Order 2025.

Change 3 – amending Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order to require one submission of the BNG Strategy

Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order requires Longfield to submit (for approval by the relevant planning authority) a landscape and ecological management plan ("**LEMP**") for each phase of the Scheme. As currently written in the Order, each LEMP requires the submission of a Biodiversity Net Gain ("**BNG**") Strategy to detail how the Scheme is achieving the minimum 87% BNG during the operation of the Scheme.

However, a targeted LEMP has been submitted for various permitted preliminary works (including vegetation removal) without containing a BNG Strategy, as information regarding BNG was not available at the time of the submission of that LEMP (as the landscape design for the Scheme had not yet been developed, nor did it form part of the works to which that LEMP related). Therefore, Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order has only partially been discharged in relation to that LEMP, which represents an inefficient process.

Longfield is therefore proposing to amend Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order to alter the approach such that only one site-wide BNG Strategy is required to be submitted as part of the site-wide LEMP for the Scheme's main site construction works (which are the works that give rise to BNG considerations).

Change 4 – amending Article 6(4) of the Order to address interactions with other planning applications

There are four small areas of overlap between the Order and two adjacent planning permissions relating to the extraction of minerals at Bulls Lodge Quarry (i.e. in proximity to the existing substation). The overlaps are de minimis and neither the Order nor the other planning permissions are prejudiced from ongoing implementation.

However, for the sake of clarity and good order, Longfield is proposing to amend Article 6(4) of the Order to expressly provide for these overlaps to occur. Longfield notes that Article 6(4), as currently written in the Order, already addresses one of the areas of overlap, which lies directly to the north of the existing substation. The proposed change is to ensure that all of the overlaps are covered by Article 6(4), making the Order explicit in this regard whilst continuing to not prejudice the ongoing implementation of the Order and the other planning permissions.

Overall

The NMCs proposed to the Order by Longfield are necessary for the reasons set out above. None of the NMCs will give rise to any materially new or materially different environmental effects to those originally assessed as part of the application for the Order, nor would they require additional compulsory acquisition of land, nor would they have new or different effects on local residents or business or any additional implications in respect of habitats regulation assessment; therefore, Longfield considers that the proposed changes are non-material in nature.

A copy of the NMC Application and its accompanying documents are available for inspection, free of charge, via the Planning Inspectorate's website at the below address until at least the end of the consultation period referred to below:

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Any representation about the NMC Application must be made by email to:

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National Infrastructure Planning, the Planning Inspectorate, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Bristol, BS1 6PN.

Please quote reference EN010118 on any correspondence. Consultation responses will be published on the relevant project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website.

Please note that representations must be received by the Planning Inspectorate by 11.59pm on 22 December 2025.

LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED

13 November 2025

(4996868)



**London Gazette (20 November 2025)** 



## CONTAINING ALL NOTICES PUBLISHED ONLINE ON 20 NOVEMBER 2025

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People/22300\*

Terms & Conditions/22321\*

\* Containing all notices published online on 20 November 2025

If the Order is made, the stopping up will be authorised only to enable development as permitted by Durham County Council. The Secretary of State gives notice of the draft Order under Section 253 (1) of the Act.

Copies of the draft order and relevant plan will be available for inspection during normal opening hours at Horden Post Office, Fifth St, Horden, Peterlee. SR8 4BU in the 28 days commencing on 20 November 2025, and may be obtained, free of charge, from the Secretary of State (quoting NATTRAN/NE/S247/6142) at the address stated below.

Any person may object to the making of the proposed order by stating their reasons in writing to the Secretary of State at nationalcasework@dft.gov.uk or National Transport Casework Team, PO Box 1393, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE99 5FQ, quoting the above reference. Objections should be received by midnight on 18 December 2025. You are advised that your personal data and correspondence will be passed to the applicant/agent to enable your objection to be considered. If you do not wish your personal data to be forwarded, please state your reasons when submitting your objection.

S Zamenzadeh, Casework Manager

(5001784)

#### DEPARTMENT FOR TRANSPORT TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

The Secretary of State gives notice of an Order made under Section 247 of the above Act entitled "The Stopping up of Highway (North East) (No.22) Order 2025" authorising the stopping up of a western part width of Raby Street in the City of Newcastle. This is to enable development as permitted by Newcastle City Council under reference 2025/0203/01/DET.

Copies of the Order may be obtained, free of charge, from the Secretary of State, National Transport Casework Team, PO Box 1393, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE99 5FQ or nationalcasework@dft.gov.uk (quoting SUO0428799). They may also be inspected during normal opening hours at East End Library and Community Hub, 83 Shields Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE6 1DL.

Any person who wishes to challenge the validity of the decision to make the Order may apply to the High Court within 6 weeks from 20 November 2025.

S Zamenzadeh, Casework Manager

(5001786)

#### DEPARTMENT FOR TRANSPORT TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

The Secretary of State gives notice of an Order made under Section 247 of the above Act entitled "The Stopping up of Highways (West Midlands) (No.22) Order 2025" authorising the stopping up of a 3 irregular shaped southern part widths of Salop Street, an irregular shaped western part width of Market Square and an irregular shaped eastern part width of Peel Street at Wolverhampton in the City of Wolverhampton. This is to enable development as permitted by City of Wolverhampton Council, under reference 24/01214/FUL.

Copies of the Order may be obtained, free of charge, from the Secretary of State, National Transport Casework Team, PO Box 1393, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE99 5FQ or nationalcasework@dft.gov.uk (quoting NATTRAN/WM/S247/6136). They may also be inspected during normal opening hours at City of Wolverhampton Council Highways, Civic Centre, St Peters Square Wolverhampton, WV1 1SH. Any person who wishes to challenge the validity of the decision to make the Order may apply to the High Court within 6 weeks from 20 November 2025.

S Zamenzadeh, Casework Manager

(5001787)

LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED
SECTION 153 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008 AND REGULATION 6
OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO AND

OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011

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National Infrastructure Planning, the Planning Inspectorate, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Bristol, BS1 6PN.

Please quote reference EN010118 on any correspondence. Consultation responses will be published on the relevant project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website.

Please note that representations must be received by the Planning Inspectorate by 11.59pm on 22 December 2025.

#### LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED

20 November 2025 (5001785)

#### Roads & highways

#### **ROAD RESTRICTIONS**

# LONDON BOROUGH OF HARROW THE HARROW (RED ROUTE) EXPERIMENTAL TRAFFIC ORDER 2025:

- 1. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the London Borough of Harrow has made the above-mentioned Orders under Sections 9 and 10 and Part IV of Schedule 9, 10 and 124 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended by the Local Government Act 1985 and all other enabling powers.
- 2. The general effect of the Experimental Order will be to introduce:
- a. Red Route no stopping at any time restrictions except in signed bays on the following roads:
- (i) Alexandra Avenue from Nos. 411 and 413 Alexandra Avenue to its junction with Imperial Drive and Rayners Lane;

- (ii) High Worple from its junction with Alexandra Avenue to No. 1 High Worple;
- (iii) Park Drive from its junction with Village Way East for 13.5 metres northwards;
- (iv) Rayners Lane from its junction with Alexandra Avenue and Imperial Drive and No. 428 Rayners Lane
- (v) Village Way from its junction with Rayners Lane to the rear wall of Nos. 435/437 Rayners Lane; and
- (vi) Village Way East its entire length, except for the section shown in 2b. below.
- b. Red Route no stopping between 7am and 10am on the north side of Village Way East between Nos. 6 to 24 Village Way East.
- c. Double Yellow Lines no waiting at any time on the north-west side of Imperial Drive, outside Nos. 250/252 Imperial Drive and Nos. 320/322 Rayners Lane;
- d. Paid for parking places (hours of control: 8.30am to 6.30pm) in the following roads:
- (i) on the east side of Alexandra Avenue, outside Nos. 456 and 458 Alexandra Avenue (4 bays at 45° the kerb-line);
- (ii) on the east side of Alexandra Avenue, outside the Zoroastrian Centre, Alexandra Avenue (4 bays);
- (iii) on the east side of Alexandra Avenue, outside Nos. 420 to 434 Alexandra Avenue (8 bays):
- (iv) on the west side of Alexandra Avenue, outside Nos. 433 to 439 Alexandra Avenue (4 bays);
- (v) on the west side of Alexandra Avenue, outside Nos. 457 to 463 Alexandra Avenue (3 bays);
- (vi) on the east side of Rayners Lane, outside Nos. 434/436 to 434/436 Rayners Lane (4 bays);
- (vii) on the east side of Rayners Lane, outside Nos. 390/392 to 362/364 Rayners Lane (9 bays);
- (viii) on the east side of Rayners Lane, outside Nos. 332 to 348 Rayners Lane (11 bays);
- (ix) on the west side of Rayners Lane, outside Nos. 303/305 Rayners Lane (1 bay);
- (x) on the west side of Rayners Lane, outside Nos. 343/345 to 359/361 Rayners Lane (5 bays);
- (xi) on the west side of Rayners Lane, outside Nos. 371-375 to 397 Rayners Lane (5 bays);
- (xii) on the west side of Rayners Lane, outside Nos. outside Nos. 401-409 and 411/413 Rayners Lane (3 bays);
- (xiii) on the south side of Village Way East, outside Nos. 1 to 7 Village Way East (5 bays); and
- (xiv) on the south side of Village Way East, outside Nos. 17 and 19 Village Way East (2 bays).
- e. Paid for parking places (hours of control: 10am to 6.30pm) on the north side of Village Way East, outside Nos. 6 to 24 Village Way East (11 bays)
- f. Parking for disabled blue badge holders only at all times, with a maximum stay of 3 hours on the following roads:
- (i) on the east side of Rayners Lane; outside Nos. 394/396;
- (ii) on the west side of Rayners Lane, outside Nos. 399/401; and
- (iii) on the south side of Village Way East, outside Nos. 7 and 9.
- g. Loading only at all times on the following roads:
- (i) on the west side of Alexandra Avenue, outside Nos. 427 to 431 Alexandra Avenue (2 bays);
- (ii) on the west side of Alexandra Avenue, outside Nos. 465 to 467 Alexandra Avenue (1 bay);
- (iii) on the east side of Rayners Lane, outside Nos. 350/352 to 358/360 Rayners Lane (3 bays);
- (iv) on the east side of Rayners Lane, outside Nos. 398/400 to 406/408 Rayners Lane (3 bays);
- (v) on the west side of Rayners Lane, outside Nos. 415/417 to 423/425 Rayners Lane (3 bays);
- (vi) on the west side of Rayners Lane, outside Nos. 331/333 to 335/337 Rayners Lane (2 bays); and
- (vii) on the south side of Village Way East, outside Nos. 11 to 17 Village Way East (3 bays).
- h. Motorcycle parking only, at all times on the following roads:
- (i) on the east side of Alexandra Avenue, outside Nos. 439 and 443 Alexandra Avenue;  $\,$
- (ii) on the east side of Alexandra Avenue, outside No. 454 Alexandra Avenue: and
- (iii) on the west side of Alexandra Avenue, outside Nos. 434 to 438 Alexandra Avenue.
- i. Free Parking places, at all times. Maximum stay 5 minutes and no return within 1 hour on the following roads:



# **Appendix C** Consultee List

#### **List of Consultees**

Name of Consultee	Classification under the Planning Act 2008
Anglian Water Services Limited	s.42(1)(a) and s.56(2)(a)
Boreham Parish Council	s.42(1)(a) and s.56(2)(a)
Braintree District Council	s.42(1)(b) and s.56(2)(b)
British Telecommunications Plc	s.42(1)(d) and s.57(2)
Chelmsford City Council	s.42(1)(b) and s.56(2)(b)
Environment Agency	s.42(1)(a) and s.56(2)(a)
Essex and Suffolk Water Limited	s.42(1)(a), s.42(1)(d), s.56(2)(a) and s.57(2)
Essex County Council	s.42(1)(b), s.42(1)(d), s.56(2)(b) and s.57(1)
Historic England	s.42(1)(a) and s.56(2)(a)
Joint Nature Conservation Committee	s.42(1)(a) and s.56(2)(a)
Lord Rayleigh's Farms Limited	s.42(1)(d) and s.57(1)
National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc	s.42(1)(d) and s.57(2)
Natural England	s.42(1)(a) and s.56(2)(a)
Network Rail Infrastructure Limited	s.42(1)(a), s.42(1)(d), s.56(2)(a) and s.57(2)
Pioneer Aggregates (UK) Limited	s.42(1)(d) and s.57(2)
Hanson Quarry Products Europe Limited	s.42(1)(d) and s.57(1)
Vodafone Limited	s.42(1)(d) and s.57(2)
UK Power Networks Limited	s.42(1)(a), s.42(1)(d), s.56(2)(a) and s.57(2)



# **Appendix D** Covering Letters and Regulation 6 Notice issued to Consultees



#### BY RECORDED DELIVERY AND EMAIL

Chelmsford City Council Civic Centre Duke Street Chelmsford Essex CM1 1JE

n@chelmsford.gov.uk,

chelmsford.gov.uk,

@chelmsford.gov.uk

13 November 2025

Dear

#### LONGFIELD FARM ORDER 2023 – NON-MATERIAL CHANGE APPLICATION

SECTION 153 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008 AND REGULATION 7 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011

The enclosed notice relates to a 'non-material change' application (the "application") being made to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero (the "Secretary of State") for the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 (as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023 (the "Order") by Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited ("Longfield"). We act for Longfield in relation to the application.

The Order includes provision authorising the construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of a solar photovoltaic electricity generating facility and Battery Storage Energy System with a total capacity exceeding 50MW and associated infrastructure (the "Scheme"). Longfield seeks to make four non-material changes (the "NMCs") to the Order.

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Article 6 of the Order identifies extant legislation that is authorised to be modified or disapplied by virtue of the Order being made.

However, the list of legislation in Article 6 of the Order does not include the standard modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 in relation to the carrying out of development for the Scheme. This results in a requirement for Longfield to submit a Hedgerow Removal Notice under the

Pinsent Masons LLP

30 Crown Place London EC2A 4ES United Kingdom

T +44 (0)20 7418 7000 F +44 (0)20 7418 7050 DX 157620 Broadgate

Hedgerows Regulations 1997 every time that any hedgerow needs to be removed, including those already identified and assessed in Schedule 12 of the Order. This is an onerous and complex process that restricts the flexibility of the detailed design of the Scheme and poses a risk to the timing of phases of the Scheme due to determination timescales, and was clearly not the intention of the drafting of the Order. Longfield notes that this amendment will not result in uncontrolled hedgerow removal, as this continues to be controlled by the corresponding and relevant parts of the Order – for example, the vegetation removal plan, which is a certified document under Schedule 13 of the Order.

Longfield is therefore proposing to amend Article 6 of the Order to include the modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997. This approach has been consented in recent solar DCOs, including the Oaklands Farm Solar Park Order 2025.

# <u>Change 3 – amending Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order to require one submission of the BNG Strategy</u>

Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order requires Longfield to submit (for approval by the relevant planning authority) a landscape and ecological management plan ("**LEMP**") for each phase of the Scheme. As currently written in the Order, each LEMP requires the submission of a Biodiversity Net Gain ("**BNG**") Strategy to detail how the Scheme is achieving the minimum 87% BNG during the operation of the Scheme.

However, a targeted LEMP has been submitted for various permitted preliminary works (including vegetation removal) without containing a BNG Strategy, as information regarding BNG was not available at the time of the submission of that LEMP (as the landscape design for the Scheme had not yet been developed, nor did it form part of the works to which that LEMP related). Therefore, Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order has only partially been discharged in relation to that LEMP, which represents an inefficient process.

Longfield is therefore proposing to amend Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order to alter the approach such that only one site-wide BNG Strategy is required to be submitted as part of the site-wide LEMP for the Scheme's main site construction works (which are the works that give rise to BNG considerations).

# <u>Change 4 – amending Article 6(4) of the Order to address interactions with other planning applications</u>

There are four small areas of overlap between the Order and two adjacent planning permissions relating to the extraction of minerals at Bulls Lodge Quarry (i.e. in proximity to the existing substation). The overlaps are de minimis and neither the Order nor the other planning permissions are prejudiced from ongoing implementation.

However, for the sake of clarity and good order, Longfield is proposing to amend Article 6(4) of the Order to expressly provide for these overlaps to occur. Longfield notes that Article 6(4), as currently written in the Order, already addresses one of the areas of overlap, which lies directly to the north of the existing substation. The proposed change is to ensure that all of the overlaps are covered by Article 6(4), making the Order explicit in this regard whilst continuing to not prejudice the ongoing implementation of the Order and the other planning permissions.

#### Overall

The NMCs proposed to the Order by Longfield are necessary for the reasons set out above. None of the NMCs will give rise to any materially new or materially different environmental effects to those originally assessed as part of the application for the Order, nor would they require additional compulsory acquisition of land, nor would they have new or different effects on local residents or business or any additional implications in respect of habitats regulation assessment; therefore, Longfield considers that the proposed changes are non-material in nature.

#### Consultation

Before a decision can be made by the Secretary of State, Longfield must consult with various persons in accordance with the requirements of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011 (the "2011 Regulations").

You have been identified as a consultee for the purposes of Regulation 7(2) of the 2011 Regulations. In addition, we draw your attention to the Regulation 7(3) letter published by the Secretary of State on 5 November 2025, enclosed with this letter.

The enclosed Regulation 6 notice contains details of how you can access the application documents and how to respond to the consultation. Any representation about the application must be made by email to: LongfieldSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk or in writing to:

National Infrastructure Planning, the Planning Inspectorate, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Bristol. BS1 6PN.

As set out in the notice, the consultation ends on 22 December 2025. Therefore, the deadline for receipt of your views about the application is **11:59pm on 22 December 2025**.

Yours faithfully

Pinsent Masons LLP
On behalf of
LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED
Alexander House
1 Mandarin Road
Rainton Bridge Business Park
Houghton Le Spring
Sunderland
England

#### **Enclosures:**

DH4 5RA

- (i) Copy of a notice pursuant to Section 153 of the Planning Act 2008 and Regulation 6 of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011.
- (ii) Regulation 7(3) letter from the Secretary of State, dated 5 November 2025.

#### LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED

# SECTION 153 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008 AND REGULATION 6 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011

# NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO MAKE A NON-MATERIAL CHANGE TO THE FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER:

# THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM ORDER 2023 (SI 2023/734) AS CORRECTED BY THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM (CORRECTION) ORDER 2023 (SI 2023/1241)

Notice is hereby given that an application has been made by Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited (company number 11618210) of registered office Alexander House, 1 Mandarin Road, Rainton Bridge Business Park, Houghton Le Spring, Sunderland, England, DH4 5RA (the "Applicant") to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero to make a non-material change to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 (as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023) (the "Order") under the Planning Act 2008 (the "NMC Application").

The Order includes provision authorising the construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of a solar photovoltaic electricity generating facility and Battery Storage Energy System with a total capacity exceeding 50MW and associated infrastructure (the "**Scheme**"). Longfield seeks to make four non-material changes (the "**NMCs**") to the Order.

<u>Change 1 – amending Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order to facilitate the installation of a dual</u> circuit

Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order authorises, at paragraph (i), works including the installation of one 400 kilovolt cable circuit connecting Work No. 3 (the new onsite substation) to Work No. 5 (the extension to the existing substation).

For resilience purposes, Longfield is seeking to install a second 400 kilovolt cable circuit as part of these works. Longfield is therefore proposing to amend the description of Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order to authorise this dualling.

Change 2 – amending Article 6 of the Order to modify the Hedgerows Regulations 1997

Article 6 of the Order identifies extant legislation that is authorised to be modified or disapplied by virtue of the Order being made.

However, the list of legislation in Article 6 of the Order does not include the standard modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 in relation to the carrying out of development for the Scheme. This results in a requirement for Longfield to submit a Hedgerow Removal Notice under the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 every time that any hedgerow needs to be removed, including those already identified and assessed in Schedule 12 of the Order. This is an onerous and complex process that restricts the flexibility of the detailed design of the Scheme and poses a risk to the timing of phases of the Scheme due to determination timescales, and was clearly not the intention of the drafting of the Order. Longfield notes that this amendment will not result in uncontrolled hedgerow removal, as this continues to be controlled by the corresponding and relevant parts of the Order – for example, the vegetation removal plan, which is a certified document under Schedule 13 of the Order.

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#### Change 4 – amending Article 6(4) of the Order to address interactions with other planning applications

There are four small areas of overlap between the Order and two adjacent planning permissions relating to the extraction of minerals at Bulls Lodge Quarry (i.e. in proximity to the existing substation). The overlaps are de minimis and neither the Order nor the other planning permissions are prejudiced from ongoing implementation.

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#### Overall

The NMCs proposed to the Order by Longfield are necessary for the reasons set out above. None of the NMCs will give rise to any materially new or materially different environmental effects to those originally assessed as part of the application for the Order, nor would they require additional compulsory acquisition of land, nor would they have new or different effects on local residents or business or any additional implications in respect of habitats regulation assessment; therefore, Longfield considers that the proposed changes are non-material in nature.

A copy of the NMC Application and its accompanying documents are available for inspection, free of charge, via the Planning Inspectorate's website at the below address until at least the end of the consultation period referred to below:

Planning Inspectorate website (documents tab):

https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010118/documents

If you require a hard copy of the NMC Application and its accompanying documents (for example because you do not have access to a computer and are unable to view the documents on PINS' website), you can request hard copies by contacting the Applicant at info@longfieldsolarfarm.co.uk or on 0800 0194 576. Each hard copy is available at the cost of £20 per copy.

Any representation about the NMC Application must be made by email to: <a href="mailto:LongfieldSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk">LongfieldSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk</a>, or in writing to:

National Infrastructure Planning, the Planning Inspectorate, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Bristol, BS1 6PN.

Please quote reference EN010118 on any correspondence. Consultation responses will be published on the relevant project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website.

Please note that representations must be received by the Planning Inspectorate by 11.59pm on 22 December 2025.

#### LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED

13 November 2025



3-8 Whitehall Place
London
SW1A 2AW

<u>energyinfrastructureplanning@energysecurity.gov.uk</u> www.gov.uk/desnz

BY EMAIL ONLY to:
Pinsent Masons LLP
30 Crown Place
London
EC2A 4ES

@pinsentmasons.com

5 November 2025

Dear Mr Tresadern,

THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM ORDER 2023 – S.I. 734 ("THE ORDER") AND THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM (CORRECTION) ORDER 2023 – S.I. 1241 – PROPOSED NON-MATERIAL CHANGE APPLICATION

REGULATION 7(3) OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011 - WRITTEN CONSENT FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR NOT CONSULTING A PERSON OR AUTHORITY

- 1. Thank you for your email and letter of 15 October 2025 on behalf of Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited ("the Applicant"). The letter and email of 15 October 2025 provided a description of the proposed non-material changes to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023, the reasons for the proposed changes, the proposed reduced consultee list, and a list of the parties consulted on the original application in respect to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 and as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023. The letter requested the Secretary of State's consent under Regulation 7(3) of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011 (as amended) ("the 2011 Regulations") to a reduced list of consultees.
- 2. The letter provides the following description of the changes sought:
  - a. amendment of Work No. 4A in Schedule 1 to authorise installation of a second 400kV cable circuit between the onsite substation and the existing substation extension:
  - b. amendment of Article 6 to include modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997:
  - amendment of Requirement 9 in Schedule 2 to require submission of a single site-wide Biodiversity Net Gain Strategy rather than multiple phase-specific strategies; and
  - d. amendment of Article 6(4) to clarify that limited overlaps with adjacent minerals planning permissions at Bulls Lodge Quarry are permitted.

