



To:  
Oaklands Farm Solar Limited

Our Ref: EN010122

Date: 01/05/2025

Dear Sir or Madam,

**Planning Act 2008 and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010**

**Application by Oaklands Farm Solar Limited (“the Applicant”) for an Order granting Development Consent for the proposed Oaklands Farm Solar Park (“the Oaklands Farm Solar Park project”)**

**REQUEST FOR INFORMATION**

1. Following the completion of the Examination on 19 December 2024, the Examining Authority submitted a Report and Recommendation in respect of its findings and conclusions on the above application to the Secretary of State on 19 March 2025. In accordance with section 107 of the Planning Act 2008, the Secretary of State has three months to determine the application.
2. There is one matter which the Secretary of State requests the Applicant to provide information about relating to the draft Development Consent Order.

**Draft Development Consent Order**

3. The Secretary of State notes that at Deadline 8 of the examination the Applicant submitted REP8-003: [3.1 Draft Development Consent Order \(Tracked\) \(PDF, 2MB\)](#). Sub-paragraph 2 (b) in Part 1 of Schedule 1 refers to the “balance of solar plant”, but this term is not defined within the draft Development Consent Order. The Secretary of State requests the Applicant to state it is content with or provide any changes to the proposed definition of this term as detailed below:

“balance of solar system (BoSS) plant” means inverters and transformers and would be either—

(a) solar stations being a station comprising centralised inverters and transformers with each component for each solar station either—

(i) a “solar station” located outside, with a concrete foundation slab or placed on metal skids for each of the inverters and transformers; or

(ii) housed together within a container sitting on a concrete foundation slab or placed on metal skids; or

(b) string inverters attached either to mounting structures or a ground mounted frame, and transformers on a concrete foundation slab or placed on metal skids;

4. Responses should be submitted to [OaklandsFarmSolar@planninginspectorate.gov.uk](mailto:OaklandsFarmSolar@planninginspectorate.gov.uk) by 23.59 on 14 May 2025.
5. Responses will be published on the Oaklands Farm Solar Park project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website: <https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010122> as soon as possible after 23:59 on 14 May 2025.
6. This letter is without prejudice to the Secretary of State's consideration of whether to grant or withhold development consent for the Oaklands Farm Solar Park or any part of the project. Nothing in this letter is to be taken to imply what the eventual decision might be or what final conclusions the Secretary of State may reach on any particular issue which is relevant to the determination of the application.

Yours faithfully,

*James Dawkins*

Head of Planning