

Our ref: NH/26/16596
Your ref: EN010122

**National Infrastructure Planning
The Planning Inspectorate**

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Via email: OaklandsFarmSolar@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Dear Sir or Madam,

OAKLANDS FARM SOLAR PARK ORDER 2025 – NON-MATERIAL CHANGE APPLICATION

Thank you for consulting National Highways (formally Highways England) on the above-mentioned non-material change to the Oaklands Farm Solar Park Order 2025 as corrected by The Oaklands Farm Solar Park (Correction) Order 2025 (S.I. 2025 no. 1070) (the “Order”) under the Planning Act 2008 (the “NMC Application”).

National Highways has been appointed by the Secretary of State for Transport as strategic highway company under the provisions of the Infrastructure Act 2015 and is the highway authority, traffic authority and street authority for the Strategic Road Network (SRN). It is our role to maintain the safe and efficient operation of the SRN whilst acting as a delivery partner to national economic growth.

In responding to strategic sustainable development consultations, we have regard to DfT Circular 01/2022: The Strategic Road Network and the Delivery of Sustainable Development (‘the Circular’). This sets out how interactions with the Strategic Road Network should be considered in the making of plans and development management proposals. In addition to the Circular, the response set out below is also in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and other relevant policies.

The SRN in the vicinity of the development is the A38 trunk road and M42 Motorway.

Background

Oaklands Farm Solar Park was granted a Development Consent Order (DCO) on the 19th July 2025. The DCO granted consent for the construction of a generating station with a generating capacity of over 50MW.

The Applicant seeks to make changes to seven distinct elements of the Proposed Development amending the design parameters set out in table 4.2 of Chapter 4 of the Environmental Statement and Appendix B of the Design Statement as well as amending the work plans. The changes are set out below:

Change 1 – Work No. 1 (a ground mounted solar photovoltaic generating station)

Change 2 – Solar PV Panels

Change 3 – MV Transformer Stations

Change 4 – Substation

Change 5 – Jointing Bays

Change 6 – Onsite Cabling

Change 7 – Permanent Internal Access Tracks

National Highways response

Upon review of the Non-Material Change application and the accompanying documentation, it is noted that the proposed changes relate solely to internal solar site works and design modifications. The order limits do not change a boundary with the SRN therefore the proposed internal changes will have no impact on the Strategic Road Network (SRN).

Accordingly, National Highways has no objection to the proposed works as set out in this Non-Material Change application.

If I can be of any further assistance on this matter, please do not hesitate in contacting me.

Yours sincerely,



Brittany Grosvenor

Midlands Operations Directorate

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