- 3. The Applicant proposes to consult 15 parties: Anglian Water Services Limited, Boreham Parish Council, Braintree District Council, British Telecommunications Plc, Chelmsford City Council, Environment Agency, Essex and Suffolk Water Limited, Essex County Council, Lord Rayleigh's Farms Limited, National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc, Natural England, Network Rail Infrastructure Limited, Pioneer Aggregates (UK) Limited, Hanson Quarry Products Europe Limited, Vodafone Limited, and UK Power Networks Limited. These parties have been identified because they are host authorities, statutory bodies, or asset owners whose operations or interests may be directly affected by one or more of the proposed non-material changes.
- 4. The Secretary of State considers that Historic England and the Joint Nature Conservation Committee should be consulted because the Applicant has not provided specific reasons why these consultees should not be consulted. The Secretary of State considers that these consultees may have representations to make in relation to the proposed change.
- 5. The Secretary of State is satisfied that it is not necessary for other consultees from the Order to be included in the reduced consultee list, as they are not directly affected, either because the proposed amendments will not affect their interests or because their interests relate to a different part of the scheme.
- 6. Accordingly, the Secretary of State gives written consent for the consultation to proceed in accordance with the details set out above, under regulation 7(3) of the 2011 Regulations.
- 7. In taking this decision, the Secretary of State acknowledges that notice of the Application will be provided by the Applicant, in line with the requirements in Regulation 6 of the 2011 Regulations.
- 8. The Secretary of State's written consent in this matter should not be taken as indicating approval for any other aspects of the proposed changes to the Order, which fall to {her/him} for consideration and determination, or whether the proposed changes will ultimately be regarded as material or not.

Yours sincerely,

#### Kerry Crowhurst-Kozlova

Head of Planning

On behalf of the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero



#### BY RECORDED DELIVERY AND EMAIL

The Environment Agency
Horizon House
Deanery Road
Bristol
BS1 5AH
LegalSupport@environment-agency.gov.uk

13 November 2025

Dear Sir / Madam

#### LONGFIELD FARM ORDER 2023 – NON-MATERIAL CHANGE APPLICATION

SECTION 153 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008 AND REGULATION 7 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011

The enclosed notice relates to a 'non-material change' application (the "application") being made to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero (the "Secretary of State") for the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 (as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023 (the "Order") by Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited ("Longfield"). We act for Longfield in relation to the application.

The Order includes provision authorising the construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of a solar photovoltaic electricity generating facility and Battery Storage Energy System with a total capacity exceeding 50MW and associated infrastructure (the "Scheme"). Longfield seeks to make four non-material changes (the "NMCs") to the Order.

Change 1 – amending Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order to facilitate the installation of a dual circuit

Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order authorises, at paragraph (i), works including the installation of one 400 kilovolt cable circuit connecting Work No. 3 (the new onsite substation) to Work No. 5 (the extension to the existing substation).

For resilience purposes, Longfield is seeking to install a second 400 kilovolt cable circuit as part of these works. Longfield is therefore proposing to amend the description of Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order to authorise this dualling.

Change 2 – amending Article 6 of the Order to modify the Hedgerows Regulations 1997

Article 6 of the Order identifies extant legislation that is authorised to be modified or disapplied by virtue of the Order being made.

However, the list of legislation in Article 6 of the Order does not include the standard modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 in relation to the carrying out of development for the Scheme. This results in a requirement for Longfield to submit a Hedgerow Removal Notice under the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 every time that any hedgerow needs to be removed, including those already identified and assessed in Schedule 12 of the Order. This is an onerous and complex process that restricts the flexibility of the detailed design of the Scheme and poses a risk to the

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# <u>Change 3 – amending Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order to require one submission of the BNG Strategy</u>

Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order requires Longfield to submit (for approval by the relevant planning authority) a landscape and ecological management plan ("**LEMP**") for each phase of the Scheme. As currently written in the Order, each LEMP requires the submission of a Biodiversity Net Gain ("**BNG**") Strategy to detail how the Scheme is achieving the minimum 87% BNG during the operation of the Scheme.

However, a targeted LEMP has been submitted for various permitted preliminary works (including vegetation removal) without containing a BNG Strategy, as information regarding BNG was not available at the time of the submission of that LEMP (as the landscape design for the Scheme had not yet been developed, nor did it form part of the works to which that LEMP related). Therefore, Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order has only partially been discharged in relation to that LEMP, which represents an inefficient process.

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# <u>Change 4 – amending Article 6(4) of the Order to address interactions with other planning</u> applications

There are four small areas of overlap between the Order and two adjacent planning permissions relating to the extraction of minerals at Bulls Lodge Quarry (i.e. in proximity to the existing substation). The overlaps are de minimis and neither the Order nor the other planning permissions are prejudiced from ongoing implementation.

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#### Overall

The NMCs proposed to the Order by Longfield are necessary for the reasons set out above. None of the NMCs will give rise to any materially new or materially different environmental effects to those originally assessed as part of the application for the Order, nor would they require additional compulsory acquisition of land, nor would they have new or different effects on local residents or business or any additional implications in respect of habitats regulation assessment; therefore, Longfield considers that the proposed changes are non-material in nature.

#### Consultation

Before a decision can be made by the Secretary of State, Longfield must consult with various persons in accordance with the requirements of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011 (the "2011 Regulations").

You have been identified as a consultee for the purposes of Regulation 7(2) of the 2011 Regulations. In addition, we draw your attention to the Regulation 7(3) letter published by the Secretary of State on 5 November 2025, enclosed with this letter.

The enclosed Regulation 6 notice contains details of how you can access the application documents and how to respond to the consultation. Any representation about the application must be made by email to: <a href="mailto:LongfieldSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk">LongfieldSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk</a> or in writing to:

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As set out in the notice, the consultation ends on 22 December 2025. Therefore, the deadline for receipt of your views about the application is **11:59pm on 22 December 2025**.

Yours faithfully

Pinsent Masons LLP
On behalf of
LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED
Alexander House
1 Mandarin Road
Rainton Bridge Business Park
Houghton Le Spring
Sunderland
England
DH4 5RA

#### Enclosures:

- (i) Copy of a notice pursuant to Section 153 of the Planning Act 2008 and Regulation 6 of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011.
- (ii) Regulation 7(3) letter from the Secretary of State, dated 5 November 2025.

#### LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED

# SECTION 153 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008 AND REGULATION 6 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011

# NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO MAKE A NON-MATERIAL CHANGE TO THE FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER:

# THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM ORDER 2023 (SI 2023/734) AS CORRECTED BY THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM (CORRECTION) ORDER 2023 (SI 2023/1241)

Notice is hereby given that an application has been made by Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited (company number 11618210) of registered office Alexander House, 1 Mandarin Road, Rainton Bridge Business Park, Houghton Le Spring, Sunderland, England, DH4 5RA (the "Applicant") to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero to make a non-material change to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 (as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023) (the "Order") under the Planning Act 2008 (the "NMC Application").

The Order includes provision authorising the construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of a solar photovoltaic electricity generating facility and Battery Storage Energy System with a total capacity exceeding 50MW and associated infrastructure (the "**Scheme**"). Longfield seeks to make four non-material changes (the "**NMCs**") to the Order.

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Please note that representations must be received by the Planning Inspectorate by 11.59pm on 22 December 2025.

#### LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED

13 November 2025



3-8 Whitehall Place
London
SW1A 2AW
ergyinfrastructureplanning@energysecurity.gov.uk

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BY EMAIL ONLY to: Pinsent Masons LLP
30 Crown Place
London
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@pinsentmasons.com

5 November 2025

Dear Mr Tresadern,

THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM ORDER 2023 – S.I. 734 ("THE ORDER") AND THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM (CORRECTION) ORDER 2023 – S.I. 1241 – PROPOSED NON-MATERIAL CHANGE APPLICATION

REGULATION 7(3) OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011 - WRITTEN CONSENT FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR NOT CONSULTING A PERSON OR AUTHORITY

- 1. Thank you for your email and letter of 15 October 2025 on behalf of Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited ("the Applicant"). The letter and email of 15 October 2025 provided a description of the proposed non-material changes to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023, the reasons for the proposed changes, the proposed reduced consultee list, and a list of the parties consulted on the original application in respect to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 and as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023. The letter requested the Secretary of State's consent under Regulation 7(3) of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011 (as amended) ("the 2011 Regulations") to a reduced list of consultees.
- 2. The letter provides the following description of the changes sought:
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  - b. amendment of Article 6 to include modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997:
  - amendment of Requirement 9 in Schedule 2 to require submission of a single site-wide Biodiversity Net Gain Strategy rather than multiple phase-specific strategies; and
  - d. amendment of Article 6(4) to clarify that limited overlaps with adjacent minerals planning permissions at Bulls Lodge Quarry are permitted.

- 3. The Applicant proposes to consult 15 parties: Anglian Water Services Limited, Boreham Parish Council, Braintree District Council, British Telecommunications Plc, Chelmsford City Council, Environment Agency, Essex and Suffolk Water Limited, Essex County Council, Lord Rayleigh's Farms Limited, National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc, Natural England, Network Rail Infrastructure Limited, Pioneer Aggregates (UK) Limited, Hanson Quarry Products Europe Limited, Vodafone Limited, and UK Power Networks Limited. These parties have been identified because they are host authorities, statutory bodies, or asset owners whose operations or interests may be directly affected by one or more of the proposed non-material changes.
- 4. The Secretary of State considers that Historic England and the Joint Nature Conservation Committee should be consulted because the Applicant has not provided specific reasons why these consultees should not be consulted. The Secretary of State considers that these consultees may have representations to make in relation to the proposed change.
- 5. The Secretary of State is satisfied that it is not necessary for other consultees from the Order to be included in the reduced consultee list, as they are not directly affected, either because the proposed amendments will not affect their interests or because their interests relate to a different part of the scheme.
- 6. Accordingly, the Secretary of State gives written consent for the consultation to proceed in accordance with the details set out above, under regulation 7(3) of the 2011 Regulations.
- 7. In taking this decision, the Secretary of State acknowledges that notice of the Application will be provided by the Applicant, in line with the requirements in Regulation 6 of the 2011 Regulations.
- 8. The Secretary of State's written consent in this matter should not be taken as indicating approval for any other aspects of the proposed changes to the Order, which fall to {her/him} for consideration and determination, or whether the proposed changes will ultimately be regarded as material or not.

Yours sincerely,

## Kerry Crowhurst-Kozlova

Head of Planning

On behalf of the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero



### BY RECORDED DELIVERY AND EMAIL

Essex and Suffolk Water Limited c/o Northumbrian Water Limited Northumbria House Abbey Road Pity Me Durham DH1 5FJ

@nwl.co.uk

13 November 2025

Dear Heidi

#### LONGFIELD FARM ORDER 2023 – NON-MATERIAL CHANGE APPLICATION

SECTION 153 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008 AND REGULATION 7 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011

The enclosed notice relates to a 'non-material change' application (the "application") being made to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero (the "Secretary of State") for the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 (as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023 (the "Order") by Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited ("Longfield"). We act for Longfield in relation to the application.

The Order includes provision authorising the construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of a solar photovoltaic electricity generating facility and Battery Storage Energy System with a total capacity exceeding 50MW and associated infrastructure (the "Scheme"). Longfield seeks to make four non-material changes (the "NMCs") to the Order.

<u>Change 1 – amending Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order to facilitate the installation of a</u> dual circuit

Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order authorises, at paragraph (i), works including the installation of one 400 kilovolt cable circuit connecting Work No. 3 (the new onsite substation) to Work No. 5 (the extension to the existing substation).

For resilience purposes, Longfield is seeking to install a second 400 kilovolt cable circuit as part of these works. Longfield is therefore proposing to amend the description of Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order to authorise this dualling.

Change 2 – amending Article 6 of the Order to modify the Hedgerows Regulations 1997

Article 6 of the Order identifies extant legislation that is authorised to be modified or disapplied by virtue of the Order being made.

However, the list of legislation in Article 6 of the Order does not include the standard modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 in relation to the carrying out of development for the Scheme. This results in a requirement for Longfield to submit a Hedgerow Removal Notice under the

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Hedgerows Regulations 1997 every time that any hedgerow needs to be removed, including those already identified and assessed in Schedule 12 of the Order. This is an onerous and complex process that restricts the flexibility of the detailed design of the Scheme and poses a risk to the timing of phases of the Scheme due to determination timescales, and was clearly not the intention of the drafting of the Order. Longfield notes that this amendment will not result in uncontrolled hedgerow removal, as this continues to be controlled by the corresponding and relevant parts of the Order – for example, the vegetation removal plan, which is a certified document under Schedule 13 of the Order.

Longfield is therefore proposing to amend Article 6 of the Order to include the modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997. This approach has been consented in recent solar DCOs, including the Oaklands Farm Solar Park Order 2025.

# <u>Change 3 – amending Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order to require one submission of the BNG Strategy</u>

Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order requires Longfield to submit (for approval by the relevant planning authority) a landscape and ecological management plan ("**LEMP**") for each phase of the Scheme. As currently written in the Order, each LEMP requires the submission of a Biodiversity Net Gain ("**BNG**") Strategy to detail how the Scheme is achieving the minimum 87% BNG during the operation of the Scheme.

However, a targeted LEMP has been submitted for various permitted preliminary works (including vegetation removal) without containing a BNG Strategy, as information regarding BNG was not available at the time of the submission of that LEMP (as the landscape design for the Scheme had not yet been developed, nor did it form part of the works to which that LEMP related). Therefore, Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order has only partially been discharged in relation to that LEMP, which represents an inefficient process.

Longfield is therefore proposing to amend Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order to alter the approach such that only one site-wide BNG Strategy is required to be submitted as part of the site-wide LEMP for the Scheme's main site construction works (which are the works that give rise to BNG considerations).

# <u>Change 4 – amending Article 6(4) of the Order to address interactions with other planning applications</u>

There are four small areas of overlap between the Order and two adjacent planning permissions relating to the extraction of minerals at Bulls Lodge Quarry (i.e. in proximity to the existing substation). The overlaps are de minimis and neither the Order nor the other planning permissions are prejudiced from ongoing implementation.

However, for the sake of clarity and good order, Longfield is proposing to amend Article 6(4) of the Order to expressly provide for these overlaps to occur. Longfield notes that Article 6(4), as currently written in the Order, already addresses one of the areas of overlap, which lies directly to the north of the existing substation. The proposed change is to ensure that all of the overlaps are covered by Article 6(4), making the Order explicit in this regard whilst continuing to not prejudice the ongoing implementation of the Order and the other planning permissions.

## Overall

The NMCs proposed to the Order by Longfield are necessary for the reasons set out above. None of the NMCs will give rise to any materially new or materially different environmental effects to those originally assessed as part of the application for the Order, nor would they require additional compulsory acquisition of land, nor would they have new or different effects on local residents or business or any additional implications in respect of habitats regulation assessment; therefore, Longfield considers that the proposed changes are non-material in nature.

### Consultation

Before a decision can be made by the Secretary of State, Longfield must consult with various persons in accordance with the requirements of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011 (the "2011 Regulations").

You have been identified as a consultee for the purposes of Regulation 7(2) of the 2011 Regulations. In addition, we draw your attention to the Regulation 7(3) letter published by the Secretary of State on 5 November 2025, enclosed with this letter.

The enclosed Regulation 6 notice contains details of how you can access the application documents and how to respond to the consultation. Any representation about the application must be made by email to: <a href="mailto:LongfieldSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk">LongfieldSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk</a> or in writing to:

National Infrastructure Planning, the Planning Inspectorate, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Bristol. BS1 6PN.

As set out in the notice, the consultation ends on 22 December 2025. Therefore, the deadline for receipt of your views about the application is **11:59pm on 22 December 2025**.

Yours faithfully

Pinsent Masons LLP
On behalf of
LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED
Alexander House
1 Mandarin Road
Rainton Bridge Business Park
Houghton Le Spring
Sunderland
England

### **Enclosures:**

DH4 5RA

- (i) Copy of a notice pursuant to Section 153 of the Planning Act 2008 and Regulation 6 of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011.
- (ii) Regulation 7(3) letter from the Secretary of State, dated 5 November 2025.

### LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED

# SECTION 153 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008 AND REGULATION 6 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011

# NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO MAKE A NON-MATERIAL CHANGE TO THE FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER:

# THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM ORDER 2023 (SI 2023/734) AS CORRECTED BY THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM (CORRECTION) ORDER 2023 (SI 2023/1241)

Notice is hereby given that an application has been made by Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited (company number 11618210) of registered office Alexander House, 1 Mandarin Road, Rainton Bridge Business Park, Houghton Le Spring, Sunderland, England, DH4 5RA (the "Applicant") to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero to make a non-material change to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 (as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023) (the "Order") under the Planning Act 2008 (the "NMC Application").

The Order includes provision authorising the construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of a solar photovoltaic electricity generating facility and Battery Storage Energy System with a total capacity exceeding 50MW and associated infrastructure (the "**Scheme**"). Longfield seeks to make four non-material changes (the "**NMCs**") to the Order.

<u>Change 1 – amending Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order to facilitate the installation of a dual</u> circuit

Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order authorises, at paragraph (i), works including the installation of one 400 kilovolt cable circuit connecting Work No. 3 (the new onsite substation) to Work No. 5 (the extension to the existing substation).

For resilience purposes, Longfield is seeking to install a second 400 kilovolt cable circuit as part of these works. Longfield is therefore proposing to amend the description of Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order to authorise this dualling.

Change 2 – amending Article 6 of the Order to modify the Hedgerows Regulations 1997

Article 6 of the Order identifies extant legislation that is authorised to be modified or disapplied by virtue of the Order being made.

However, the list of legislation in Article 6 of the Order does not include the standard modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 in relation to the carrying out of development for the Scheme. This results in a requirement for Longfield to submit a Hedgerow Removal Notice under the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 every time that any hedgerow needs to be removed, including those already identified and assessed in Schedule 12 of the Order. This is an onerous and complex process that restricts the flexibility of the detailed design of the Scheme and poses a risk to the timing of phases of the Scheme due to determination timescales, and was clearly not the intention of the drafting of the Order. Longfield notes that this amendment will not result in uncontrolled hedgerow removal, as this continues to be controlled by the corresponding and relevant parts of the Order – for example, the vegetation removal plan, which is a certified document under Schedule 13 of the Order.

Longfield is therefore proposing to amend Article 6 of the Order to include the modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997. This approach has been consented in recent solar DCOs, including the Oaklands Farm Solar Park Order 2025.

# <u>Change 3 – amending Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order to require one submission of the BNG</u> Strategy

Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order requires Longfield to submit (for approval by the relevant planning authority) a landscape and ecological management plan ("LEMP") for each phase of the Scheme. As currently written in the Order, each LEMP requires the submission of a Biodiversity Net Gain ("BNG") Strategy to detail how the Scheme is achieving the minimum 87% BNG during the operation of the Scheme.

However, a targeted LEMP has been submitted for various permitted preliminary works (including vegetation removal) without containing a BNG Strategy, as information regarding BNG was not available at the time of the submission of that LEMP (as the landscape design for the Scheme had not yet been developed, nor did it form part of the works to which that LEMP related). Therefore, Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order has only partially been discharged in relation to that LEMP, which represents an inefficient process.

Longfield is therefore proposing to amend Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order to alter the approach such that only one site-wide BNG Strategy is required to be submitted as part of the site-wide LEMP for the Scheme's main site construction works (which are the works that give rise to BNG considerations).

## Change 4 – amending Article 6(4) of the Order to address interactions with other planning applications

There are four small areas of overlap between the Order and two adjacent planning permissions relating to the extraction of minerals at Bulls Lodge Quarry (i.e. in proximity to the existing substation). The overlaps are de minimis and neither the Order nor the other planning permissions are prejudiced from ongoing implementation.

However, for the sake of clarity and good order, Longfield is proposing to amend Article 6(4) of the Order to expressly provide for these overlaps to occur. Longfield notes that Article 6(4), as currently written in the Order, already addresses one of the areas of overlap, which lies directly to the north of the existing substation. The proposed change is to ensure that all of the overlaps are covered by Article 6(4), making the Order explicit in this regard whilst continuing to not prejudice the ongoing implementation of the Order and the other planning permissions.

### Overall

The NMCs proposed to the Order by Longfield are necessary for the reasons set out above. None of the NMCs will give rise to any materially new or materially different environmental effects to those originally assessed as part of the application for the Order, nor would they require additional compulsory acquisition of land, nor would they have new or different effects on local residents or business or any additional implications in respect of habitats regulation assessment; therefore, Longfield considers that the proposed changes are non-material in nature.

A copy of the NMC Application and its accompanying documents are available for inspection, free of charge, via the Planning Inspectorate's website at the below address until at least the end of the consultation period referred to below:

Planning Inspectorate website (documents tab):

https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010118/documents

If you require a hard copy of the NMC Application and its accompanying documents (for example because you do not have access to a computer and are unable to view the documents on PINS' website), you can request hard copies by contacting the Applicant at info@longfieldsolarfarm.co.uk or on 0800 0194 576. Each hard copy is available at the cost of £20 per copy.

Any representation about the NMC Application must be made by email to: <a href="mailto:LongfieldSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk">LongfieldSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk</a>, or in writing to:

National Infrastructure Planning, the Planning Inspectorate, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Bristol, BS1 6PN.

Please quote reference EN010118 on any correspondence. Consultation responses will be published on the relevant project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website.

Please note that representations must be received by the Planning Inspectorate by 11.59pm on 22 December 2025.

### LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED

**13 November 2025** 



3-8 Whitehall Place
London
SW1A 2AW
ergyinfrastructureplanning@energysecurity.gov.uk

<u>energyinfrastructureplanning@energysecurity.gov.uk</u> www.gov.uk/desnz

BY EMAIL ONLY to: Pinsent Masons LLP
30 Crown Place
London
EC2A 4ES

@pinsentmasons.com

5 November 2025

Dear Mr Tresadern,

THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM ORDER 2023 – S.I. 734 ("THE ORDER") AND THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM (CORRECTION) ORDER 2023 – S.I. 1241 – PROPOSED NON-MATERIAL CHANGE APPLICATION

REGULATION 7(3) OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011 - WRITTEN CONSENT FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR NOT CONSULTING A PERSON OR AUTHORITY

- 1. Thank you for your email and letter of 15 October 2025 on behalf of Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited ("the Applicant"). The letter and email of 15 October 2025 provided a description of the proposed non-material changes to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023, the reasons for the proposed changes, the proposed reduced consultee list, and a list of the parties consulted on the original application in respect to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 and as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023. The letter requested the Secretary of State's consent under Regulation 7(3) of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011 (as amended) ("the 2011 Regulations") to a reduced list of consultees.
- 2. The letter provides the following description of the changes sought:
  - a. amendment of Work No. 4A in Schedule 1 to authorise installation of a second 400kV cable circuit between the onsite substation and the existing substation extension:
  - b. amendment of Article 6 to include modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997:
  - amendment of Requirement 9 in Schedule 2 to require submission of a single site-wide Biodiversity Net Gain Strategy rather than multiple phase-specific strategies; and
  - d. amendment of Article 6(4) to clarify that limited overlaps with adjacent minerals planning permissions at Bulls Lodge Quarry are permitted.

- 3. The Applicant proposes to consult 15 parties: Anglian Water Services Limited, Boreham Parish Council, Braintree District Council, British Telecommunications Plc, Chelmsford City Council, Environment Agency, Essex and Suffolk Water Limited, Essex County Council, Lord Rayleigh's Farms Limited, National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc, Natural England, Network Rail Infrastructure Limited, Pioneer Aggregates (UK) Limited, Hanson Quarry Products Europe Limited, Vodafone Limited, and UK Power Networks Limited. These parties have been identified because they are host authorities, statutory bodies, or asset owners whose operations or interests may be directly affected by one or more of the proposed non-material changes.
- 4. The Secretary of State considers that Historic England and the Joint Nature Conservation Committee should be consulted because the Applicant has not provided specific reasons why these consultees should not be consulted. The Secretary of State considers that these consultees may have representations to make in relation to the proposed change.
- 5. The Secretary of State is satisfied that it is not necessary for other consultees from the Order to be included in the reduced consultee list, as they are not directly affected, either because the proposed amendments will not affect their interests or because their interests relate to a different part of the scheme.
- 6. Accordingly, the Secretary of State gives written consent for the consultation to proceed in accordance with the details set out above, under regulation 7(3) of the 2011 Regulations.
- 7. In taking this decision, the Secretary of State acknowledges that notice of the Application will be provided by the Applicant, in line with the requirements in Regulation 6 of the 2011 Regulations.
- 8. The Secretary of State's written consent in this matter should not be taken as indicating approval for any other aspects of the proposed changes to the Order, which fall to {her/him} for consideration and determination, or whether the proposed changes will ultimately be regarded as material or not.

Yours sincerely,

## Kerry Crowhurst-Kozlova

Head of Planning

On behalf of the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero



### BY RECORDED DELIVERY AND EMAIL

Essex County Council County Hall Chelmsford Essex CM1 1LX

@essex.gov.uk

13 November 2025

Dear Andrew, Kevin, Gavin, Rachael

### **LONGFIELD FARM ORDER 2023 – NON-MATERIAL CHANGE APPLICATION**

SECTION 153 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008 AND REGULATION 7 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011

The enclosed notice relates to a 'non-material change' application (the "application") being made to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero (the "Secretary of State") for the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 (as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023 (the "Order") by Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited ("Longfield"). We act for Longfield in relation to the application.

The Order includes provision authorising the construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of a solar photovoltaic electricity generating facility and Battery Storage Energy System with a total capacity exceeding 50MW and associated infrastructure (the "**Scheme**"). Longfield seeks to make four non-material changes (the "**NMCs**") to the Order.

<u>Change 1 – amending Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order to facilitate the installation of a</u> dual circuit

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However, the list of legislation in Article 6 of the Order does not include the standard modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 in relation to the carrying out of development for the Scheme. This results in a requirement for Longfield to submit a Hedgerow Removal Notice under the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 every time that any hedgerow needs to be removed, including those

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already identified and assessed in Schedule 12 of the Order. This is an onerous and complex process that restricts the flexibility of the detailed design of the Scheme and poses a risk to the timing of phases of the Scheme due to determination timescales, and was clearly not the intention of the drafting of the Order. Longfield notes that this amendment will not result in uncontrolled hedgerow removal, as this continues to be controlled by the corresponding and relevant parts of the Order – for example, the vegetation removal plan, which is a certified document under Schedule 13 of the Order.

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# <u>Change 4 – amending Article 6(4) of the Order to address interactions with other planning applications</u>

There are four small areas of overlap between the Order and two adjacent planning permissions relating to the extraction of minerals at Bulls Lodge Quarry (i.e. in proximity to the existing substation). The overlaps are de minimis and neither the Order nor the other planning permissions are prejudiced from ongoing implementation.

However, for the sake of clarity and good order, Longfield is proposing to amend Article 6(4) of the Order to expressly provide for these overlaps to occur. Longfield notes that Article 6(4), as currently written in the Order, already addresses one of the areas of overlap, which lies directly to the north of the existing substation. The proposed change is to ensure that all of the overlaps are covered by Article 6(4), making the Order explicit in this regard whilst continuing to not prejudice the ongoing implementation of the Order and the other planning permissions.

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Before a decision can be made by the Secretary of State, Longfield must consult with various persons in accordance with the requirements of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011 (the "2011 Regulations").

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Yours faithfully

Pinsent Masons LLP
On behalf of
LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED
Alexander House
1 Mandarin Road
Rainton Bridge Business Park
Houghton Le Spring
Sunderland
England
DH4 5RA

### Enclosures:

- (i) Copy of a notice pursuant to Section 153 of the Planning Act 2008 and Regulation 6 of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011.
- (ii) Regulation 7(3) letter from the Secretary of State, dated 5 November 2025.

### LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED

# SECTION 153 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008 AND REGULATION 6 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011

# NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO MAKE A NON-MATERIAL CHANGE TO THE FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER:

# THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM ORDER 2023 (SI 2023/734) AS CORRECTED BY THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM (CORRECTION) ORDER 2023 (SI 2023/1241)

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However, for the sake of clarity and good order, Longfield is proposing to amend Article 6(4) of the Order to expressly provide for these overlaps to occur. Longfield notes that Article 6(4), as currently written in the Order, already addresses one of the areas of overlap, which lies directly to the north of the existing substation. The proposed change is to ensure that all of the overlaps are covered by Article 6(4), making the Order explicit in this regard whilst continuing to not prejudice the ongoing implementation of the Order and the other planning permissions.

### Overall

The NMCs proposed to the Order by Longfield are necessary for the reasons set out above. None of the NMCs will give rise to any materially new or materially different environmental effects to those originally assessed as part of the application for the Order, nor would they require additional compulsory acquisition of land, nor would they have new or different effects on local residents or business or any additional implications in respect of habitats regulation assessment; therefore, Longfield considers that the proposed changes are non-material in nature.

A copy of the NMC Application and its accompanying documents are available for inspection, free of charge, via the Planning Inspectorate's website at the below address until at least the end of the consultation period referred to below:

Planning Inspectorate website (documents tab):

https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010118/documents

If you require a hard copy of the NMC Application and its accompanying documents (for example because you do not have access to a computer and are unable to view the documents on PINS' website), you can request hard copies by contacting the Applicant at info@longfieldsolarfarm.co.uk or on 0800 0194 576. Each hard copy is available at the cost of £20 per copy.

Any representation about the NMC Application must be made by email to: <a href="mailto:LongfieldSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk">LongfieldSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk</a>, or in writing to:

National Infrastructure Planning, the Planning Inspectorate, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Bristol, BS1 6PN.

Please quote reference EN010118 on any correspondence. Consultation responses will be published on the relevant project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website.

Please note that representations must be received by the Planning Inspectorate by 11.59pm on 22 December 2025.

### LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED

**13 November 2025** 



3-8 Whitehall Place
London
SW1A 2AW
ergyinfrastructureplanning@energysecurity.gov.uk

<u>energyinfrastructureplanning@energysecurity.gov.uk</u> www.gov.uk/desnz

BY EMAIL ONLY to: |
Pinsent Masons LLP
30 Crown Place
London
EC2A 4ES

@pinsentmasons.com

5 November 2025

Dear Mr Tresadern,

THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM ORDER 2023 – S.I. 734 ("THE ORDER") AND THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM (CORRECTION) ORDER 2023 – S.I. 1241 – PROPOSED NON-MATERIAL CHANGE APPLICATION

REGULATION 7(3) OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011 - WRITTEN CONSENT FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR NOT CONSULTING A PERSON OR AUTHORITY

- 1. Thank you for your email and letter of 15 October 2025 on behalf of Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited ("the Applicant"). The letter and email of 15 October 2025 provided a description of the proposed non-material changes to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023, the reasons for the proposed changes, the proposed reduced consultee list, and a list of the parties consulted on the original application in respect to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 and as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023. The letter requested the Secretary of State's consent under Regulation 7(3) of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011 (as amended) ("the 2011 Regulations") to a reduced list of consultees.
- 2. The letter provides the following description of the changes sought:
  - a. amendment of Work No. 4A in Schedule 1 to authorise installation of a second 400kV cable circuit between the onsite substation and the existing substation extension:
  - b. amendment of Article 6 to include modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997:
  - amendment of Requirement 9 in Schedule 2 to require submission of a single site-wide Biodiversity Net Gain Strategy rather than multiple phase-specific strategies; and
  - d. amendment of Article 6(4) to clarify that limited overlaps with adjacent minerals planning permissions at Bulls Lodge Quarry are permitted.

- 3. The Applicant proposes to consult 15 parties: Anglian Water Services Limited, Boreham Parish Council, Braintree District Council, British Telecommunications Plc, Chelmsford City Council, Environment Agency, Essex and Suffolk Water Limited, Essex County Council, Lord Rayleigh's Farms Limited, National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc, Natural England, Network Rail Infrastructure Limited, Pioneer Aggregates (UK) Limited, Hanson Quarry Products Europe Limited, Vodafone Limited, and UK Power Networks Limited. These parties have been identified because they are host authorities, statutory bodies, or asset owners whose operations or interests may be directly affected by one or more of the proposed non-material changes.
- 4. The Secretary of State considers that Historic England and the Joint Nature Conservation Committee should be consulted because the Applicant has not provided specific reasons why these consultees should not be consulted. The Secretary of State considers that these consultees may have representations to make in relation to the proposed change.
- 5. The Secretary of State is satisfied that it is not necessary for other consultees from the Order to be included in the reduced consultee list, as they are not directly affected, either because the proposed amendments will not affect their interests or because their interests relate to a different part of the scheme.
- 6. Accordingly, the Secretary of State gives written consent for the consultation to proceed in accordance with the details set out above, under regulation 7(3) of the 2011 Regulations.
- 7. In taking this decision, the Secretary of State acknowledges that notice of the Application will be provided by the Applicant, in line with the requirements in Regulation 6 of the 2011 Regulations.
- 8. The Secretary of State's written consent in this matter should not be taken as indicating approval for any other aspects of the proposed changes to the Order, which fall to {her/him} for consideration and determination, or whether the proposed changes will ultimately be regarded as material or not.

Yours sincerely,

## Kerry Crowhurst-Kozlova

Head of Planning

On behalf of the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero



### BY RECORDED DELIVERY AND EMAIL

Hanson Quarry Products Europe Limited Hanson House 14 Castle Hill Maidenhead SL6 4JJ

@heidelbergmaterials.com

13 November 2025

Dear lain

#### LONGFIELD FARM ORDER 2023 – NON-MATERIAL CHANGE APPLICATION

SECTION 153 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008 AND REGULATION 7 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011

The enclosed notice relates to a 'non-material change' application (the "application") being made to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero (the "Secretary of State") for the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 (as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023 (the "Order") by Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited ("Longfield"). We act for Longfield in relation to the application.

The Order includes provision authorising the construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of a solar photovoltaic electricity generating facility and Battery Storage Energy System with a total capacity exceeding 50MW and associated infrastructure (the "Scheme"). Longfield seeks to make four non-material changes (the "NMCs") to the Order.

Change 1 – amending Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order to facilitate the installation of a dual circuit

Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order authorises, at paragraph (i), works including the installation of one 400 kilovolt cable circuit connecting Work No. 3 (the new onsite substation) to Work No. 5 (the extension to the existing substation).

For resilience purposes, Longfield is seeking to install a second 400 kilovolt cable circuit as part of these works. Longfield is therefore proposing to amend the description of Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order to authorise this dualling.

Change 2 – amending Article 6 of the Order to modify the Hedgerows Regulations 1997

Article 6 of the Order identifies extant legislation that is authorised to be modified or disapplied by virtue of the Order being made.

However, the list of legislation in Article 6 of the Order does not include the standard modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 in relation to the carrying out of development for the Scheme. This results in a requirement for Longfield to submit a Hedgerow Removal Notice under the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 every time that any hedgerow needs to be removed, including those already identified and assessed in Schedule 12 of the Order. This is an onerous and complex process that restricts the flexibility of the detailed design of the Scheme and poses a risk to the

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timing of phases of the Scheme due to determination timescales, and was clearly not the intention of the drafting of the Order. Longfield notes that this amendment will not result in uncontrolled hedgerow removal, as this continues to be controlled by the corresponding and relevant parts of the Order – for example, the vegetation removal plan, which is a certified document under Schedule 13 of the Order.

Longfield is therefore proposing to amend Article 6 of the Order to include the modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997. This approach has been consented in recent solar DCOs, including the Oaklands Farm Solar Park Order 2025.

# <u>Change 3 – amending Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order to require one submission of the BNG Strategy</u>

Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order requires Longfield to submit (for approval by the relevant planning authority) a landscape and ecological management plan ("**LEMP**") for each phase of the Scheme. As currently written in the Order, each LEMP requires the submission of a Biodiversity Net Gain ("**BNG**") Strategy to detail how the Scheme is achieving the minimum 87% BNG during the operation of the Scheme.

However, a targeted LEMP has been submitted for various permitted preliminary works (including vegetation removal) without containing a BNG Strategy, as information regarding BNG was not available at the time of the submission of that LEMP (as the landscape design for the Scheme had not yet been developed, nor did it form part of the works to which that LEMP related). Therefore, Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order has only partially been discharged in relation to that LEMP, which represents an inefficient process.

Longfield is therefore proposing to amend Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order to alter the approach such that only one site-wide BNG Strategy is required to be submitted as part of the site-wide LEMP for the Scheme's main site construction works (which are the works that give rise to BNG considerations).

# <u>Change 4 – amending Article 6(4) of the Order to address interactions with other planning</u> applications

There are four small areas of overlap between the Order and two adjacent planning permissions relating to the extraction of minerals at Bulls Lodge Quarry (i.e. in proximity to the existing substation). The overlaps are de minimis and neither the Order nor the other planning permissions are prejudiced from ongoing implementation.

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#### Overall

The NMCs proposed to the Order by Longfield are necessary for the reasons set out above. None of the NMCs will give rise to any materially new or materially different environmental effects to those originally assessed as part of the application for the Order, nor would they require additional compulsory acquisition of land, nor would they have new or different effects on local residents or business or any additional implications in respect of habitats regulation assessment; therefore, Longfield considers that the proposed changes are non-material in nature.

### Consultation

Before a decision can be made by the Secretary of State, Longfield must consult with various persons in accordance with the requirements of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011 (the "2011 Regulations").

You have been identified as a consultee for the purposes of Regulation 7(2) of the 2011 Regulations. In addition, we draw your attention to the Regulation 7(3) letter published by the Secretary of State on 5 November 2025, enclosed with this letter.

The enclosed Regulation 6 notice contains details of how you can access the application documents and how to respond to the consultation. Any representation about the application must be made by email to: <a href="mailto:LongfieldSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk">LongfieldSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk</a> or in writing to:

National Infrastructure Planning, the Planning Inspectorate, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Bristol, BS1 6PN.

As set out in the notice, the consultation ends on 22 December 2025. Therefore, the deadline for receipt of your views about the application is **11:59pm on 22 December 2025**.

Yours faithfully

Pinsent Masons LLP
On behalf of
LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED
Alexander House
1 Mandarin Road
Rainton Bridge Business Park
Houghton Le Spring
Sunderland
England
DH4 5RA

### Enclosures:

- (i) Copy of a notice pursuant to Section 153 of the Planning Act 2008 and Regulation 6 of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011.
- (ii) Regulation 7(3) letter from the Secretary of State, dated 5 November 2025.

### LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED

# SECTION 153 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008 AND REGULATION 6 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011

# NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO MAKE A NON-MATERIAL CHANGE TO THE FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER:

# THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM ORDER 2023 (SI 2023/734) AS CORRECTED BY THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM (CORRECTION) ORDER 2023 (SI 2023/1241)

Notice is hereby given that an application has been made by Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited (company number 11618210) of registered office Alexander House, 1 Mandarin Road, Rainton Bridge Business Park, Houghton Le Spring, Sunderland, England, DH4 5RA (the "Applicant") to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero to make a non-material change to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 (as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023) (the "Order") under the Planning Act 2008 (the "NMC Application").

The Order includes provision authorising the construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of a solar photovoltaic electricity generating facility and Battery Storage Energy System with a total capacity exceeding 50MW and associated infrastructure (the "**Scheme**"). Longfield seeks to make four non-material changes (the "**NMCs**") to the Order.

<u>Change 1 – amending Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order to facilitate the installation of a dual</u> circuit

Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order authorises, at paragraph (i), works including the installation of one 400 kilovolt cable circuit connecting Work No. 3 (the new onsite substation) to Work No. 5 (the extension to the existing substation).

For resilience purposes, Longfield is seeking to install a second 400 kilovolt cable circuit as part of these works. Longfield is therefore proposing to amend the description of Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order to authorise this dualling.

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Article 6 of the Order identifies extant legislation that is authorised to be modified or disapplied by virtue of the Order being made.

However, the list of legislation in Article 6 of the Order does not include the standard modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 in relation to the carrying out of development for the Scheme. This results in a requirement for Longfield to submit a Hedgerow Removal Notice under the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 every time that any hedgerow needs to be removed, including those already identified and assessed in Schedule 12 of the Order. This is an onerous and complex process that restricts the flexibility of the detailed design of the Scheme and poses a risk to the timing of phases of the Scheme due to determination timescales, and was clearly not the intention of the drafting of the Order. Longfield notes that this amendment will not result in uncontrolled hedgerow removal, as this continues to be controlled by the corresponding and relevant parts of the Order – for example, the vegetation removal plan, which is a certified document under Schedule 13 of the Order.

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Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order requires Longfield to submit (for approval by the relevant planning authority) a landscape and ecological management plan ("LEMP") for each phase of the Scheme. As currently written in the Order, each LEMP requires the submission of a Biodiversity Net Gain ("BNG") Strategy to detail how the Scheme is achieving the minimum 87% BNG during the operation of the Scheme.

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Please note that representations must be received by the Planning Inspectorate by 11.59pm on 22 December 2025.

### LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED

**13 November 2025** 



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BY EMAIL ONLY to: |
Pinsent Masons LLP
30 Crown Place
London
EC2A 4ES

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5 November 2025

Dear Mr Tresadern,

THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM ORDER 2023 – S.I. 734 ("THE ORDER") AND THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM (CORRECTION) ORDER 2023 – S.I. 1241 – PROPOSED NON-MATERIAL CHANGE APPLICATION

REGULATION 7(3) OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011 - WRITTEN CONSENT FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR NOT CONSULTING A PERSON OR AUTHORITY

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Yours sincerely,

## Kerry Crowhurst-Kozlova

Head of Planning

On behalf of the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero



### BY RECORDED DELIVERY AND EMAIL

Anglian Water Services Limited
Lancaster House
Lancaster Way
Ermine Business Park
Huntingdon
Cambridgeshire
PE29 6XU
spatialplanning@anglianwater.co.uk

13 November 2025

Dear Sir / Madam

#### LONGFIELD FARM ORDER 2023 – NON-MATERIAL CHANGE APPLICATION

SECTION 153 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008 AND REGULATION 7 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011

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As set out in the notice, the consultation ends on 22 December 2025. Therefore, the deadline for receipt of your views about the application is **11:59pm on 22 December 2025**.

Yours faithfully

Pinsent Masons LLP
On behalf of
LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED
Alexander House
1 Mandarin Road
Rainton Bridge Business Park
Houghton Le Spring
Sunderland
England

### **Enclosures:**

DH4 5RA

- (i) Copy of a notice pursuant to Section 153 of the Planning Act 2008 and Regulation 6 of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011.
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### LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED

# SECTION 153 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008 AND REGULATION 6 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011

# NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO MAKE A NON-MATERIAL CHANGE TO THE FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER:

# THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM ORDER 2023 (SI 2023/734) AS CORRECTED BY THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM (CORRECTION) ORDER 2023 (SI 2023/1241)

Notice is hereby given that an application has been made by Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited (company number 11618210) of registered office Alexander House, 1 Mandarin Road, Rainton Bridge Business Park, Houghton Le Spring, Sunderland, England, DH4 5RA (the "Applicant") to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero to make a non-material change to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 (as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023) (the "Order") under the Planning Act 2008 (the "NMC Application").

The Order includes provision authorising the construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of a solar photovoltaic electricity generating facility and Battery Storage Energy System with a total capacity exceeding 50MW and associated infrastructure (the "**Scheme**"). Longfield seeks to make four non-material changes (the "**NMCs**") to the Order.

<u>Change 1 – amending Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order to facilitate the installation of a dual</u> circuit

Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order authorises, at paragraph (i), works including the installation of one 400 kilovolt cable circuit connecting Work No. 3 (the new onsite substation) to Work No. 5 (the extension to the existing substation).

For resilience purposes, Longfield is seeking to install a second 400 kilovolt cable circuit as part of these works. Longfield is therefore proposing to amend the description of Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order to authorise this dualling.

Change 2 – amending Article 6 of the Order to modify the Hedgerows Regulations 1997

Article 6 of the Order identifies extant legislation that is authorised to be modified or disapplied by virtue of the Order being made.

However, the list of legislation in Article 6 of the Order does not include the standard modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 in relation to the carrying out of development for the Scheme. This results in a requirement for Longfield to submit a Hedgerow Removal Notice under the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 every time that any hedgerow needs to be removed, including those already identified and assessed in Schedule 12 of the Order. This is an onerous and complex process that restricts the flexibility of the detailed design of the Scheme and poses a risk to the timing of phases of the Scheme due to determination timescales, and was clearly not the intention of the drafting of the Order. Longfield notes that this amendment will not result in uncontrolled hedgerow removal, as this continues to be controlled by the corresponding and relevant parts of the Order – for example, the vegetation removal plan, which is a certified document under Schedule 13 of the Order.

