



## Meeting note

<b>Project name</b>	Oaklands Solar Farm
<b>File reference</b>	EN010122
<b>Status</b>	<b>Final</b>
<b>Author</b>	The Planning Inspectorate
<b>Date</b>	08 July 2021
<b>Meeting with</b>	Oaklands Farm Solar Ltd Barton Willmore Land Use Consultants (LUC)
<b>Venue</b>	Microsoft Teams
<b>Meeting objectives</b>	Project update meeting
<b>Circulation</b>	All attendees

### **Summary of key points discussed, and advice given**

The Planning Inspectorate (the Inspectorate) advised that a note of the meeting would be taken and published on its website in accordance with section 51 of the Planning Act 2008 (PA 2008). Any advice given under section 51 would not constitute legal advice upon which applicants (or others) could rely.

The Inspectorate explained that the publication of the meeting note could be delayed up to six months, if justified for commercial confidentiality / sensitivity reasons, or until a formal scoping request had been submitted.

### ***Project Update***

The Applicant provided a summary of the Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP), which comprises of a 160 megawatt (MW) solar farm occupying approximately 220 ha of land located in South Derbyshire.

The Applicant introduced the Project Team, including Barton Willmore (Infrastructure and Environmental Planning Team) and LUC, who would be responsible for the delivery of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) of the NSIP.

The Applicant discussed the main environmental constraints identified in relation to the NSIP, and how these had been used to inform the Scoping Report. The Applicant stated that the NSIP was primarily located in Flood Zone 1 and was unlikely to affect sites designated for nature conservation.

The Applicant outlined which environmental aspects they proposed to scope in to (or out of) the Environmental Statement (ES).



## The Planning Inspectorate

The Inspectorate identified some environmental constraints/ issues that had been of particular concern to the Examining Authority (ExA) during the examination of other NSIPs.

The Inspectorate advised that the Applicant consider guidance set out in Advice Note 7 (AN7) when providing evidence to support scoping aspect(s)/matter(s) out of the ES.

The Applicant provided an approximate timeline for submission of the Scoping Request and Development Consent Order (DCO) Application to the Inspectorate.

The Applicant stated that they intended to submit the Scoping Request in July/August 2021 and the DCO Application in September 2022.

The Inspectorate advised that the Applicant consider guidance set out AN7 which requires a GIS Shapefile to be submitted at least ten working days before the Scoping Request is submitted.

The Applicant stated that there was no requirement for land access under section 53 of the PA 2008, as access for surveys had been agreed with landowners for all land parcels within the NSIP boundary.