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Subject: FW: Planning Act 2008 and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) CONFIDENTIAL & URGENT
Date: 24 September 2025 15:57:19

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Your Reference: EN010135

Head of Energy Infrastructure Planning
Department of Energy & Net Zero

Dear Sirs

Further to your request for information and KCC's response regarding the above and appreciating that this further update is outside of your deadline, but I thought it necessary to provide you with KCC's latest position specifically on:

3. The Applicant and KCC are asked to provide an update on the status of their negotiations in respect of voluntary agreements for KCC land interests, which are related to flood storage and cable drilling. If agreement has not yet been reached, details should be provided setting out the reasons why, and when agreement is expected to be reached.

Our response provided was:

"KCC can confirm that we are aware of the project and our Principal Disposals Surveyor has spoken to the developer's agent Gately Hamer. We have appointed Carter Jonas to represent KCC position and interests, and the two agents are in the process of voluntary negotiations to agree terms. We are yet to receive full details of the rights, easements and land that are required by the developer, and we are waiting for a revised draft heads of terms to review. Once we have reviewed and feel we can recommend terms we would need to consult our members and specifically the Deputy Leader."

Given that at County Council on Thursday 18th September KCC passed a motion on "Rescinding Climate Emergency", its emerging strategic statement, and particularly concern over the use of agricultural land for large solar farm projects, its position now in respect of landowner responsibility matters is to cease any further discussion on any voluntary agreements on land disposals / granting of rights in land. We will be advising the applicant's agents of same.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]
Head of Real Estate Services

Directorate of Infrastructure - Kent County Council

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