Longfield is therefore proposing to amend Article 6 of the Order to include the modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997. This approach has been consented in recent solar DCOs, including the Oaklands Farm Solar Park Order 2025.

# <u>Change 3 – amending Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order to require one submission of the BNG</u> Strategy

Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order requires Longfield to submit (for approval by the relevant planning authority) a landscape and ecological management plan ("LEMP") for each phase of the Scheme. As currently written in the Order, each LEMP requires the submission of a Biodiversity Net Gain ("BNG") Strategy to detail how the Scheme is achieving the minimum 87% BNG during the operation of the Scheme.

However, a targeted LEMP has been submitted for various permitted preliminary works (including vegetation removal) without containing a BNG Strategy, as information regarding BNG was not available at the time of the submission of that LEMP (as the landscape design for the Scheme had not yet been developed, nor did it form part of the works to which that LEMP related). Therefore, Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order has only partially been discharged in relation to that LEMP, which represents an inefficient process.

Longfield is therefore proposing to amend Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order to alter the approach such that only one site-wide BNG Strategy is required to be submitted as part of the site-wide LEMP for the Scheme's main site construction works (which are the works that give rise to BNG considerations).

## Change 4 – amending Article 6(4) of the Order to address interactions with other planning applications

There are four small areas of overlap between the Order and two adjacent planning permissions relating to the extraction of minerals at Bulls Lodge Quarry (i.e. in proximity to the existing substation). The overlaps are de minimis and neither the Order nor the other planning permissions are prejudiced from ongoing implementation.

However, for the sake of clarity and good order, Longfield is proposing to amend Article 6(4) of the Order to expressly provide for these overlaps to occur. Longfield notes that Article 6(4), as currently written in the Order, already addresses one of the areas of overlap, which lies directly to the north of the existing substation. The proposed change is to ensure that all of the overlaps are covered by Article 6(4), making the Order explicit in this regard whilst continuing to not prejudice the ongoing implementation of the Order and the other planning permissions.

### Overall

The NMCs proposed to the Order by Longfield are necessary for the reasons set out above. None of the NMCs will give rise to any materially new or materially different environmental effects to those originally assessed as part of the application for the Order, nor would they require additional compulsory acquisition of land, nor would they have new or different effects on local residents or business or any additional implications in respect of habitats regulation assessment; therefore, Longfield considers that the proposed changes are non-material in nature.

A copy of the NMC Application and its accompanying documents are available for inspection, free of charge, via the Planning Inspectorate's website at the below address until at least the end of the consultation period referred to below:

Planning Inspectorate website (documents tab):

https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010118/documents

If you require a hard copy of the NMC Application and its accompanying documents (for example because you do not have access to a computer and are unable to view the documents on PINS' website), you can request hard copies by contacting the Applicant at info@longfieldsolarfarm.co.uk or on 0800 0194 576. Each hard copy is available at the cost of £20 per copy.

Any representation about the NMC Application must be made by email to: <a href="mailto:LongfieldSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk">LongfieldSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk</a>, or in writing to:

National Infrastructure Planning, the Planning Inspectorate, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Bristol, BS1 6PN.

Please quote reference EN010118 on any correspondence. Consultation responses will be published on the relevant project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website.

Please note that representations must be received by the Planning Inspectorate by 11.59pm on 22 December 2025.

### LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED

**13 November 2025** 



3-8 Whitehall Place
London
SW1A 2AW

<u>energyinfrastructureplanning@energysecurity.gov.uk</u> www.gov.uk/desnz

BY EMAIL ONLY to:
Pinsent Masons LLP
30 Crown Place
London
EC2A 4ES

@pinsentmasons.com

5 November 2025

Dear Mr Tresadern,

THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM ORDER 2023 – S.I. 734 ("THE ORDER") AND THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM (CORRECTION) ORDER 2023 – S.I. 1241 – PROPOSED NON-MATERIAL CHANGE APPLICATION

REGULATION 7(3) OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011 - WRITTEN CONSENT FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR NOT CONSULTING A PERSON OR AUTHORITY

- 1. Thank you for your email and letter of 15 October 2025 on behalf of Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited ("the Applicant"). The letter and email of 15 October 2025 provided a description of the proposed non-material changes to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023, the reasons for the proposed changes, the proposed reduced consultee list, and a list of the parties consulted on the original application in respect to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 and as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023. The letter requested the Secretary of State's consent under Regulation 7(3) of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011 (as amended) ("the 2011 Regulations") to a reduced list of consultees.
- 2. The letter provides the following description of the changes sought:
  - a. amendment of Work No. 4A in Schedule 1 to authorise installation of a second 400kV cable circuit between the onsite substation and the existing substation extension:
  - b. amendment of Article 6 to include modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997:
  - amendment of Requirement 9 in Schedule 2 to require submission of a single site-wide Biodiversity Net Gain Strategy rather than multiple phase-specific strategies; and
  - d. amendment of Article 6(4) to clarify that limited overlaps with adjacent minerals planning permissions at Bulls Lodge Quarry are permitted.

- 3. The Applicant proposes to consult 15 parties: Anglian Water Services Limited, Boreham Parish Council, Braintree District Council, British Telecommunications Plc, Chelmsford City Council, Environment Agency, Essex and Suffolk Water Limited, Essex County Council, Lord Rayleigh's Farms Limited, National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc, Natural England, Network Rail Infrastructure Limited, Pioneer Aggregates (UK) Limited, Hanson Quarry Products Europe Limited, Vodafone Limited, and UK Power Networks Limited. These parties have been identified because they are host authorities, statutory bodies, or asset owners whose operations or interests may be directly affected by one or more of the proposed non-material changes.
- 4. The Secretary of State considers that Historic England and the Joint Nature Conservation Committee should be consulted because the Applicant has not provided specific reasons why these consultees should not be consulted. The Secretary of State considers that these consultees may have representations to make in relation to the proposed change.
- 5. The Secretary of State is satisfied that it is not necessary for other consultees from the Order to be included in the reduced consultee list, as they are not directly affected, either because the proposed amendments will not affect their interests or because their interests relate to a different part of the scheme.
- 6. Accordingly, the Secretary of State gives written consent for the consultation to proceed in accordance with the details set out above, under regulation 7(3) of the 2011 Regulations.
- 7. In taking this decision, the Secretary of State acknowledges that notice of the Application will be provided by the Applicant, in line with the requirements in Regulation 6 of the 2011 Regulations.
- 8. The Secretary of State's written consent in this matter should not be taken as indicating approval for any other aspects of the proposed changes to the Order, which fall to {her/him} for consideration and determination, or whether the proposed changes will ultimately be regarded as material or not.

Yours sincerely,

## Kerry Crowhurst-Kozlova

Head of Planning

On behalf of the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero



### BY RECORDED DELIVERY AND EMAIL

Boreham Parish Council Village Hall Main Road Boreham Chelmsford CM3 3JD

13 November 2025

Dear Sir / Madam

### **LONGFIELD FARM ORDER 2023 – NON-MATERIAL CHANGE APPLICATION**

SECTION 153 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008 AND REGULATION 7 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011

The enclosed notice relates to a 'non-material change' application (the "application") being made to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero (the "Secretary of State") for the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 (as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023 (the "Order") by Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited ("Longfield"). We act for Longfield in relation to the application.

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already identified and assessed in Schedule 12 of the Order. This is an onerous and complex process that restricts the flexibility of the detailed design of the Scheme and poses a risk to the timing of phases of the Scheme due to determination timescales, and was clearly not the intention of the drafting of the Order. Longfield notes that this amendment will not result in uncontrolled hedgerow removal, as this continues to be controlled by the corresponding and relevant parts of the Order – for example, the vegetation removal plan, which is a certified document under Schedule 13 of the Order.

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### Overall

The NMCs proposed to the Order by Longfield are necessary for the reasons set out above. None of the NMCs will give rise to any materially new or materially different environmental effects to those originally assessed as part of the application for the Order, nor would they require additional compulsory acquisition of land, nor would they have new or different effects on local residents or business or any additional implications in respect of habitats regulation assessment; therefore, Longfield considers that the proposed changes are non-material in nature.

### Consultation

Before a decision can be made by the Secretary of State, Longfield must consult with various persons in accordance with the requirements of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011 (the "2011 Regulations").

You have been identified as a consultee for the purposes of Regulation 7(2) of the 2011 Regulations. In addition, we draw your attention to the Regulation 7(3) letter published by the Secretary of State on 5 November 2025, enclosed with this letter.

The enclosed Regulation 6 notice contains details of how you can access the application documents and how to respond to the consultation. Any representation about the application must be made by email to: <a href="mailto:LongfieldSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk">LongfieldSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk</a> or in writing to:

National Infrastructure Planning, the Planning Inspectorate, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Bristol, BS1 6PN.

As set out in the notice, the consultation ends on 22 December 2025. Therefore, the deadline for receipt of your views about the application is **11:59pm on 22 December 2025**.

Yours faithfully

Pinsent Masons LLP
On behalf of
LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED
Alexander House
1 Mandarin Road
Rainton Bridge Business Park
Houghton Le Spring
Sunderland
England
DH4 5RA

#### Enclosures:

- (i) Copy of a notice pursuant to Section 153 of the Planning Act 2008 and Regulation 6 of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011.
- (ii) Regulation 7(3) letter from the Secretary of State, dated 5 November 2025.

#### LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED

# SECTION 153 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008 AND REGULATION 6 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011

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#### LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED

13 November 2025



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London
SW1A 2AW
ergyinfrastructureplanning@energysecurity.gov.uk

<u>energyinfrastructureplanning@energysecurity.gov.uk</u> www.gov.uk/desnz

BY EMAIL ONLY to: Pinsent Masons LLP
30 Crown Place
London
EC2A 4ES

@pinsentmasons.com

5 November 2025

Dear Mr Tresadern,

THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM ORDER 2023 – S.I. 734 ("THE ORDER") AND THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM (CORRECTION) ORDER 2023 – S.I. 1241 – PROPOSED NON-MATERIAL CHANGE APPLICATION

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Yours sincerely,

### Kerry Crowhurst-Kozlova

Head of Planning

On behalf of the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero



#### BY RECORDED DELIVERY AND EMAIL

Braintree District Council Causeway House Bocking End Braintree Essex CM7 9HB

.gov.uk, planning@braintree.gov.uk

13 November 2025

Dear Timothy, Liz

#### LONGFIELD FARM ORDER 2023 – NON-MATERIAL CHANGE APPLICATION

SECTION 153 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008 AND REGULATION 7 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011

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### <u>Change 3 – amending Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order to require one submission of the BNG Strategy</u>

Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order requires Longfield to submit (for approval by the relevant planning authority) a landscape and ecological management plan ("**LEMP**") for each phase of the Scheme. As currently written in the Order, each LEMP requires the submission of a Biodiversity Net Gain ("**BNG**") Strategy to detail how the Scheme is achieving the minimum 87% BNG during the operation of the Scheme.

However, a targeted LEMP has been submitted for various permitted preliminary works (including vegetation removal) without containing a BNG Strategy, as information regarding BNG was not available at the time of the submission of that LEMP (as the landscape design for the Scheme had not yet been developed, nor did it form part of the works to which that LEMP related). Therefore, Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order has only partially been discharged in relation to that LEMP, which represents an inefficient process.

Longfield is therefore proposing to amend Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order to alter the approach such that only one site-wide BNG Strategy is required to be submitted as part of the site-wide LEMP for the Scheme's main site construction works (which are the works that give rise to BNG considerations).

# <u>Change 4 – amending Article 6(4) of the Order to address interactions with other planning applications</u>

There are four small areas of overlap between the Order and two adjacent planning permissions relating to the extraction of minerals at Bulls Lodge Quarry (i.e. in proximity to the existing substation). The overlaps are de minimis and neither the Order nor the other planning permissions are prejudiced from ongoing implementation.

However, for the sake of clarity and good order, Longfield is proposing to amend Article 6(4) of the Order to expressly provide for these overlaps to occur. Longfield notes that Article 6(4), as currently written in the Order, already addresses one of the areas of overlap, which lies directly to the north of the existing substation. The proposed change is to ensure that all of the overlaps are covered by Article 6(4), making the Order explicit in this regard whilst continuing to not prejudice the ongoing implementation of the Order and the other planning permissions.

#### Overall

The NMCs proposed to the Order by Longfield are necessary for the reasons set out above. None of the NMCs will give rise to any materially new or materially different environmental effects to those originally assessed as part of the application for the Order, nor would they require additional compulsory acquisition of land, nor would they have new or different effects on local residents or business or any additional implications in respect of habitats regulation assessment; therefore, Longfield considers that the proposed changes are non-material in nature.

### Consultation

Before a decision can be made by the Secretary of State, Longfield must consult with various persons in accordance with the requirements of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011 (the "2011 Regulations").

You have been identified as a consultee for the purposes of Regulation 7(2) of the 2011 Regulations. In addition, we draw your attention to the Regulation 7(3) letter published by the Secretary of State on 5 November 2025, enclosed with this letter.

The enclosed Regulation 6 notice contains details of how you can access the application documents and how to respond to the consultation. Any representation about the application must be made by email to: <a href="mailto:LongfieldSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk">LongfieldSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk</a> or in writing to:

National Infrastructure Planning, the Planning Inspectorate, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Bristol, BS1 6PN.

As set out in the notice, the consultation ends on 22 December 2025. Therefore, the deadline for receipt of your views about the application is **11:59pm on 22 December 2025**.

Yours faithfully

Pinsent Masons LLP
On behalf of
LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED
Alexander House
1 Mandarin Road
Rainton Bridge Business Park
Houghton Le Spring
Sunderland
England
DH4 5RA

#### Enclosures:

- (i) Copy of a notice pursuant to Section 153 of the Planning Act 2008 and Regulation 6 of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011.
- (ii) Regulation 7(3) letter from the Secretary of State, dated 5 November 2025.

#### LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED

# SECTION 153 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008 AND REGULATION 6 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011

## NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO MAKE A NON-MATERIAL CHANGE TO THE FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER:

# THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM ORDER 2023 (SI 2023/734) AS CORRECTED BY THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM (CORRECTION) ORDER 2023 (SI 2023/1241)

Notice is hereby given that an application has been made by Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited (company number 11618210) of registered office Alexander House, 1 Mandarin Road, Rainton Bridge Business Park, Houghton Le Spring, Sunderland, England, DH4 5RA (the "Applicant") to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero to make a non-material change to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 (as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023) (the "Order") under the Planning Act 2008 (the "NMC Application").

The Order includes provision authorising the construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of a solar photovoltaic electricity generating facility and Battery Storage Energy System with a total capacity exceeding 50MW and associated infrastructure (the "**Scheme**"). Longfield seeks to make four non-material changes (the "**NMCs**") to the Order.

<u>Change 1 – amending Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order to facilitate the installation of a dual</u> circuit

Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order authorises, at paragraph (i), works including the installation of one 400 kilovolt cable circuit connecting Work No. 3 (the new onsite substation) to Work No. 5 (the extension to the existing substation).

For resilience purposes, Longfield is seeking to install a second 400 kilovolt cable circuit as part of these works. Longfield is therefore proposing to amend the description of Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order to authorise this dualling.

Change 2 – amending Article 6 of the Order to modify the Hedgerows Regulations 1997

Article 6 of the Order identifies extant legislation that is authorised to be modified or disapplied by virtue of the Order being made.

However, the list of legislation in Article 6 of the Order does not include the standard modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 in relation to the carrying out of development for the Scheme. This results in a requirement for Longfield to submit a Hedgerow Removal Notice under the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 every time that any hedgerow needs to be removed, including those already identified and assessed in Schedule 12 of the Order. This is an onerous and complex process that restricts the flexibility of the detailed design of the Scheme and poses a risk to the timing of phases of the Scheme due to determination timescales, and was clearly not the intention of the drafting of the Order. Longfield notes that this amendment will not result in uncontrolled hedgerow removal, as this continues to be controlled by the corresponding and relevant parts of the Order – for example, the vegetation removal plan, which is a certified document under Schedule 13 of the Order.

Longfield is therefore proposing to amend Article 6 of the Order to include the modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997. This approach has been consented in recent solar DCOs, including the Oaklands Farm Solar Park Order 2025.

# <u>Change 3 – amending Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order to require one submission of the BNG</u> Strategy

Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order requires Longfield to submit (for approval by the relevant planning authority) a landscape and ecological management plan ("LEMP") for each phase of the Scheme. As currently written in the Order, each LEMP requires the submission of a Biodiversity Net Gain ("BNG") Strategy to detail how the Scheme is achieving the minimum 87% BNG during the operation of the Scheme.

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Longfield is therefore proposing to amend Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order to alter the approach such that only one site-wide BNG Strategy is required to be submitted as part of the site-wide LEMP for the Scheme's main site construction works (which are the works that give rise to BNG considerations).

### Change 4 – amending Article 6(4) of the Order to address interactions with other planning applications

There are four small areas of overlap between the Order and two adjacent planning permissions relating to the extraction of minerals at Bulls Lodge Quarry (i.e. in proximity to the existing substation). The overlaps are de minimis and neither the Order nor the other planning permissions are prejudiced from ongoing implementation.

However, for the sake of clarity and good order, Longfield is proposing to amend Article 6(4) of the Order to expressly provide for these overlaps to occur. Longfield notes that Article 6(4), as currently written in the Order, already addresses one of the areas of overlap, which lies directly to the north of the existing substation. The proposed change is to ensure that all of the overlaps are covered by Article 6(4), making the Order explicit in this regard whilst continuing to not prejudice the ongoing implementation of the Order and the other planning permissions.

### Overall

The NMCs proposed to the Order by Longfield are necessary for the reasons set out above. None of the NMCs will give rise to any materially new or materially different environmental effects to those originally assessed as part of the application for the Order, nor would they require additional compulsory acquisition of land, nor would they have new or different effects on local residents or business or any additional implications in respect of habitats regulation assessment; therefore, Longfield considers that the proposed changes are non-material in nature.

A copy of the NMC Application and its accompanying documents are available for inspection, free of charge, via the Planning Inspectorate's website at the below address until at least the end of the consultation period referred to below:

Planning Inspectorate website (documents tab):

https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010118/documents

If you require a hard copy of the NMC Application and its accompanying documents (for example because you do not have access to a computer and are unable to view the documents on PINS' website), you can request hard copies by contacting the Applicant at info@longfieldsolarfarm.co.uk or on 0800 0194 576. Each hard copy is available at the cost of £20 per copy.

Any representation about the NMC Application must be made by email to: LongfieldSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk, or in writing to:

National Infrastructure Planning, the Planning Inspectorate, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Bristol, BS1 6PN.

Please quote reference EN010118 on any correspondence. Consultation responses will be published on the relevant project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website.

Please note that representations must be received by the Planning Inspectorate by 11.59pm on 22 December 2025.

#### LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED

**13 November 2025** 



3-8 Whitehall Place
London
SW1A 2AW

<u>energyinfrastructureplanning@energysecurity.gov.uk</u> www.gov.uk/desnz

BY EMAIL ONLY to:
Pinsent Masons LLP
30 Crown Place
London
EC2A 4ES

@pinsentmasons.com

5 November 2025

Dear Mr Tresadern,

THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM ORDER 2023 – S.I. 734 ("THE ORDER") AND THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM (CORRECTION) ORDER 2023 – S.I. 1241 – PROPOSED NON-MATERIAL CHANGE APPLICATION

REGULATION 7(3) OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011 - WRITTEN CONSENT FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR NOT CONSULTING A PERSON OR AUTHORITY

- 1. Thank you for your email and letter of 15 October 2025 on behalf of Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited ("the Applicant"). The letter and email of 15 October 2025 provided a description of the proposed non-material changes to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023, the reasons for the proposed changes, the proposed reduced consultee list, and a list of the parties consulted on the original application in respect to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 and as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023. The letter requested the Secretary of State's consent under Regulation 7(3) of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011 (as amended) ("the 2011 Regulations") to a reduced list of consultees.
- 2. The letter provides the following description of the changes sought:
  - a. amendment of Work No. 4A in Schedule 1 to authorise installation of a second 400kV cable circuit between the onsite substation and the existing substation extension:
  - b. amendment of Article 6 to include modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997:
  - amendment of Requirement 9 in Schedule 2 to require submission of a single site-wide Biodiversity Net Gain Strategy rather than multiple phase-specific strategies; and
  - d. amendment of Article 6(4) to clarify that limited overlaps with adjacent minerals planning permissions at Bulls Lodge Quarry are permitted.

- 3. The Applicant proposes to consult 15 parties: Anglian Water Services Limited, Boreham Parish Council, Braintree District Council, British Telecommunications Plc, Chelmsford City Council, Environment Agency, Essex and Suffolk Water Limited, Essex County Council, Lord Rayleigh's Farms Limited, National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc, Natural England, Network Rail Infrastructure Limited, Pioneer Aggregates (UK) Limited, Hanson Quarry Products Europe Limited, Vodafone Limited, and UK Power Networks Limited. These parties have been identified because they are host authorities, statutory bodies, or asset owners whose operations or interests may be directly affected by one or more of the proposed non-material changes.
- 4. The Secretary of State considers that Historic England and the Joint Nature Conservation Committee should be consulted because the Applicant has not provided specific reasons why these consultees should not be consulted. The Secretary of State considers that these consultees may have representations to make in relation to the proposed change.
- 5. The Secretary of State is satisfied that it is not necessary for other consultees from the Order to be included in the reduced consultee list, as they are not directly affected, either because the proposed amendments will not affect their interests or because their interests relate to a different part of the scheme.
- 6. Accordingly, the Secretary of State gives written consent for the consultation to proceed in accordance with the details set out above, under regulation 7(3) of the 2011 Regulations.
- 7. In taking this decision, the Secretary of State acknowledges that notice of the Application will be provided by the Applicant, in line with the requirements in Regulation 6 of the 2011 Regulations.
- 8. The Secretary of State's written consent in this matter should not be taken as indicating approval for any other aspects of the proposed changes to the Order, which fall to {her/him} for consideration and determination, or whether the proposed changes will ultimately be regarded as material or not.

Yours sincerely,

### Kerry Crowhurst-Kozlova

Head of Planning

On behalf of the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero



#### BY RECORDED DELIVERY AND EMAIL

British Telecommunications Plc 1 Braham Street London E1 8EE

13 November 2025

Dear Sir / Madam

#### LONGFIELD FARM ORDER 2023 – NON-MATERIAL CHANGE APPLICATION

SECTION 153 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008 AND REGULATION 7 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011

The enclosed notice relates to a 'non-material change' application (the "application") being made to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero (the "Secretary of State") for the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 (as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023 (the "Order") by Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited ("Longfield"). We act for Longfield in relation to the application.

