

**Oaklands Farm Solar Limited | Prospect House | 5 Thistle Street | Edinburgh |**

The Department of Energy Security & Net Zero  
3-8 Whitehall Place  
London  
SW1A 2AW

FAO: Mr John Wheadon, Head of Energy Infrastructure Planning Delivery & Innovation

**Date**  
8th May 2025

Dear Mr Wheadon

**EN010122 – APPLICATION FOR A DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER FOR OAKLANDS FARM SOLAR PARK, SOUTH DERBYSHIRE**

**PLANNING ACT 2008 AND INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (EXAMINATION PROCEDURE RULES 2010)**

**19.1 – THE APPLICANT’S RESPONSE TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE’S REQUEST FOR INFORMATION**

This letter is the response by the Applicant to the letter dated 1<sup>st</sup> May 2025 from the Secretary of State (“SoS”), requesting further information relating to the draft Development Consent Order.

The Applicant has reviewed the SoS proposed wording for the definition of “balance of solar plant” and proposes the following alternative wording:

*“balance of solar system (BoSS) plant” means string inverters attached either to mounting structures or a ground mounted frame, and transformers on a concrete foundation slab,”*

The Applicant suggests the alternative wording above on the basis that the wording provided by the SoS in its letter makes provision for either centralised or string inverters and for structures to be mounted either on concrete foundation slabs or metal skids. The Applicant acknowledges that other solar schemes have used similar wording in their DCOs.

In this case the Applicant has not assessed the possible use of centralised inverters and of metal skids within the Application, with those features not included in the table of design parameters in Chapter 4 of the Environmental Statement [REP6-031]. The Applicant considers the alternative wording above to reflect its intended approach to the design of the Proposed Development, as assessed within the Application, and is comfortable on that basis to propose a more limited definition of the BoSS in this case.

Thank you for opportunity to clarify this point and please do not hesitate to contact me if further information is required on this matter.

Yours sincerely



Oaklands Farm Solar Limited