The Order includes provision authorising the construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of a solar photovoltaic electricity generating facility and Battery Storage Energy System with a total capacity exceeding 50MW and associated infrastructure (the "Scheme"). Longfield seeks to make four non-material changes (the "NMCs") to the Order.

Change 1 – amending Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order to facilitate the installation of a dual circuit

Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order authorises, at paragraph (i), works including the installation of one 400 kilovolt cable circuit connecting Work No. 3 (the new onsite substation) to Work No. 5 (the extension to the existing substation).

For resilience purposes, Longfield is seeking to install a second 400 kilovolt cable circuit as part of these works. Longfield is therefore proposing to amend the description of Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order to authorise this dualling.

Change 2 - amending Article 6 of the Order to modify the Hedgerows Regulations 1997

Article 6 of the Order identifies extant legislation that is authorised to be modified or disapplied by virtue of the Order being made.

However, the list of legislation in Article 6 of the Order does not include the standard modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 in relation to the carrying out of development for the Scheme. This results in a requirement for Longfield to submit a Hedgerow Removal Notice under the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 every time that any hedgerow needs to be removed, including those already identified and assessed in Schedule 12 of the Order. This is an onerous and complex process that restricts the flexibility of the detailed design of the Scheme and poses a risk to the timing of phases of the Scheme due to determination timescales, and was clearly not the intention

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of the drafting of the Order. Longfield notes that this amendment will not result in uncontrolled hedgerow removal, as this continues to be controlled by the corresponding and relevant parts of the Order – for example, the vegetation removal plan, which is a certified document under Schedule 13 of the Order.

Longfield is therefore proposing to amend Article 6 of the Order to include the modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997. This approach has been consented in recent solar DCOs, including the Oaklands Farm Solar Park Order 2025.

# <u>Change 3 – amending Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order to require one submission of the BNG Strategy</u>

Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order requires Longfield to submit (for approval by the relevant planning authority) a landscape and ecological management plan ("**LEMP**") for each phase of the Scheme. As currently written in the Order, each LEMP requires the submission of a Biodiversity Net Gain ("**BNG**") Strategy to detail how the Scheme is achieving the minimum 87% BNG during the operation of the Scheme.

However, a targeted LEMP has been submitted for various permitted preliminary works (including vegetation removal) without containing a BNG Strategy, as information regarding BNG was not available at the time of the submission of that LEMP (as the landscape design for the Scheme had not yet been developed, nor did it form part of the works to which that LEMP related). Therefore, Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order has only partially been discharged in relation to that LEMP, which represents an inefficient process.

Longfield is therefore proposing to amend Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order to alter the approach such that only one site-wide BNG Strategy is required to be submitted as part of the site-wide LEMP for the Scheme's main site construction works (which are the works that give rise to BNG considerations).

# <u>Change 4 – amending Article 6(4) of the Order to address interactions with other planning applications</u>

There are four small areas of overlap between the Order and two adjacent planning permissions relating to the extraction of minerals at Bulls Lodge Quarry (i.e. in proximity to the existing substation). The overlaps are de minimis and neither the Order nor the other planning permissions are prejudiced from ongoing implementation.

However, for the sake of clarity and good order, Longfield is proposing to amend Article 6(4) of the Order to expressly provide for these overlaps to occur. Longfield notes that Article 6(4), as currently written in the Order, already addresses one of the areas of overlap, which lies directly to the north of the existing substation. The proposed change is to ensure that all of the overlaps are covered by Article 6(4), making the Order explicit in this regard whilst continuing to not prejudice the ongoing implementation of the Order and the other planning permissions.

### Overall

The NMCs proposed to the Order by Longfield are necessary for the reasons set out above. None of the NMCs will give rise to any materially new or materially different environmental effects to those originally assessed as part of the application for the Order, nor would they require additional compulsory acquisition of land, nor would they have new or different effects on local residents or business or any additional implications in respect of habitats regulation assessment; therefore, Longfield considers that the proposed changes are non-material in nature.

#### Consultation

Before a decision can be made by the Secretary of State, Longfield must consult with various persons in accordance with the requirements of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011 (the "2011 Regulations").

You have been identified as a consultee for the purposes of Regulation 7(2) of the 2011 Regulations. In addition, we draw your attention to the Regulation 7(3) letter published by the Secretary of State on 5 November 2025, enclosed with this letter.

The enclosed Regulation 6 notice contains details of how you can access the application documents and how to respond to the consultation. Any representation about the application must be made by email to: <a href="mailto:LongfieldSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk">LongfieldSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk</a> or in writing to:

National Infrastructure Planning, the Planning Inspectorate, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Bristol, BS1 6PN.

As set out in the notice, the consultation ends on 22 December 2025. Therefore, the deadline for receipt of your views about the application is **11:59pm on 22 December 2025**.

Yours faithfully

Pinsent Masons LLP
On behalf of
LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED
Alexander House
1 Mandarin Road
Rainton Bridge Business Park
Houghton Le Spring
Sunderland
England
DH4 5RA

#### Enclosures:

- (i) Copy of a notice pursuant to Section 153 of the Planning Act 2008 and Regulation 6 of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011.
- (ii) Regulation 7(3) letter from the Secretary of State, dated 5 November 2025.

#### LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED

# SECTION 153 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008 AND REGULATION 6 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011

## NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO MAKE A NON-MATERIAL CHANGE TO THE FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER:

# THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM ORDER 2023 (SI 2023/734) AS CORRECTED BY THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM (CORRECTION) ORDER 2023 (SI 2023/1241)

Notice is hereby given that an application has been made by Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited (company number 11618210) of registered office Alexander House, 1 Mandarin Road, Rainton Bridge Business Park, Houghton Le Spring, Sunderland, England, DH4 5RA (the "Applicant") to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero to make a non-material change to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 (as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023) (the "Order") under the Planning Act 2008 (the "NMC Application").

The Order includes provision authorising the construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of a solar photovoltaic electricity generating facility and Battery Storage Energy System with a total capacity exceeding 50MW and associated infrastructure (the "**Scheme**"). Longfield seeks to make four non-material changes (the "**NMCs**") to the Order.

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Any representation about the NMC Application must be made by email to: LongfieldSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk, or in writing to:

National Infrastructure Planning, the Planning Inspectorate, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Bristol, BS1 6PN.

Please quote reference EN010118 on any correspondence. Consultation responses will be published on the relevant project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website.

Please note that representations must be received by the Planning Inspectorate by 11.59pm on 22 December 2025.

#### LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED

**13 November 2025** 



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ergyinfrastructureplanning@energysecurity.gov.uk

<u>energyinfrastructureplanning@energysecurity.gov.uk</u> www.gov.uk/desnz

BY EMAIL ONLY to: |
Pinsent Masons LLP
30 Crown Place
London
EC2A 4ES

@pinsentmasons.com

5 November 2025

Dear Mr Tresadern,

THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM ORDER 2023 – S.I. 734 ("THE ORDER") AND THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM (CORRECTION) ORDER 2023 – S.I. 1241 – PROPOSED NON-MATERIAL CHANGE APPLICATION

REGULATION 7(3) OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011 - WRITTEN CONSENT FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR NOT CONSULTING A PERSON OR AUTHORITY

- 1. Thank you for your email and letter of 15 October 2025 on behalf of Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited ("the Applicant"). The letter and email of 15 October 2025 provided a description of the proposed non-material changes to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023, the reasons for the proposed changes, the proposed reduced consultee list, and a list of the parties consulted on the original application in respect to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 and as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023. The letter requested the Secretary of State's consent under Regulation 7(3) of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011 (as amended) ("the 2011 Regulations") to a reduced list of consultees.
- 2. The letter provides the following description of the changes sought:
  - a. amendment of Work No. 4A in Schedule 1 to authorise installation of a second 400kV cable circuit between the onsite substation and the existing substation extension:
  - b. amendment of Article 6 to include modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997:
  - amendment of Requirement 9 in Schedule 2 to require submission of a single site-wide Biodiversity Net Gain Strategy rather than multiple phase-specific strategies; and
  - d. amendment of Article 6(4) to clarify that limited overlaps with adjacent minerals planning permissions at Bulls Lodge Quarry are permitted.

- 3. The Applicant proposes to consult 15 parties: Anglian Water Services Limited, Boreham Parish Council, Braintree District Council, British Telecommunications Plc, Chelmsford City Council, Environment Agency, Essex and Suffolk Water Limited, Essex County Council, Lord Rayleigh's Farms Limited, National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc, Natural England, Network Rail Infrastructure Limited, Pioneer Aggregates (UK) Limited, Hanson Quarry Products Europe Limited, Vodafone Limited, and UK Power Networks Limited. These parties have been identified because they are host authorities, statutory bodies, or asset owners whose operations or interests may be directly affected by one or more of the proposed non-material changes.
- 4. The Secretary of State considers that Historic England and the Joint Nature Conservation Committee should be consulted because the Applicant has not provided specific reasons why these consultees should not be consulted. The Secretary of State considers that these consultees may have representations to make in relation to the proposed change.
- 5. The Secretary of State is satisfied that it is not necessary for other consultees from the Order to be included in the reduced consultee list, as they are not directly affected, either because the proposed amendments will not affect their interests or because their interests relate to a different part of the scheme.
- 6. Accordingly, the Secretary of State gives written consent for the consultation to proceed in accordance with the details set out above, under regulation 7(3) of the 2011 Regulations.
- 7. In taking this decision, the Secretary of State acknowledges that notice of the Application will be provided by the Applicant, in line with the requirements in Regulation 6 of the 2011 Regulations.
- 8. The Secretary of State's written consent in this matter should not be taken as indicating approval for any other aspects of the proposed changes to the Order, which fall to {her/him} for consideration and determination, or whether the proposed changes will ultimately be regarded as material or not.

Yours sincerely,

### Kerry Crowhurst-Kozlova

Head of Planning

On behalf of the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero



#### BY RECORDED DELIVERY AND EMAIL

Historic England
4th Floor
Cannon Bridge House
25 Dowgate Hill
London
EC4R 2YA
customers@HistoricEngland.org.uk

13 November 2025

Dear Sir / Madam

#### LONGFIELD FARM ORDER 2023 – NON-MATERIAL CHANGE APPLICATION

SECTION 153 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008 AND REGULATION 7 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011

The enclosed notice relates to a 'non-material change' application (the "application") being made to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero (the "Secretary of State") for the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 (as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023 (the "Order") by Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited ("Longfield"). We act for Longfield in relation to the application.

The Order includes provision authorising the construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of a solar photovoltaic electricity generating facility and Battery Storage Energy System with a total capacity exceeding 50MW and associated infrastructure (the "**Scheme**"). Longfield seeks to make four non-material changes (the "**NMCs**") to the Order.

<u>Change 1 – amending Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order to facilitate the installation of a</u> dual circuit

Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order authorises, at paragraph (i), works including the installation of one 400 kilovolt cable circuit connecting Work No. 3 (the new onsite substation) to Work No. 5 (the extension to the existing substation).

For resilience purposes, Longfield is seeking to install a second 400 kilovolt cable circuit as part of these works. Longfield is therefore proposing to amend the description of Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order to authorise this dualling.

Change 2 – amending Article 6 of the Order to modify the Hedgerows Regulations 1997

Article 6 of the Order identifies extant legislation that is authorised to be modified or disapplied by virtue of the Order being made.

However, the list of legislation in Article 6 of the Order does not include the standard modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 in relation to the carrying out of development for the Scheme. This results in a requirement for Longfield to submit a Hedgerow Removal Notice under the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 every time that any hedgerow needs to be removed, including those

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already identified and assessed in Schedule 12 of the Order. This is an onerous and complex process that restricts the flexibility of the detailed design of the Scheme and poses a risk to the timing of phases of the Scheme due to determination timescales, and was clearly not the intention of the drafting of the Order. Longfield notes that this amendment will not result in uncontrolled hedgerow removal, as this continues to be controlled by the corresponding and relevant parts of the Order – for example, the vegetation removal plan, which is a certified document under Schedule 13 of the Order.

Longfield is therefore proposing to amend Article 6 of the Order to include the modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997. This approach has been consented in recent solar DCOs, including the Oaklands Farm Solar Park Order 2025.

### <u>Change 3 – amending Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order to require one submission of the BNG Strategy</u>

Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order requires Longfield to submit (for approval by the relevant planning authority) a landscape and ecological management plan ("**LEMP**") for each phase of the Scheme. As currently written in the Order, each LEMP requires the submission of a Biodiversity Net Gain ("**BNG**") Strategy to detail how the Scheme is achieving the minimum 87% BNG during the operation of the Scheme.

However, a targeted LEMP has been submitted for various permitted preliminary works (including vegetation removal) without containing a BNG Strategy, as information regarding BNG was not available at the time of the submission of that LEMP (as the landscape design for the Scheme had not yet been developed, nor did it form part of the works to which that LEMP related). Therefore, Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order has only partially been discharged in relation to that LEMP, which represents an inefficient process.

Longfield is therefore proposing to amend Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order to alter the approach such that only one site-wide BNG Strategy is required to be submitted as part of the site-wide LEMP for the Scheme's main site construction works (which are the works that give rise to BNG considerations).

# <u>Change 4 – amending Article 6(4) of the Order to address interactions with other planning applications</u>

There are four small areas of overlap between the Order and two adjacent planning permissions relating to the extraction of minerals at Bulls Lodge Quarry (i.e. in proximity to the existing substation). The overlaps are de minimis and neither the Order nor the other planning permissions are prejudiced from ongoing implementation.

However, for the sake of clarity and good order, Longfield is proposing to amend Article 6(4) of the Order to expressly provide for these overlaps to occur. Longfield notes that Article 6(4), as currently written in the Order, already addresses one of the areas of overlap, which lies directly to the north of the existing substation. The proposed change is to ensure that all of the overlaps are covered by Article 6(4), making the Order explicit in this regard whilst continuing to not prejudice the ongoing implementation of the Order and the other planning permissions.

#### Overall

The NMCs proposed to the Order by Longfield are necessary for the reasons set out above. None of the NMCs will give rise to any materially new or materially different environmental effects to those originally assessed as part of the application for the Order, nor would they require additional compulsory acquisition of land, nor would they have new or different effects on local residents or business or any additional implications in respect of habitats regulation assessment; therefore, Longfield considers that the proposed changes are non-material in nature.

### Consultation

Before a decision can be made by the Secretary of State, Longfield must consult with various persons in accordance with the requirements of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011 (the "2011 Regulations").

You have been identified as a consultee for the purposes of Regulation 7(2) of the 2011 Regulations. In addition, we draw your attention to the Regulation 7(3) letter published by the Secretary of State on 5 November 2025, enclosed with this letter.

The enclosed Regulation 6 notice contains details of how you can access the application documents and how to respond to the consultation. Any representation about the application must be made by email to: <a href="mailto:LongfieldSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk">LongfieldSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk</a> or in writing to:

National Infrastructure Planning, the Planning Inspectorate, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Bristol, BS1 6PN.

As set out in the notice, the consultation ends on 22 December 2025. Therefore, the deadline for receipt of your views about the application is **11:59pm on 22 December 2025**.

Yours faithfully

Pinsent Masons LLP
On behalf of
LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED
Alexander House
1 Mandarin Road
Rainton Bridge Business Park
Houghton Le Spring
Sunderland
England
DH4 5RA

#### Enclosures:

- (i) Copy of a notice pursuant to Section 153 of the Planning Act 2008 and Regulation 6 of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011.
- (ii) Regulation 7(3) letter from the Secretary of State, dated 5 November 2025.

#### LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED

# SECTION 153 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008 AND REGULATION 6 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011

## NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO MAKE A NON-MATERIAL CHANGE TO THE FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER:

# THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM ORDER 2023 (SI 2023/734) AS CORRECTED BY THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM (CORRECTION) ORDER 2023 (SI 2023/1241)

Notice is hereby given that an application has been made by Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited (company number 11618210) of registered office Alexander House, 1 Mandarin Road, Rainton Bridge Business Park, Houghton Le Spring, Sunderland, England, DH4 5RA (the "Applicant") to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero to make a non-material change to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 (as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023) (the "Order") under the Planning Act 2008 (the "NMC Application").

The Order includes provision authorising the construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of a solar photovoltaic electricity generating facility and Battery Storage Energy System with a total capacity exceeding 50MW and associated infrastructure (the "**Scheme**"). Longfield seeks to make four non-material changes (the "**NMCs**") to the Order.

<u>Change 1 – amending Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order to facilitate the installation of a dual</u> circuit

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For resilience purposes, Longfield is seeking to install a second 400 kilovolt cable circuit as part of these works. Longfield is therefore proposing to amend the description of Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order to authorise this dualling.

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Article 6 of the Order identifies extant legislation that is authorised to be modified or disapplied by virtue of the Order being made.

However, the list of legislation in Article 6 of the Order does not include the standard modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 in relation to the carrying out of development for the Scheme. This results in a requirement for Longfield to submit a Hedgerow Removal Notice under the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 every time that any hedgerow needs to be removed, including those already identified and assessed in Schedule 12 of the Order. This is an onerous and complex process that restricts the flexibility of the detailed design of the Scheme and poses a risk to the timing of phases of the Scheme due to determination timescales, and was clearly not the intention of the drafting of the Order. Longfield notes that this amendment will not result in uncontrolled hedgerow removal, as this continues to be controlled by the corresponding and relevant parts of the Order – for example, the vegetation removal plan, which is a certified document under Schedule 13 of the Order.

Longfield is therefore proposing to amend Article 6 of the Order to include the modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997. This approach has been consented in recent solar DCOs, including the Oaklands Farm Solar Park Order 2025.

# <u>Change 3 – amending Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order to require one submission of the BNG</u> Strategy

Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order requires Longfield to submit (for approval by the relevant planning authority) a landscape and ecological management plan ("LEMP") for each phase of the Scheme. As currently written in the Order, each LEMP requires the submission of a Biodiversity Net Gain ("BNG") Strategy to detail how the Scheme is achieving the minimum 87% BNG during the operation of the Scheme.

However, a targeted LEMP has been submitted for various permitted preliminary works (including vegetation removal) without containing a BNG Strategy, as information regarding BNG was not available at the time of the submission of that LEMP (as the landscape design for the Scheme had not yet been developed, nor did it form part of the works to which that LEMP related). Therefore, Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order has only partially been discharged in relation to that LEMP, which represents an inefficient process.

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### Change 4 – amending Article 6(4) of the Order to address interactions with other planning applications

There are four small areas of overlap between the Order and two adjacent planning permissions relating to the extraction of minerals at Bulls Lodge Quarry (i.e. in proximity to the existing substation). The overlaps are de minimis and neither the Order nor the other planning permissions are prejudiced from ongoing implementation.

However, for the sake of clarity and good order, Longfield is proposing to amend Article 6(4) of the Order to expressly provide for these overlaps to occur. Longfield notes that Article 6(4), as currently written in the Order, already addresses one of the areas of overlap, which lies directly to the north of the existing substation. The proposed change is to ensure that all of the overlaps are covered by Article 6(4), making the Order explicit in this regard whilst continuing to not prejudice the ongoing implementation of the Order and the other planning permissions.

### Overall

The NMCs proposed to the Order by Longfield are necessary for the reasons set out above. None of the NMCs will give rise to any materially new or materially different environmental effects to those originally assessed as part of the application for the Order, nor would they require additional compulsory acquisition of land, nor would they have new or different effects on local residents or business or any additional implications in respect of habitats regulation assessment; therefore, Longfield considers that the proposed changes are non-material in nature.

A copy of the NMC Application and its accompanying documents are available for inspection, free of charge, via the Planning Inspectorate's website at the below address until at least the end of the consultation period referred to below:

Planning Inspectorate website (documents tab):

https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010118/documents

If you require a hard copy of the NMC Application and its accompanying documents (for example because you do not have access to a computer and are unable to view the documents on PINS' website), you can request hard copies by contacting the Applicant at info@longfieldsolarfarm.co.uk or on 0800 0194 576. Each hard copy is available at the cost of £20 per copy.

Any representation about the NMC Application must be made by email to: LongfieldSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk, or in writing to:

National Infrastructure Planning, the Planning Inspectorate, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Bristol, BS1 6PN.

Please quote reference EN010118 on any correspondence. Consultation responses will be published on the relevant project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website.

Please note that representations must be received by the Planning Inspectorate by 11.59pm on 22 December 2025.

#### LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED

**13 November 2025** 



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London
SW1A 2AW
ergyinfrastructureplanning@energysecurity.gov.uk

<u>energyinfrastructureplanning@energysecurity.gov.uk</u> www.gov.uk/desnz

BY EMAIL ONLY to: |
Pinsent Masons LLP
30 Crown Place
London
EC2A 4ES

@pinsentmasons.com

5 November 2025

Dear Mr Tresadern,

THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM ORDER 2023 – S.I. 734 ("THE ORDER") AND THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM (CORRECTION) ORDER 2023 – S.I. 1241 – PROPOSED NON-MATERIAL CHANGE APPLICATION

REGULATION 7(3) OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011 - WRITTEN CONSENT FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR NOT CONSULTING A PERSON OR AUTHORITY

- 1. Thank you for your email and letter of 15 October 2025 on behalf of Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited ("the Applicant"). The letter and email of 15 October 2025 provided a description of the proposed non-material changes to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023, the reasons for the proposed changes, the proposed reduced consultee list, and a list of the parties consulted on the original application in respect to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 and as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023. The letter requested the Secretary of State's consent under Regulation 7(3) of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011 (as amended) ("the 2011 Regulations") to a reduced list of consultees.
- 2. The letter provides the following description of the changes sought:
  - a. amendment of Work No. 4A in Schedule 1 to authorise installation of a second 400kV cable circuit between the onsite substation and the existing substation extension:
  - b. amendment of Article 6 to include modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997:
  - amendment of Requirement 9 in Schedule 2 to require submission of a single site-wide Biodiversity Net Gain Strategy rather than multiple phase-specific strategies; and
  - d. amendment of Article 6(4) to clarify that limited overlaps with adjacent minerals planning permissions at Bulls Lodge Quarry are permitted.

- 3. The Applicant proposes to consult 15 parties: Anglian Water Services Limited, Boreham Parish Council, Braintree District Council, British Telecommunications Plc, Chelmsford City Council, Environment Agency, Essex and Suffolk Water Limited, Essex County Council, Lord Rayleigh's Farms Limited, National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc, Natural England, Network Rail Infrastructure Limited, Pioneer Aggregates (UK) Limited, Hanson Quarry Products Europe Limited, Vodafone Limited, and UK Power Networks Limited. These parties have been identified because they are host authorities, statutory bodies, or asset owners whose operations or interests may be directly affected by one or more of the proposed non-material changes.
- 4. The Secretary of State considers that Historic England and the Joint Nature Conservation Committee should be consulted because the Applicant has not provided specific reasons why these consultees should not be consulted. The Secretary of State considers that these consultees may have representations to make in relation to the proposed change.
- 5. The Secretary of State is satisfied that it is not necessary for other consultees from the Order to be included in the reduced consultee list, as they are not directly affected, either because the proposed amendments will not affect their interests or because their interests relate to a different part of the scheme.
- 6. Accordingly, the Secretary of State gives written consent for the consultation to proceed in accordance with the details set out above, under regulation 7(3) of the 2011 Regulations.
- 7. In taking this decision, the Secretary of State acknowledges that notice of the Application will be provided by the Applicant, in line with the requirements in Regulation 6 of the 2011 Regulations.
- 8. The Secretary of State's written consent in this matter should not be taken as indicating approval for any other aspects of the proposed changes to the Order, which fall to {her/him} for consideration and determination, or whether the proposed changes will ultimately be regarded as material or not.

Yours sincerely,

### Kerry Crowhurst-Kozlova

Head of Planning

On behalf of the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero



#### BY RECORDED DELIVERY AND EMAIL

Joint Nature Conservation Committee
Quay House
2 East Station Road
Fletton Quays
Peterborough
PE2 8YY
feedback@incc.gov.uk

13 November 2025

Dear Sir / Madam

#### LONGFIELD FARM ORDER 2023 – NON-MATERIAL CHANGE APPLICATION

SECTION 153 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008 AND REGULATION 7 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011

The enclosed notice relates to a 'non-material change' application (the "application") being made to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero (the "Secretary of State") for the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 (as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023 (the "Order") by Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited ("Longfield"). We act for Longfield in relation to the application.

The Order includes provision authorising the construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of a solar photovoltaic electricity generating facility and Battery Storage Energy System with a total capacity exceeding 50MW and associated infrastructure (the "**Scheme**"). Longfield seeks to make four non-material changes (the "**NMCs**") to the Order.

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# <u>Change 4 – amending Article 6(4) of the Order to address interactions with other planning applications</u>

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Yours faithfully

Pinsent Masons LLP
On behalf of
LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED
Alexander House
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#### Enclosures:

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#### LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED

# SECTION 153 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008 AND REGULATION 6 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011

## NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO MAKE A NON-MATERIAL CHANGE TO THE FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER:

# THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM ORDER 2023 (SI 2023/734) AS CORRECTED BY THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM (CORRECTION) ORDER 2023 (SI 2023/1241)

Notice is hereby given that an application has been made by Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited (company number 11618210) of registered office Alexander House, 1 Mandarin Road, Rainton Bridge Business Park, Houghton Le Spring, Sunderland, England, DH4 5RA (the "Applicant") to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero to make a non-material change to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 (as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023) (the "Order") under the Planning Act 2008 (the "NMC Application").

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Planning Inspectorate website (documents tab):

https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010118/documents

If you require a hard copy of the NMC Application and its accompanying documents (for example because you do not have access to a computer and are unable to view the documents on PINS' website), you can request hard copies by contacting the Applicant at info@longfieldsolarfarm.co.uk or on 0800 0194 576. Each hard copy is available at the cost of £20 per copy.

Any representation about the NMC Application must be made by email to: LongfieldSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk, or in writing to:

National Infrastructure Planning, the Planning Inspectorate, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Bristol, BS1 6PN.

Please quote reference EN010118 on any correspondence. Consultation responses will be published on the relevant project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website.

Please note that representations must be received by the Planning Inspectorate by 11.59pm on 22 December 2025.

#### LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED

**13 November 2025** 



3-8 Whitehall Place
London
SW1A 2AW
ergyinfrastructureplanning@energysecurity.gov.uk

<u>energyinfrastructureplanning@energysecurity.gov.uk</u> www.gov.uk/desnz

BY EMAIL ONLY to: Pinsent Masons LLP
30 Crown Place
London
EC2A 4ES

@pinsentmasons.com

5 November 2025

Dear Mr Tresadern,

THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM ORDER 2023 – S.I. 734 ("THE ORDER") AND THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM (CORRECTION) ORDER 2023 – S.I. 1241 – PROPOSED NON-MATERIAL CHANGE APPLICATION

REGULATION 7(3) OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011 - WRITTEN CONSENT FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR NOT CONSULTING A PERSON OR AUTHORITY

- 1. Thank you for your email and letter of 15 October 2025 on behalf of Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited ("the Applicant"). The letter and email of 15 October 2025 provided a description of the proposed non-material changes to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023, the reasons for the proposed changes, the proposed reduced consultee list, and a list of the parties consulted on the original application in respect to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 and as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023. The letter requested the Secretary of State's consent under Regulation 7(3) of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011 (as amended) ("the 2011 Regulations") to a reduced list of consultees.
- 2. The letter provides the following description of the changes sought:
  - a. amendment of Work No. 4A in Schedule 1 to authorise installation of a second 400kV cable circuit between the onsite substation and the existing substation extension:
  - b. amendment of Article 6 to include modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997:
  - amendment of Requirement 9 in Schedule 2 to require submission of a single site-wide Biodiversity Net Gain Strategy rather than multiple phase-specific strategies; and
  - d. amendment of Article 6(4) to clarify that limited overlaps with adjacent minerals planning permissions at Bulls Lodge Quarry are permitted.

- 3. The Applicant proposes to consult 15 parties: Anglian Water Services Limited, Boreham Parish Council, Braintree District Council, British Telecommunications Plc, Chelmsford City Council, Environment Agency, Essex and Suffolk Water Limited, Essex County Council, Lord Rayleigh's Farms Limited, National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc, Natural England, Network Rail Infrastructure Limited, Pioneer Aggregates (UK) Limited, Hanson Quarry Products Europe Limited, Vodafone Limited, and UK Power Networks Limited. These parties have been identified because they are host authorities, statutory bodies, or asset owners whose operations or interests may be directly affected by one or more of the proposed non-material changes.
- 4. The Secretary of State considers that Historic England and the Joint Nature Conservation Committee should be consulted because the Applicant has not provided specific reasons why these consultees should not be consulted. The Secretary of State considers that these consultees may have representations to make in relation to the proposed change.
- 5. The Secretary of State is satisfied that it is not necessary for other consultees from the Order to be included in the reduced consultee list, as they are not directly affected, either because the proposed amendments will not affect their interests or because their interests relate to a different part of the scheme.
- 6. Accordingly, the Secretary of State gives written consent for the consultation to proceed in accordance with the details set out above, under regulation 7(3) of the 2011 Regulations.
- 7. In taking this decision, the Secretary of State acknowledges that notice of the Application will be provided by the Applicant, in line with the requirements in Regulation 6 of the 2011 Regulations.
- 8. The Secretary of State's written consent in this matter should not be taken as indicating approval for any other aspects of the proposed changes to the Order, which fall to {her/him} for consideration and determination, or whether the proposed changes will ultimately be regarded as material or not.

Yours sincerely,

# Kerry Crowhurst-Kozlova

Head of Planning

On behalf of the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero



### BY RECORDED DELIVERY AND EMAIL

Lord Rayleigh's Farms Limited Farm Offices Terling Place Chelmsford CM3 2QW

13 November 2025

**Dear Jeremy** 

#### LONGFIELD FARM ORDER 2023 - NON-MATERIAL CHANGE APPLICATION

SECTION 153 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008 AND REGULATION 7 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011

The enclosed notice relates to a 'non-material change' application (the "application") being made to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero (the "Secretary of State") for the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 (as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023 (the "Order") by Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited ("Longfield"). We act for Longfield in relation to the application.

The Order includes provision authorising the construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of a solar photovoltaic electricity generating facility and Battery Storage Energy System with a total capacity exceeding 50MW and associated infrastructure (the "Scheme"). Longfield seeks to make four non-material changes (the "NMCs") to the Order.

Change 1 – amending Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order to facilitate the installation of a dual circuit

Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order authorises, at paragraph (i), works including the installation of one 400 kilovolt cable circuit connecting Work No. 3 (the new onsite substation) to Work No. 5 (the extension to the existing substation).

For resilience purposes, Longfield is seeking to install a second 400 kilovolt cable circuit as part of these works. Longfield is therefore proposing to amend the description of Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order to authorise this dualling.

Change 2 – amending Article 6 of the Order to modify the Hedgerows Regulations 1997

Article 6 of the Order identifies extant legislation that is authorised to be modified or disapplied by virtue of the Order being made.

However, the list of legislation in Article 6 of the Order does not include the standard modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 in relation to the carrying out of development for the Scheme. This results in a requirement for Longfield to submit a Hedgerow Removal Notice under the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 every time that any hedgerow needs to be removed, including those already identified and assessed in Schedule 12 of the Order. This is an onerous and complex process that restricts the flexibility of the detailed design of the Scheme and poses a risk to the

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timing of phases of the Scheme due to determination timescales, and was clearly not the intention of the drafting of the Order. Longfield notes that this amendment will not result in uncontrolled hedgerow removal, as this continues to be controlled by the corresponding and relevant parts of the Order – for example, the vegetation removal plan, which is a certified document under Schedule 13 of the Order.

Longfield is therefore proposing to amend Article 6 of the Order to include the modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997. This approach has been consented in recent solar DCOs, including the Oaklands Farm Solar Park Order 2025.

# <u>Change 3 – amending Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order to require one submission of the BNG Strategy</u>

Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order requires Longfield to submit (for approval by the relevant planning authority) a landscape and ecological management plan ("**LEMP**") for each phase of the Scheme. As currently written in the Order, each LEMP requires the submission of a Biodiversity Net Gain ("**BNG**") Strategy to detail how the Scheme is achieving the minimum 87% BNG during the operation of the Scheme.

However, a targeted LEMP has been submitted for various permitted preliminary works (including vegetation removal) without containing a BNG Strategy, as information regarding BNG was not available at the time of the submission of that LEMP (as the landscape design for the Scheme had not yet been developed, nor did it form part of the works to which that LEMP related). Therefore, Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order has only partially been discharged in relation to that LEMP, which represents an inefficient process.

Longfield is therefore proposing to amend Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order to alter the approach such that only one site-wide BNG Strategy is required to be submitted as part of the site-wide LEMP for the Scheme's main site construction works (which are the works that give rise to BNG considerations).

# <u>Change 4 – amending Article 6(4) of the Order to address interactions with other planning</u> applications

There are four small areas of overlap between the Order and two adjacent planning permissions relating to the extraction of minerals at Bulls Lodge Quarry (i.e. in proximity to the existing substation). The overlaps are de minimis and neither the Order nor the other planning permissions are prejudiced from ongoing implementation.

However, for the sake of clarity and good order, Longfield is proposing to amend Article 6(4) of the Order to expressly provide for these overlaps to occur. Longfield notes that Article 6(4), as currently written in the Order, already addresses one of the areas of overlap, which lies directly to the north of the existing substation. The proposed change is to ensure that all of the overlaps are covered by Article 6(4), making the Order explicit in this regard whilst continuing to not prejudice the ongoing implementation of the Order and the other planning permissions.

#### Overall

The NMCs proposed to the Order by Longfield are necessary for the reasons set out above. None of the NMCs will give rise to any materially new or materially different environmental effects to those originally assessed as part of the application for the Order, nor would they require additional compulsory acquisition of land, nor would they have new or different effects on local residents or business or any additional implications in respect of habitats regulation assessment; therefore, Longfield considers that the proposed changes are non-material in nature.

### Consultation

Before a decision can be made by the Secretary of State, Longfield must consult with various persons in accordance with the requirements of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011 (the "2011 Regulations").

You have been identified as a consultee for the purposes of Regulation 7(2) of the 2011 Regulations. In addition, we draw your attention to the Regulation 7(3) letter published by the Secretary of State on 5 November 2025, enclosed with this letter.

The enclosed Regulation 6 notice contains details of how you can access the application documents and how to respond to the consultation. Any representation about the application must be made by email to: <a href="mailto:LongfieldSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk">LongfieldSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk</a> or in writing to:

National Infrastructure Planning, the Planning Inspectorate, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Bristol, BS1 6PN.

As set out in the notice, the consultation ends on 22 December 2025. Therefore, the deadline for receipt of your views about the application is **11:59pm on 22 December 2025**.

Yours faithfully

Pinsent Masons LLP
On behalf of
LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED
Alexander House
1 Mandarin Road
Rainton Bridge Business Park
Houghton Le Spring
Sunderland
England
DH4 5RA

### Enclosures:

- (i) Copy of a notice pursuant to Section 153 of the Planning Act 2008 and Regulation 6 of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011.
- (ii) Regulation 7(3) letter from the Secretary of State, dated 5 November 2025.

### LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED

# SECTION 153 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008 AND REGULATION 6 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011

# NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO MAKE A NON-MATERIAL CHANGE TO THE FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER:

# THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM ORDER 2023 (SI 2023/734) AS CORRECTED BY THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM (CORRECTION) ORDER 2023 (SI 2023/1241)

Notice is hereby given that an application has been made by Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited (company number 11618210) of registered office Alexander House, 1 Mandarin Road, Rainton Bridge Business Park, Houghton Le Spring, Sunderland, England, DH4 5RA (the "Applicant") to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero to make a non-material change to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 (as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023) (the "Order") under the Planning Act 2008 (the "NMC Application").

The Order includes provision authorising the construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of a solar photovoltaic electricity generating facility and Battery Storage Energy System with a total capacity exceeding 50MW and associated infrastructure (the "**Scheme**"). Longfield seeks to make four non-material changes (the "**NMCs**") to the Order.

<u>Change 1 – amending Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order to facilitate the installation of a dual circuit</u>

Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order authorises, at paragraph (i), works including the installation of one 400 kilovolt cable circuit connecting Work No. 3 (the new onsite substation) to Work No. 5 (the extension to the existing substation).

For resilience purposes, Longfield is seeking to install a second 400 kilovolt cable circuit as part of these works. Longfield is therefore proposing to amend the description of Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order to authorise this dualling.

Change 2 – amending Article 6 of the Order to modify the Hedgerows Regulations 1997

Article 6 of the Order identifies extant legislation that is authorised to be modified or disapplied by virtue of the Order being made.

However, the list of legislation in Article 6 of the Order does not include the standard modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 in relation to the carrying out of development for the Scheme. This results in a requirement for Longfield to submit a Hedgerow Removal Notice under the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 every time that any hedgerow needs to be removed, including those already identified and assessed in Schedule 12 of the Order. This is an onerous and complex process that restricts the flexibility of the detailed design of the Scheme and poses a risk to the timing of phases of the Scheme due to determination timescales, and was clearly not the intention of the drafting of the Order. Longfield notes that this amendment will not result in uncontrolled hedgerow removal, as this continues to be controlled by the corresponding and relevant parts of the Order – for example, the vegetation removal plan, which is a certified document under Schedule 13 of the Order.

Longfield is therefore proposing to amend Article 6 of the Order to include the modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997. This approach has been consented in recent solar DCOs, including the Oaklands Farm Solar Park Order 2025.

# <u>Change 3 – amending Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order to require one submission of the BNG</u> Strategy

Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order requires Longfield to submit (for approval by the relevant planning authority) a landscape and ecological management plan ("LEMP") for each phase of the Scheme. As currently written in the Order, each LEMP requires the submission of a Biodiversity Net Gain ("BNG") Strategy to detail how the Scheme is achieving the minimum 87% BNG during the operation of the Scheme.

However, a targeted LEMP has been submitted for various permitted preliminary works (including vegetation removal) without containing a BNG Strategy, as information regarding BNG was not available at the time of the submission of that LEMP (as the landscape design for the Scheme had not yet been developed, nor did it form part of the works to which that LEMP related). Therefore, Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order has only partially been discharged in relation to that LEMP, which represents an inefficient process.

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# Change 4 – amending Article 6(4) of the Order to address interactions with other planning applications

There are four small areas of overlap between the Order and two adjacent planning permissions relating to the extraction of minerals at Bulls Lodge Quarry (i.e. in proximity to the existing substation). The overlaps are de minimis and neither the Order nor the other planning permissions are prejudiced from ongoing implementation.

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### Overall

The NMCs proposed to the Order by Longfield are necessary for the reasons set out above. None of the NMCs will give rise to any materially new or materially different environmental effects to those originally assessed as part of the application for the Order, nor would they require additional compulsory acquisition of land, nor would they have new or different effects on local residents or business or any additional implications in respect of habitats regulation assessment; therefore, Longfield considers that the proposed changes are non-material in nature.

A copy of the NMC Application and its accompanying documents are available for inspection, free of charge, via the Planning Inspectorate's website at the below address until at least the end of the consultation period referred to below:

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https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010118/documents

If you require a hard copy of the NMC Application and its accompanying documents (for example because you do not have access to a computer and are unable to view the documents on PINS' website), you can request hard copies by contacting the Applicant at info@longfieldsolarfarm.co.uk or on 0800 0194 576. Each hard copy is available at the cost of £20 per copy.

Any representation about the NMC Application must be made by email to: <a href="mailto:LongfieldSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk">LongfieldSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk</a>, or in writing to:

National Infrastructure Planning, the Planning Inspectorate, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Bristol, BS1 6PN.

Please quote reference EN010118 on any correspondence. Consultation responses will be published on the relevant project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website.

Please note that representations must be received by the Planning Inspectorate by 11.59pm on 22 December 2025.

### LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED

**13 November 2025** 



3-8 Whitehall Place
London
SW1A 2AW
ergyinfrastructureplanning@energysecurity.gov.uk

<u>energyinfrastructureplanning@energysecurity.gov.uk</u> www.gov.uk/desnz

BY EMAIL ONLY to: Pinsent Masons LLP
30 Crown Place
London
EC2A 4ES

@pinsentmasons.com

5 November 2025

Dear Mr Tresadern,

THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM ORDER 2023 – S.I. 734 ("THE ORDER") AND THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM (CORRECTION) ORDER 2023 – S.I. 1241 – PROPOSED NON-MATERIAL CHANGE APPLICATION

REGULATION 7(3) OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011 - WRITTEN CONSENT FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR NOT CONSULTING A PERSON OR AUTHORITY

- 1. Thank you for your email and letter of 15 October 2025 on behalf of Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited ("the Applicant"). The letter and email of 15 October 2025 provided a description of the proposed non-material changes to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023, the reasons for the proposed changes, the proposed reduced consultee list, and a list of the parties consulted on the original application in respect to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 and as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023. The letter requested the Secretary of State's consent under Regulation 7(3) of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011 (as amended) ("the 2011 Regulations") to a reduced list of consultees.
- 2. The letter provides the following description of the changes sought:
  - a. amendment of Work No. 4A in Schedule 1 to authorise installation of a second 400kV cable circuit between the onsite substation and the existing substation extension:
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- 3. The Applicant proposes to consult 15 parties: Anglian Water Services Limited, Boreham Parish Council, Braintree District Council, British Telecommunications Plc, Chelmsford City Council, Environment Agency, Essex and Suffolk Water Limited, Essex County Council, Lord Rayleigh's Farms Limited, National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc, Natural England, Network Rail Infrastructure Limited, Pioneer Aggregates (UK) Limited, Hanson Quarry Products Europe Limited, Vodafone Limited, and UK Power Networks Limited. These parties have been identified because they are host authorities, statutory bodies, or asset owners whose operations or interests may be directly affected by one or more of the proposed non-material changes.
- 4. The Secretary of State considers that Historic England and the Joint Nature Conservation Committee should be consulted because the Applicant has not provided specific reasons why these consultees should not be consulted. The Secretary of State considers that these consultees may have representations to make in relation to the proposed change.
- 5. The Secretary of State is satisfied that it is not necessary for other consultees from the Order to be included in the reduced consultee list, as they are not directly affected, either because the proposed amendments will not affect their interests or because their interests relate to a different part of the scheme.
- 6. Accordingly, the Secretary of State gives written consent for the consultation to proceed in accordance with the details set out above, under regulation 7(3) of the 2011 Regulations.
- 7. In taking this decision, the Secretary of State acknowledges that notice of the Application will be provided by the Applicant, in line with the requirements in Regulation 6 of the 2011 Regulations.
- 8. The Secretary of State's written consent in this matter should not be taken as indicating approval for any other aspects of the proposed changes to the Order, which fall to {her/him} for consideration and determination, or whether the proposed changes will ultimately be regarded as material or not.

Yours sincerely,

# Kerry Crowhurst-Kozlova

Head of Planning

On behalf of the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero



### BY RECORDED DELIVERY AND EMAIL

National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc 1-3 Strand London WC2N 5EH assetprotection@nationalgrid.com

13 November 2025

Dear Sir / Madam

#### LONGFIELD FARM ORDER 2023 – NON-MATERIAL CHANGE APPLICATION

SECTION 153 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008 AND REGULATION 7 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011

The enclosed notice relates to a 'non-material change' application (the "application") being made to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero (the "Secretary of State") for the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 (as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023 (the "Order") by Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited ("Longfield"). We act for Longfield in relation to the application.

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Article 6 of the Order identifies extant legislation that is authorised to be modified or disapplied by virtue of the Order being made.

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# <u>Change 4 – amending Article 6(4) of the Order to address interactions with other planning applications</u>

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# Overall

The NMCs proposed to the Order by Longfield are necessary for the reasons set out above. None of the NMCs will give rise to any materially new or materially different environmental effects to those originally assessed as part of the application for the Order, nor would they require additional compulsory acquisition of land, nor would they have new or different effects on local residents or business or any additional implications in respect of habitats regulation assessment; therefore, Longfield considers that the proposed changes are non-material in nature.

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Yours faithfully

Pinsent Masons LLP
On behalf of
LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED
Alexander House
1 Mandarin Road
Rainton Bridge Business Park
Houghton Le Spring
Sunderland
England
DH4 5RA

### Enclosures:

- (i) Copy of a notice pursuant to Section 153 of the Planning Act 2008 and Regulation 6 of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011.
- (ii) Regulation 7(3) letter from the Secretary of State, dated 5 November 2025.

### LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED

# SECTION 153 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008 AND REGULATION 6 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011

# NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO MAKE A NON-MATERIAL CHANGE TO THE FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER:

# THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM ORDER 2023 (SI 2023/734) AS CORRECTED BY THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM (CORRECTION) ORDER 2023 (SI 2023/1241)

Notice is hereby given that an application has been made by Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited (company number 11618210) of registered office Alexander House, 1 Mandarin Road, Rainton Bridge Business Park, Houghton Le Spring, Sunderland, England, DH4 5RA (the "Applicant") to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero to make a non-material change to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 (as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023) (the "Order") under the Planning Act 2008 (the "NMC Application").

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However, the list of legislation in Article 6 of the Order does not include the standard modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 in relation to the carrying out of development for the Scheme. This results in a requirement for Longfield to submit a Hedgerow Removal Notice under the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 every time that any hedgerow needs to be removed, including those already identified and assessed in Schedule 12 of the Order. This is an onerous and complex process that restricts the flexibility of the detailed design of the Scheme and poses a risk to the timing of phases of the Scheme due to determination timescales, and was clearly not the intention of the drafting of the Order. Longfield notes that this amendment will not result in uncontrolled hedgerow removal, as this continues to be controlled by the corresponding and relevant parts of the Order – for example, the vegetation removal plan, which is a certified document under Schedule 13 of the Order.

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Longfield is therefore proposing to amend Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order to alter the approach such that only one site-wide BNG Strategy is required to be submitted as part of the site-wide LEMP for the Scheme's main site construction works (which are the works that give rise to BNG considerations).

# Change 4 – amending Article 6(4) of the Order to address interactions with other planning applications

There are four small areas of overlap between the Order and two adjacent planning permissions relating to the extraction of minerals at Bulls Lodge Quarry (i.e. in proximity to the existing substation). The overlaps are de minimis and neither the Order nor the other planning permissions are prejudiced from ongoing implementation.

However, for the sake of clarity and good order, Longfield is proposing to amend Article 6(4) of the Order to expressly provide for these overlaps to occur. Longfield notes that Article 6(4), as currently written in the Order, already addresses one of the areas of overlap, which lies directly to the north of the existing substation. The proposed change is to ensure that all of the overlaps are covered by Article 6(4), making the Order explicit in this regard whilst continuing to not prejudice the ongoing implementation of the Order and the other planning permissions.

### Overall

The NMCs proposed to the Order by Longfield are necessary for the reasons set out above. None of the NMCs will give rise to any materially new or materially different environmental effects to those originally assessed as part of the application for the Order, nor would they require additional compulsory acquisition of land, nor would they have new or different effects on local residents or business or any additional implications in respect of habitats regulation assessment; therefore, Longfield considers that the proposed changes are non-material in nature.

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Planning Inspectorate website (documents tab):

https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010118/documents

If you require a hard copy of the NMC Application and its accompanying documents (for example because you do not have access to a computer and are unable to view the documents on PINS' website), you can request hard copies by contacting the Applicant at info@longfieldsolarfarm.co.uk or on 0800 0194 576. Each hard copy is available at the cost of £20 per copy.

Any representation about the NMC Application must be made by email to: <a href="mailto:LongfieldSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk">LongfieldSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk</a>, or in writing to:

National Infrastructure Planning, the Planning Inspectorate, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Bristol, BS1 6PN.

Please quote reference EN010118 on any correspondence. Consultation responses will be published on the relevant project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website.

Please note that representations must be received by the Planning Inspectorate by 11.59pm on 22 December 2025.

### LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED

**13 November 2025** 



3-8 Whitehall Place
London
SW1A 2AW
ergyinfrastructureplanning@energysecurity.gov.uk

<u>energyinfrastructureplanning@energysecurity.gov.uk</u> www.gov.uk/desnz

BY EMAIL ONLY to: |
Pinsent Masons LLP
30 Crown Place
London
EC2A 4ES

@pinsentmasons.com

5 November 2025

Dear Mr Tresadern,

THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM ORDER 2023 – S.I. 734 ("THE ORDER") AND THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM (CORRECTION) ORDER 2023 – S.I. 1241 – PROPOSED NON-MATERIAL CHANGE APPLICATION

REGULATION 7(3) OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011 - WRITTEN CONSENT FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR NOT CONSULTING A PERSON OR AUTHORITY

- 1. Thank you for your email and letter of 15 October 2025 on behalf of Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited ("the Applicant"). The letter and email of 15 October 2025 provided a description of the proposed non-material changes to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023, the reasons for the proposed changes, the proposed reduced consultee list, and a list of the parties consulted on the original application in respect to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 and as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023. The letter requested the Secretary of State's consent under Regulation 7(3) of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011 (as amended) ("the 2011 Regulations") to a reduced list of consultees.
- 2. The letter provides the following description of the changes sought:
  - a. amendment of Work No. 4A in Schedule 1 to authorise installation of a second 400kV cable circuit between the onsite substation and the existing substation extension:
  - b. amendment of Article 6 to include modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997:
  - amendment of Requirement 9 in Schedule 2 to require submission of a single site-wide Biodiversity Net Gain Strategy rather than multiple phase-specific strategies; and
  - d. amendment of Article 6(4) to clarify that limited overlaps with adjacent minerals planning permissions at Bulls Lodge Quarry are permitted.

- 3. The Applicant proposes to consult 15 parties: Anglian Water Services Limited, Boreham Parish Council, Braintree District Council, British Telecommunications Plc, Chelmsford City Council, Environment Agency, Essex and Suffolk Water Limited, Essex County Council, Lord Rayleigh's Farms Limited, National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc, Natural England, Network Rail Infrastructure Limited, Pioneer Aggregates (UK) Limited, Hanson Quarry Products Europe Limited, Vodafone Limited, and UK Power Networks Limited. These parties have been identified because they are host authorities, statutory bodies, or asset owners whose operations or interests may be directly affected by one or more of the proposed non-material changes.
- 4. The Secretary of State considers that Historic England and the Joint Nature Conservation Committee should be consulted because the Applicant has not provided specific reasons why these consultees should not be consulted. The Secretary of State considers that these consultees may have representations to make in relation to the proposed change.
- 5. The Secretary of State is satisfied that it is not necessary for other consultees from the Order to be included in the reduced consultee list, as they are not directly affected, either because the proposed amendments will not affect their interests or because their interests relate to a different part of the scheme.
- 6. Accordingly, the Secretary of State gives written consent for the consultation to proceed in accordance with the details set out above, under regulation 7(3) of the 2011 Regulations.
- 7. In taking this decision, the Secretary of State acknowledges that notice of the Application will be provided by the Applicant, in line with the requirements in Regulation 6 of the 2011 Regulations.
- 8. The Secretary of State's written consent in this matter should not be taken as indicating approval for any other aspects of the proposed changes to the Order, which fall to {her/him} for consideration and determination, or whether the proposed changes will ultimately be regarded as material or not.

Yours sincerely,

# Kerry Crowhurst-Kozlova

Head of Planning

On behalf of the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero



### BY RECORDED DELIVERY AND EMAIL

Natural England
Foss House
Kings Pool
1-2 Peasholme Green
York
YO1 7PX
enguiries@naturalengland.org.uk, consultations@naturalengland.org.uk

13 November 2025

Dear Sir / Madam

#### LONGFIELD FARM ORDER 2023 - NON-MATERIAL CHANGE APPLICATION

SECTION 153 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008 AND REGULATION 7 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011

The enclosed notice relates to a 'non-material change' application (the "application") being made to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero (the "Secretary of State") for the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 (as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023 (the "Order") by Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited ("Longfield"). We act for Longfield in relation to the application.

The Order includes provision authorising the construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of a solar photovoltaic electricity generating facility and Battery Storage Energy System with a total capacity exceeding 50MW and associated infrastructure (the "**Scheme**"). Longfield seeks to make four non-material changes (the "**NMCs**") to the Order.

<u>Change 1 – amending Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order to facilitate the installation of a dual circuit</u>

Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order authorises, at paragraph (i), works including the installation of one 400 kilovolt cable circuit connecting Work No. 3 (the new onsite substation) to Work No. 5 (the extension to the existing substation).

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already identified and assessed in Schedule 12 of the Order. This is an onerous and complex process that restricts the flexibility of the detailed design of the Scheme and poses a risk to the timing of phases of the Scheme due to determination timescales, and was clearly not the intention of the drafting of the Order. Longfield notes that this amendment will not result in uncontrolled hedgerow removal, as this continues to be controlled by the corresponding and relevant parts of the Order – for example, the vegetation removal plan, which is a certified document under Schedule 13 of the Order.

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### Overall

The NMCs proposed to the Order by Longfield are necessary for the reasons set out above. None of the NMCs will give rise to any materially new or materially different environmental effects to those originally assessed as part of the application for the Order, nor would they require additional compulsory acquisition of land, nor would they have new or different effects on local residents or business or any additional implications in respect of habitats regulation assessment; therefore, Longfield considers that the proposed changes are non-material in nature.

### Consultation

Before a decision can be made by the Secretary of State, Longfield must consult with various persons in accordance with the requirements of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011 (the "2011 Regulations").

You have been identified as a consultee for the purposes of Regulation 7(2) of the 2011 Regulations. In addition, we draw your attention to the Regulation 7(3) letter published by the Secretary of State on 5 November 2025, enclosed with this letter.

The enclosed Regulation 6 notice contains details of how you can access the application documents and how to respond to the consultation. Any representation about the application must be made by email to: <a href="mailto:LongfieldSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk">LongfieldSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk</a> or in writing to:

National Infrastructure Planning, the Planning Inspectorate, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Bristol, BS1 6PN.

As set out in the notice, the consultation ends on 22 December 2025. Therefore, the deadline for receipt of your views about the application is **11:59pm on 22 December 2025**.

Yours faithfully

Pinsent Masons LLP
On behalf of
LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED
Alexander House
1 Mandarin Road
Rainton Bridge Business Park
Houghton Le Spring
Sunderland
England
DH4 5RA

### Enclosures:

- (i) Copy of a notice pursuant to Section 153 of the Planning Act 2008 and Regulation 6 of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011.
- (ii) Regulation 7(3) letter from the Secretary of State, dated 5 November 2025.

### LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED

# SECTION 153 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008 AND REGULATION 6 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011

# NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO MAKE A NON-MATERIAL CHANGE TO THE FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER:

# THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM ORDER 2023 (SI 2023/734) AS CORRECTED BY THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM (CORRECTION) ORDER 2023 (SI 2023/1241)

Notice is hereby given that an application has been made by Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited (company number 11618210) of registered office Alexander House, 1 Mandarin Road, Rainton Bridge Business Park, Houghton Le Spring, Sunderland, England, DH4 5RA (the "Applicant") to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero to make a non-material change to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 (as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023) (the "Order") under the Planning Act 2008 (the "NMC Application").

The Order includes provision authorising the construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of a solar photovoltaic electricity generating facility and Battery Storage Energy System with a total capacity exceeding 50MW and associated infrastructure (the "**Scheme**"). Longfield seeks to make four non-material changes (the "**NMCs**") to the Order.

<u>Change 1 – amending Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order to facilitate the installation of a dual circuit</u>

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Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order requires Longfield to submit (for approval by the relevant planning authority) a landscape and ecological management plan ("LEMP") for each phase of the Scheme. As currently written in the Order, each LEMP requires the submission of a Biodiversity Net Gain ("BNG") Strategy to detail how the Scheme is achieving the minimum 87% BNG during the operation of the Scheme.

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Please note that representations must be received by the Planning Inspectorate by 11.59pm on 22 December 2025.

### LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED

**13 November 2025** 



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London
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BY EMAIL ONLY to: |
Pinsent Masons LLP
30 Crown Place
London
EC2A 4ES

@pinsentmasons.com

5 November 2025

Dear Mr Tresadern,

THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM ORDER 2023 – S.I. 734 ("THE ORDER") AND THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM (CORRECTION) ORDER 2023 – S.I. 1241 – PROPOSED NON-MATERIAL CHANGE APPLICATION

REGULATION 7(3) OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011 - WRITTEN CONSENT FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR NOT CONSULTING A PERSON OR AUTHORITY

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- 3. The Applicant proposes to consult 15 parties: Anglian Water Services Limited, Boreham Parish Council, Braintree District Council, British Telecommunications Plc, Chelmsford City Council, Environment Agency, Essex and Suffolk Water Limited, Essex County Council, Lord Rayleigh's Farms Limited, National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc, Natural England, Network Rail Infrastructure Limited, Pioneer Aggregates (UK) Limited, Hanson Quarry Products Europe Limited, Vodafone Limited, and UK Power Networks Limited. These parties have been identified because they are host authorities, statutory bodies, or asset owners whose operations or interests may be directly affected by one or more of the proposed non-material changes.
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- 7. In taking this decision, the Secretary of State acknowledges that notice of the Application will be provided by the Applicant, in line with the requirements in Regulation 6 of the 2011 Regulations.
- 8. The Secretary of State's written consent in this matter should not be taken as indicating approval for any other aspects of the proposed changes to the Order, which fall to {her/him} for consideration and determination, or whether the proposed changes will ultimately be regarded as material or not.

Yours sincerely,

# Kerry Crowhurst-Kozlova

Head of Planning

On behalf of the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero



### BY RECORDED DELIVERY AND EMAIL

Network Rail Infrastructure Limited Waterloo General Office London SE1 8SW

@networkrail.co.uk,

13 November 2025

Dear Andrew, Seana

#### LONGFIELD FARM ORDER 2023 - NON-MATERIAL CHANGE APPLICATION

SECTION 153 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008 AND REGULATION 7 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011

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There are four small areas of overlap between the Order and two adjacent planning permissions relating to the extraction of minerals at Bulls Lodge Quarry (i.e. in proximity to the existing substation). The overlaps are de minimis and neither the Order nor the other planning permissions are prejudiced from ongoing implementation.

However, for the sake of clarity and good order, Longfield is proposing to amend Article 6(4) of the Order to expressly provide for these overlaps to occur. Longfield notes that Article 6(4), as currently written in the Order, already addresses one of the areas of overlap, which lies directly to the north of the existing substation. The proposed change is to ensure that all of the overlaps are covered by Article 6(4), making the Order explicit in this regard whilst continuing to not prejudice the ongoing implementation of the Order and the other planning permissions.

# Overall

The NMCs proposed to the Order by Longfield are necessary for the reasons set out above. None of the NMCs will give rise to any materially new or materially different environmental effects to those originally assessed as part of the application for the Order, nor would they require additional compulsory acquisition of land, nor would they have new or different effects on local residents or business or any additional implications in respect of habitats regulation assessment; therefore, Longfield considers that the proposed changes are non-material in nature.

### Consultation

Before a decision can be made by the Secretary of State, Longfield must consult with various persons in accordance with the requirements of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011 (the "2011 Regulations").

You have been identified as a consultee for the purposes of Regulation 7(2) of the 2011 Regulations. In addition, we draw your attention to the Regulation 7(3) letter published by the Secretary of State on 5 November 2025, enclosed with this letter.

The enclosed Regulation 6 notice contains details of how you can access the application documents and how to respond to the consultation. Any representation about the application must be made by email to: <a href="mailto:LongfieldSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk">LongfieldSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk</a> or in writing to:

National Infrastructure Planning, the Planning Inspectorate, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Bristol, BS1 6PN.

As set out in the notice, the consultation ends on 22 December 2025. Therefore, the deadline for receipt of your views about the application is **11:59pm on 22 December 2025**.

Yours faithfully

Pinsent Masons LLP
On behalf of
LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED
Alexander House
1 Mandarin Road
Rainton Bridge Business Park
Houghton Le Spring
Sunderland
England
DH4 5RA

### Enclosures:

- (i) Copy of a notice pursuant to Section 153 of the Planning Act 2008 and Regulation 6 of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011.
- (ii) Regulation 7(3) letter from the Secretary of State, dated 5 November 2025.

### LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED

# SECTION 153 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008 AND REGULATION 6 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011

# NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO MAKE A NON-MATERIAL CHANGE TO THE FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER:

# THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM ORDER 2023 (SI 2023/734) AS CORRECTED BY THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM (CORRECTION) ORDER 2023 (SI 2023/1241)

Notice is hereby given that an application has been made by Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited (company number 11618210) of registered office Alexander House, 1 Mandarin Road, Rainton Bridge Business Park, Houghton Le Spring, Sunderland, England, DH4 5RA (the "Applicant") to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero to make a non-material change to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 (as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023) (the "Order") under the Planning Act 2008 (the "NMC Application").

The Order includes provision authorising the construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of a solar photovoltaic electricity generating facility and Battery Storage Energy System with a total capacity exceeding 50MW and associated infrastructure (the "**Scheme**"). Longfield seeks to make four non-material changes (the "**NMCs**") to the Order.

<u>Change 1 – amending Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order to facilitate the installation of a dual circuit</u>

Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order authorises, at paragraph (i), works including the installation of one 400 kilovolt cable circuit connecting Work No. 3 (the new onsite substation) to Work No. 5 (the extension to the existing substation).

For resilience purposes, Longfield is seeking to install a second 400 kilovolt cable circuit as part of these works. Longfield is therefore proposing to amend the description of Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order to authorise this dualling.

Change 2 – amending Article 6 of the Order to modify the Hedgerows Regulations 1997

Article 6 of the Order identifies extant legislation that is authorised to be modified or disapplied by virtue of the Order being made.

However, the list of legislation in Article 6 of the Order does not include the standard modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 in relation to the carrying out of development for the Scheme. This results in a requirement for Longfield to submit a Hedgerow Removal Notice under the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 every time that any hedgerow needs to be removed, including those already identified and assessed in Schedule 12 of the Order. This is an onerous and complex process that restricts the flexibility of the detailed design of the Scheme and poses a risk to the timing of phases of the Scheme due to determination timescales, and was clearly not the intention of the drafting of the Order. Longfield notes that this amendment will not result in uncontrolled hedgerow removal, as this continues to be controlled by the corresponding and relevant parts of the Order – for example, the vegetation removal plan, which is a certified document under Schedule 13 of the Order.

Longfield is therefore proposing to amend Article 6 of the Order to include the modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997. This approach has been consented in recent solar DCOs, including the Oaklands Farm Solar Park Order 2025.

# <u>Change 3 – amending Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order to require one submission of the BNG</u> Strategy

Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order requires Longfield to submit (for approval by the relevant planning authority) a landscape and ecological management plan ("LEMP") for each phase of the Scheme. As currently written in the Order, each LEMP requires the submission of a Biodiversity Net Gain ("BNG") Strategy to detail how the Scheme is achieving the minimum 87% BNG during the operation of the Scheme.

However, a targeted LEMP has been submitted for various permitted preliminary works (including vegetation removal) without containing a BNG Strategy, as information regarding BNG was not available at the time of the submission of that LEMP (as the landscape design for the Scheme had not yet been developed, nor did it form part of the works to which that LEMP related). Therefore, Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order has only partially been discharged in relation to that LEMP, which represents an inefficient process.

Longfield is therefore proposing to amend Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order to alter the approach such that only one site-wide BNG Strategy is required to be submitted as part of the site-wide LEMP for the Scheme's main site construction works (which are the works that give rise to BNG considerations).

# Change 4 – amending Article 6(4) of the Order to address interactions with other planning applications

There are four small areas of overlap between the Order and two adjacent planning permissions relating to the extraction of minerals at Bulls Lodge Quarry (i.e. in proximity to the existing substation). The overlaps are de minimis and neither the Order nor the other planning permissions are prejudiced from ongoing implementation.

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### Overall

The NMCs proposed to the Order by Longfield are necessary for the reasons set out above. None of the NMCs will give rise to any materially new or materially different environmental effects to those originally assessed as part of the application for the Order, nor would they require additional compulsory acquisition of land, nor would they have new or different effects on local residents or business or any additional implications in respect of habitats regulation assessment; therefore, Longfield considers that the proposed changes are non-material in nature.

A copy of the NMC Application and its accompanying documents are available for inspection, free of charge, via the Planning Inspectorate's website at the below address until at least the end of the consultation period referred to below:

Planning Inspectorate website (documents tab):

https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010118/documents

If you require a hard copy of the NMC Application and its accompanying documents (for example because you do not have access to a computer and are unable to view the documents on PINS' website), you can request hard copies by contacting the Applicant at info@longfieldsolarfarm.co.uk or on 0800 0194 576. Each hard copy is available at the cost of £20 per copy.

Any representation about the NMC Application must be made by email to: <a href="mailto:LongfieldSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk">LongfieldSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk</a>, or in writing to:

National Infrastructure Planning, the Planning Inspectorate, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Bristol, BS1 6PN.

Please quote reference EN010118 on any correspondence. Consultation responses will be published on the relevant project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website.

Please note that representations must be received by the Planning Inspectorate by 11.59pm on 22 December 2025.

### LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED

**13 November 2025** 



3-8 Whitehall Place
London
SW1A 2AW
ergyinfrastructureplanning@energysecurity.gov.uk

<u>energyinfrastructureplanning@energysecurity.gov.uk</u> www.gov.uk/desnz

BY EMAIL ONLY to: |
Pinsent Masons LLP
30 Crown Place
London
EC2A 4ES

@pinsentmasons.com

5 November 2025

Dear Mr Tresadern,

THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM ORDER 2023 – S.I. 734 ("THE ORDER") AND THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM (CORRECTION) ORDER 2023 – S.I. 1241 – PROPOSED NON-MATERIAL CHANGE APPLICATION

REGULATION 7(3) OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011 - WRITTEN CONSENT FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR NOT CONSULTING A PERSON OR AUTHORITY

- 1. Thank you for your email and letter of 15 October 2025 on behalf of Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited ("the Applicant"). The letter and email of 15 October 2025 provided a description of the proposed non-material changes to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023, the reasons for the proposed changes, the proposed reduced consultee list, and a list of the parties consulted on the original application in respect to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 and as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023. The letter requested the Secretary of State's consent under Regulation 7(3) of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011 (as amended) ("the 2011 Regulations") to a reduced list of consultees.
- 2. The letter provides the following description of the changes sought:
  - a. amendment of Work No. 4A in Schedule 1 to authorise installation of a second 400kV cable circuit between the onsite substation and the existing substation extension:
  - b. amendment of Article 6 to include modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997:
  - amendment of Requirement 9 in Schedule 2 to require submission of a single site-wide Biodiversity Net Gain Strategy rather than multiple phase-specific strategies; and
  - d. amendment of Article 6(4) to clarify that limited overlaps with adjacent minerals planning permissions at Bulls Lodge Quarry are permitted.

- 3. The Applicant proposes to consult 15 parties: Anglian Water Services Limited, Boreham Parish Council, Braintree District Council, British Telecommunications Plc, Chelmsford City Council, Environment Agency, Essex and Suffolk Water Limited, Essex County Council, Lord Rayleigh's Farms Limited, National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc, Natural England, Network Rail Infrastructure Limited, Pioneer Aggregates (UK) Limited, Hanson Quarry Products Europe Limited, Vodafone Limited, and UK Power Networks Limited. These parties have been identified because they are host authorities, statutory bodies, or asset owners whose operations or interests may be directly affected by one or more of the proposed non-material changes.
- 4. The Secretary of State considers that Historic England and the Joint Nature Conservation Committee should be consulted because the Applicant has not provided specific reasons why these consultees should not be consulted. The Secretary of State considers that these consultees may have representations to make in relation to the proposed change.
- 5. The Secretary of State is satisfied that it is not necessary for other consultees from the Order to be included in the reduced consultee list, as they are not directly affected, either because the proposed amendments will not affect their interests or because their interests relate to a different part of the scheme.
- 6. Accordingly, the Secretary of State gives written consent for the consultation to proceed in accordance with the details set out above, under regulation 7(3) of the 2011 Regulations.
- 7. In taking this decision, the Secretary of State acknowledges that notice of the Application will be provided by the Applicant, in line with the requirements in Regulation 6 of the 2011 Regulations.
- 8. The Secretary of State's written consent in this matter should not be taken as indicating approval for any other aspects of the proposed changes to the Order, which fall to {her/him} for consideration and determination, or whether the proposed changes will ultimately be regarded as material or not.

Yours sincerely,

# Kerry Crowhurst-Kozlova

Head of Planning

On behalf of the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero



### BY RECORDED DELIVERY AND EMAIL

Pioneer Aggregates (UK Limited) Hanson House 14 Castle Hill Maidenhead SL6 4JJ

@heidelbergmaterials.com

13 November 2025

Dear lain

#### LONGFIELD FARM ORDER 2023 - NON-MATERIAL CHANGE APPLICATION

SECTION 153 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008 AND REGULATION 7 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011

The enclosed notice relates to a 'non-material change' application (the "application") being made to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero (the "Secretary of State") for the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 (as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023 (the "Order") by Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited ("Longfield"). We act for Longfield in relation to the application.

The Order includes provision authorising the construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of a solar photovoltaic electricity generating facility and Battery Storage Energy System with a total capacity exceeding 50MW and associated infrastructure (the "Scheme"). Longfield seeks to make four non-material changes (the "NMCs") to the Order.

Change 1 – amending Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order to facilitate the installation of a dual circuit

Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order authorises, at paragraph (i), works including the installation of one 400 kilovolt cable circuit connecting Work No. 3 (the new onsite substation) to Work No. 5 (the extension to the existing substation).

For resilience purposes, Longfield is seeking to install a second 400 kilovolt cable circuit as part of these works. Longfield is therefore proposing to amend the description of Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order to authorise this dualling.

Change 2 – amending Article 6 of the Order to modify the Hedgerows Regulations 1997

Article 6 of the Order identifies extant legislation that is authorised to be modified or disapplied by virtue of the Order being made.

However, the list of legislation in Article 6 of the Order does not include the standard modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 in relation to the carrying out of development for the Scheme. This results in a requirement for Longfield to submit a Hedgerow Removal Notice under the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 every time that any hedgerow needs to be removed, including those already identified and assessed in Schedule 12 of the Order. This is an onerous and complex process that restricts the flexibility of the detailed design of the Scheme and poses a risk to the

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timing of phases of the Scheme due to determination timescales, and was clearly not the intention of the drafting of the Order. Longfield notes that this amendment will not result in uncontrolled hedgerow removal, as this continues to be controlled by the corresponding and relevant parts of the Order – for example, the vegetation removal plan, which is a certified document under Schedule 13 of the Order.

Longfield is therefore proposing to amend Article 6 of the Order to include the modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997. This approach has been consented in recent solar DCOs, including the Oaklands Farm Solar Park Order 2025.

# <u>Change 3 – amending Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order to require one submission of the BNG Strategy</u>

Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order requires Longfield to submit (for approval by the relevant planning authority) a landscape and ecological management plan ("**LEMP**") for each phase of the Scheme. As currently written in the Order, each LEMP requires the submission of a Biodiversity Net Gain ("**BNG**") Strategy to detail how the Scheme is achieving the minimum 87% BNG during the operation of the Scheme.

However, a targeted LEMP has been submitted for various permitted preliminary works (including vegetation removal) without containing a BNG Strategy, as information regarding BNG was not available at the time of the submission of that LEMP (as the landscape design for the Scheme had not yet been developed, nor did it form part of the works to which that LEMP related). Therefore, Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order has only partially been discharged in relation to that LEMP, which represents an inefficient process.

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There are four small areas of overlap between the Order and two adjacent planning permissions relating to the extraction of minerals at Bulls Lodge Quarry (i.e. in proximity to the existing substation). The overlaps are de minimis and neither the Order nor the other planning permissions are prejudiced from ongoing implementation.

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#### Overall

The NMCs proposed to the Order by Longfield are necessary for the reasons set out above. None of the NMCs will give rise to any materially new or materially different environmental effects to those originally assessed as part of the application for the Order, nor would they require additional compulsory acquisition of land, nor would they have new or different effects on local residents or business or any additional implications in respect of habitats regulation assessment; therefore, Longfield considers that the proposed changes are non-material in nature.

### Consultation

Before a decision can be made by the Secretary of State, Longfield must consult with various persons in accordance with the requirements of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011 (the "2011 Regulations").

You have been identified as a consultee for the purposes of Regulation 7(2) of the 2011 Regulations. In addition, we draw your attention to the Regulation 7(3) letter published by the Secretary of State on 5 November 2025, enclosed with this letter.

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As set out in the notice, the consultation ends on 22 December 2025. Therefore, the deadline for receipt of your views about the application is **11:59pm on 22 December 2025**.

Yours faithfully

Pinsent Masons LLP
On behalf of
LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED
Alexander House
1 Mandarin Road
Rainton Bridge Business Park
Houghton Le Spring
Sunderland
England
DH4 5RA

### Enclosures:

- (i) Copy of a notice pursuant to Section 153 of the Planning Act 2008 and Regulation 6 of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011.
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### LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED

# SECTION 153 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008 AND REGULATION 6 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011

# NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO MAKE A NON-MATERIAL CHANGE TO THE FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER:

# THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM ORDER 2023 (SI 2023/734) AS CORRECTED BY THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM (CORRECTION) ORDER 2023 (SI 2023/1241)

Notice is hereby given that an application has been made by Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited (company number 11618210) of registered office Alexander House, 1 Mandarin Road, Rainton Bridge Business Park, Houghton Le Spring, Sunderland, England, DH4 5RA (the "Applicant") to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero to make a non-material change to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 (as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023) (the "Order") under the Planning Act 2008 (the "NMC Application").

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### Overall

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National Infrastructure Planning, the Planning Inspectorate, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Bristol, BS1 6PN.

Please quote reference EN010118 on any correspondence. Consultation responses will be published on the relevant project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website.

Please note that representations must be received by the Planning Inspectorate by 11.59pm on 22 December 2025.

### LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED

13 November 2025



3-8 Whitehall Place
London
SW1A 2AW
ergyinfrastructureplanning@energysecurity.gov.uk

<u>energyinfrastructureplanning@energysecurity.gov.uk</u> www.gov.uk/desnz

BY EMAIL ONLY to: Pinsent Masons LLP
30 Crown Place
London
EC2A 4ES

@pinsentmasons.com

5 November 2025

Dear Mr Tresadern,

THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM ORDER 2023 – S.I. 734 ("THE ORDER") AND THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM (CORRECTION) ORDER 2023 – S.I. 1241 – PROPOSED NON-MATERIAL CHANGE APPLICATION

REGULATION 7(3) OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011 - WRITTEN CONSENT FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR NOT CONSULTING A PERSON OR AUTHORITY

- 1. Thank you for your email and letter of 15 October 2025 on behalf of Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited ("the Applicant"). The letter and email of 15 October 2025 provided a description of the proposed non-material changes to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023, the reasons for the proposed changes, the proposed reduced consultee list, and a list of the parties consulted on the original application in respect to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 and as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023. The letter requested the Secretary of State's consent under Regulation 7(3) of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011 (as amended) ("the 2011 Regulations") to a reduced list of consultees.
- 2. The letter provides the following description of the changes sought:
  - a. amendment of Work No. 4A in Schedule 1 to authorise installation of a second 400kV cable circuit between the onsite substation and the existing substation extension:
  - b. amendment of Article 6 to include modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997:
  - amendment of Requirement 9 in Schedule 2 to require submission of a single site-wide Biodiversity Net Gain Strategy rather than multiple phase-specific strategies; and
  - d. amendment of Article 6(4) to clarify that limited overlaps with adjacent minerals planning permissions at Bulls Lodge Quarry are permitted.

- 3. The Applicant proposes to consult 15 parties: Anglian Water Services Limited, Boreham Parish Council, Braintree District Council, British Telecommunications Plc, Chelmsford City Council, Environment Agency, Essex and Suffolk Water Limited, Essex County Council, Lord Rayleigh's Farms Limited, National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc, Natural England, Network Rail Infrastructure Limited, Pioneer Aggregates (UK) Limited, Hanson Quarry Products Europe Limited, Vodafone Limited, and UK Power Networks Limited. These parties have been identified because they are host authorities, statutory bodies, or asset owners whose operations or interests may be directly affected by one or more of the proposed non-material changes.
- 4. The Secretary of State considers that Historic England and the Joint Nature Conservation Committee should be consulted because the Applicant has not provided specific reasons why these consultees should not be consulted. The Secretary of State considers that these consultees may have representations to make in relation to the proposed change.
- 5. The Secretary of State is satisfied that it is not necessary for other consultees from the Order to be included in the reduced consultee list, as they are not directly affected, either because the proposed amendments will not affect their interests or because their interests relate to a different part of the scheme.
- 6. Accordingly, the Secretary of State gives written consent for the consultation to proceed in accordance with the details set out above, under regulation 7(3) of the 2011 Regulations.
- 7. In taking this decision, the Secretary of State acknowledges that notice of the Application will be provided by the Applicant, in line with the requirements in Regulation 6 of the 2011 Regulations.
- 8. The Secretary of State's written consent in this matter should not be taken as indicating approval for any other aspects of the proposed changes to the Order, which fall to {her/him} for consideration and determination, or whether the proposed changes will ultimately be regarded as material or not.

Yours sincerely,

## Kerry Crowhurst-Kozlova

Head of Planning

On behalf of the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero



### BY RECORDED DELIVERY AND EMAIL

UK Power Networks Limited
Newington House
237 Southwark Bridge Road
London
SE1 6NP
ConsentsEnquiries@ukpowernetworks.co.uk

13 November 2025

Dear Sir / Madam

#### LONGFIELD FARM ORDER 2023 – NON-MATERIAL CHANGE APPLICATION

SECTION 153 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008 AND REGULATION 7 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011

The enclosed notice relates to a 'non-material change' application (the "application") being made to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero (the "Secretary of State") for the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 (as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023 (the "Order") by Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited ("Longfield"). We act for Longfield in relation to the application.

The Order includes provision authorising the construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of a solar photovoltaic electricity generating facility and Battery Storage Energy System with a total capacity exceeding 50MW and associated infrastructure (the "Scheme"). Longfield seeks to make four non-material changes (the "NMCs") to the Order.

Change 1 – amending Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order to facilitate the installation of a dual circuit

Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order authorises, at paragraph (i), works including the installation of one 400 kilovolt cable circuit connecting Work No. 3 (the new onsite substation) to Work No. 5 (the extension to the existing substation).

For resilience purposes, Longfield is seeking to install a second 400 kilovolt cable circuit as part of these works. Longfield is therefore proposing to amend the description of Work No. 4A of Schedule 1 of the Order to authorise this dualling.

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Article 6 of the Order identifies extant legislation that is authorised to be modified or disapplied by virtue of the Order being made.

However, the list of legislation in Article 6 of the Order does not include the standard modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 in relation to the carrying out of development for the Scheme. This results in a requirement for Longfield to submit a Hedgerow Removal Notice under the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 every time that any hedgerow needs to be removed, including those already identified and assessed in Schedule 12 of the Order. This is an onerous and complex process that restricts the flexibility of the detailed design of the Scheme and poses a risk to the

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timing of phases of the Scheme due to determination timescales, and was clearly not the intention of the drafting of the Order. Longfield notes that this amendment will not result in uncontrolled hedgerow removal, as this continues to be controlled by the corresponding and relevant parts of the Order – for example, the vegetation removal plan, which is a certified document under Schedule 13 of the Order.

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Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order requires Longfield to submit (for approval by the relevant planning authority) a landscape and ecological management plan ("**LEMP**") for each phase of the Scheme. As currently written in the Order, each LEMP requires the submission of a Biodiversity Net Gain ("**BNG**") Strategy to detail how the Scheme is achieving the minimum 87% BNG during the operation of the Scheme.

However, a targeted LEMP has been submitted for various permitted preliminary works (including vegetation removal) without containing a BNG Strategy, as information regarding BNG was not available at the time of the submission of that LEMP (as the landscape design for the Scheme had not yet been developed, nor did it form part of the works to which that LEMP related). Therefore, Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the Order has only partially been discharged in relation to that LEMP, which represents an inefficient process.

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# <u>Change 4 – amending Article 6(4) of the Order to address interactions with other planning</u> applications

There are four small areas of overlap between the Order and two adjacent planning permissions relating to the extraction of minerals at Bulls Lodge Quarry (i.e. in proximity to the existing substation). The overlaps are de minimis and neither the Order nor the other planning permissions are prejudiced from ongoing implementation.

However, for the sake of clarity and good order, Longfield is proposing to amend Article 6(4) of the Order to expressly provide for these overlaps to occur. Longfield notes that Article 6(4), as currently written in the Order, already addresses one of the areas of overlap, which lies directly to the north of the existing substation. The proposed change is to ensure that all of the overlaps are covered by Article 6(4), making the Order explicit in this regard whilst continuing to not prejudice the ongoing implementation of the Order and the other planning permissions.

#### Overall

The NMCs proposed to the Order by Longfield are necessary for the reasons set out above. None of the NMCs will give rise to any materially new or materially different environmental effects to those originally assessed as part of the application for the Order, nor would they require additional compulsory acquisition of land, nor would they have new or different effects on local residents or business or any additional implications in respect of habitats regulation assessment; therefore, Longfield considers that the proposed changes are non-material in nature.

### Consultation

Before a decision can be made by the Secretary of State, Longfield must consult with various persons in accordance with the requirements of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011 (the "2011 Regulations").

You have been identified as a consultee for the purposes of Regulation 7(2) of the 2011 Regulations. In addition, we draw your attention to the Regulation 7(3) letter published by the Secretary of State on 5 November 2025, enclosed with this letter.

The enclosed Regulation 6 notice contains details of how you can access the application documents and how to respond to the consultation. Any representation about the application must be made by email to: <a href="mailto:LongfieldSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk">LongfieldSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk</a> or in writing to:

National Infrastructure Planning, the Planning Inspectorate, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Bristol, BS1 6PN.

As set out in the notice, the consultation ends on 22 December 2025. Therefore, the deadline for receipt of your views about the application is **11:59pm on 22 December 2025**.

Yours faithfully

Pinsent Masons LLP
On behalf of
LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED
Alexander House
1 Mandarin Road
Rainton Bridge Business Park
Houghton Le Spring
Sunderland
England
DH4 5RA

### Enclosures:

- (i) Copy of a notice pursuant to Section 153 of the Planning Act 2008 and Regulation 6 of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011.
- (ii) Regulation 7(3) letter from the Secretary of State, dated 5 November 2025.

### LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED

# SECTION 153 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008 AND REGULATION 6 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011

# NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO MAKE A NON-MATERIAL CHANGE TO THE FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER:

# THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM ORDER 2023 (SI 2023/734) AS CORRECTED BY THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM (CORRECTION) ORDER 2023 (SI 2023/1241)

Notice is hereby given that an application has been made by Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited (company number 11618210) of registered office Alexander House, 1 Mandarin Road, Rainton Bridge Business Park, Houghton Le Spring, Sunderland, England, DH4 5RA (the "Applicant") to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero to make a non-material change to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 (as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023) (the "Order") under the Planning Act 2008 (the "NMC Application").

The Order includes provision authorising the construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of a solar photovoltaic electricity generating facility and Battery Storage Energy System with a total capacity exceeding 50MW and associated infrastructure (the "**Scheme**"). Longfield seeks to make four non-material changes (the "**NMCs**") to the Order.

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A copy of the NMC Application and its accompanying documents are available for inspection, free of charge, via the Planning Inspectorate's website at the below address until at least the end of the consultation period referred to below:

Planning Inspectorate website (documents tab):

https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010118/documents

If you require a hard copy of the NMC Application and its accompanying documents (for example because you do not have access to a computer and are unable to view the documents on PINS' website), you can request hard copies by contacting the Applicant at info@longfieldsolarfarm.co.uk or on 0800 0194 576. Each hard copy is available at the cost of £20 per copy.

Any representation about the NMC Application must be made by email to: <a href="mailto:LongfieldSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk">LongfieldSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk</a>, or in writing to:

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Please quote reference EN010118 on any correspondence. Consultation responses will be published on the relevant project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website.

Please note that representations must be received by the Planning Inspectorate by 11.59pm on 22 December 2025.

### LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED

13 November 2025



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Pinsent Masons LLP
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5 November 2025

Dear Mr Tresadern,

THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM ORDER 2023 – S.I. 734 ("THE ORDER") AND THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM (CORRECTION) ORDER 2023 – S.I. 1241 – PROPOSED NON-MATERIAL CHANGE APPLICATION

REGULATION 7(3) OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011 - WRITTEN CONSENT FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR NOT CONSULTING A PERSON OR AUTHORITY

- 1. Thank you for your email and letter of 15 October 2025 on behalf of Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited ("the Applicant"). The letter and email of 15 October 2025 provided a description of the proposed non-material changes to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023, the reasons for the proposed changes, the proposed reduced consultee list, and a list of the parties consulted on the original application in respect to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 and as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023. The letter requested the Secretary of State's consent under Regulation 7(3) of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011 (as amended) ("the 2011 Regulations") to a reduced list of consultees.
- 2. The letter provides the following description of the changes sought:
  - a. amendment of Work No. 4A in Schedule 1 to authorise installation of a second 400kV cable circuit between the onsite substation and the existing substation extension:
  - b. amendment of Article 6 to include modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997:
  - amendment of Requirement 9 in Schedule 2 to require submission of a single site-wide Biodiversity Net Gain Strategy rather than multiple phase-specific strategies; and
  - d. amendment of Article 6(4) to clarify that limited overlaps with adjacent minerals planning permissions at Bulls Lodge Quarry are permitted.

- 3. The Applicant proposes to consult 15 parties: Anglian Water Services Limited, Boreham Parish Council, Braintree District Council, British Telecommunications Plc, Chelmsford City Council, Environment Agency, Essex and Suffolk Water Limited, Essex County Council, Lord Rayleigh's Farms Limited, National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc, Natural England, Network Rail Infrastructure Limited, Pioneer Aggregates (UK) Limited, Hanson Quarry Products Europe Limited, Vodafone Limited, and UK Power Networks Limited. These parties have been identified because they are host authorities, statutory bodies, or asset owners whose operations or interests may be directly affected by one or more of the proposed non-material changes.
- 4. The Secretary of State considers that Historic England and the Joint Nature Conservation Committee should be consulted because the Applicant has not provided specific reasons why these consultees should not be consulted. The Secretary of State considers that these consultees may have representations to make in relation to the proposed change.
- 5. The Secretary of State is satisfied that it is not necessary for other consultees from the Order to be included in the reduced consultee list, as they are not directly affected, either because the proposed amendments will not affect their interests or because their interests relate to a different part of the scheme.
- 6. Accordingly, the Secretary of State gives written consent for the consultation to proceed in accordance with the details set out above, under regulation 7(3) of the 2011 Regulations.
- 7. In taking this decision, the Secretary of State acknowledges that notice of the Application will be provided by the Applicant, in line with the requirements in Regulation 6 of the 2011 Regulations.
- 8. The Secretary of State's written consent in this matter should not be taken as indicating approval for any other aspects of the proposed changes to the Order, which fall to {her/him} for consideration and determination, or whether the proposed changes will ultimately be regarded as material or not.

Yours sincerely,

## Kerry Crowhurst-Kozlova

Head of Planning

On behalf of the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero



### BY RECORDED DELIVERY AND EMAIL

Vodafone Limited Vodafone House The Connection Newbury Berkshire RG14 2FN

13 November 2025

Dear Gordon

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### LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LIMITED

13 November 2025



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5 November 2025

Dear Mr Tresadern,

THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM ORDER 2023 – S.I. 734 ("THE ORDER") AND THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM (CORRECTION) ORDER 2023 – S.I. 1241 – PROPOSED NON-MATERIAL CHANGE APPLICATION

REGULATION 7(3) OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011 - WRITTEN CONSENT FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR NOT CONSULTING A PERSON OR AUTHORITY

- 1. Thank you for your email and letter of 15 October 2025 on behalf of Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited ("the Applicant"). The letter and email of 15 October 2025 provided a description of the proposed non-material changes to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023, the reasons for the proposed changes, the proposed reduced consultee list, and a list of the parties consulted on the original application in respect to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 and as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023. The letter requested the Secretary of State's consent under Regulation 7(3) of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011 (as amended) ("the 2011 Regulations") to a reduced list of consultees.
- 2. The letter provides the following description of the changes sought:
  - a. amendment of Work No. 4A in Schedule 1 to authorise installation of a second 400kV cable circuit between the onsite substation and the existing substation extension:
  - b. amendment of Article 6 to include modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997:
  - amendment of Requirement 9 in Schedule 2 to require submission of a single site-wide Biodiversity Net Gain Strategy rather than multiple phase-specific strategies; and
  - d. amendment of Article 6(4) to clarify that limited overlaps with adjacent minerals planning permissions at Bulls Lodge Quarry are permitted.

- 3. The Applicant proposes to consult 15 parties: Anglian Water Services Limited, Boreham Parish Council, Braintree District Council, British Telecommunications Plc, Chelmsford City Council, Environment Agency, Essex and Suffolk Water Limited, Essex County Council, Lord Rayleigh's Farms Limited, National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc, Natural England, Network Rail Infrastructure Limited, Pioneer Aggregates (UK) Limited, Hanson Quarry Products Europe Limited, Vodafone Limited, and UK Power Networks Limited. These parties have been identified because they are host authorities, statutory bodies, or asset owners whose operations or interests may be directly affected by one or more of the proposed non-material changes.
- 4. The Secretary of State considers that Historic England and the Joint Nature Conservation Committee should be consulted because the Applicant has not provided specific reasons why these consultees should not be consulted. The Secretary of State considers that these consultees may have representations to make in relation to the proposed change.
- 5. The Secretary of State is satisfied that it is not necessary for other consultees from the Order to be included in the reduced consultee list, as they are not directly affected, either because the proposed amendments will not affect their interests or because their interests relate to a different part of the scheme.
- 6. Accordingly, the Secretary of State gives written consent for the consultation to proceed in accordance with the details set out above, under regulation 7(3) of the 2011 Regulations.
- 7. In taking this decision, the Secretary of State acknowledges that notice of the Application will be provided by the Applicant, in line with the requirements in Regulation 6 of the 2011 Regulations.
- 8. The Secretary of State's written consent in this matter should not be taken as indicating approval for any other aspects of the proposed changes to the Order, which fall to {her/him} for consideration and determination, or whether the proposed changes will ultimately be regarded as material or not.

Yours sincerely,

## Kerry Crowhurst-Kozlova

Head of Planning

On behalf of the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero