7000 Acres

7000 Acres Response to the Tillbridge Solar Application on the subject of:

Book of Reference

Deadline 2 Submission – 14th November 2024

7000 Acres

Book of Reference:

27 plots are recorded in the Book of Reference as being owned by Kevin Simon Webster, James Charles Stewart Reynolds Milligan-Manby and John Anthony Shepherdson as trustees of the C Nicholson No1 Settlement. We believe this to be incorrect. In the recent Cottam Solar Farm approval document, EN010133-002077-Secretary of State Decision Letter - Cottam Solar Project, it stated that:

Book of Reference

- 6.7. On 2 August, the Secretary of State requested the Applicant to provide further information on the plot of land that relates to 10-241 in the Island Green Power Book of Reference, which the Secretary of State had been advised had since transferred from 'C Nicholson No 1 Settlement' (the "Settlement") 'to 'Clifford Graham Rowles Nicholson' ("Mr Nicholson)". The Applicant was requested to confirm if the ownership of the plot of land had changed since the compulsory acquisition negotiations, and to provide evidence for any change where possible, if so.
- 6.8. On 6 August 2024, the Applicant confirmed that it reviewed the land ownership details in relation to plot 10-241 and noted the Title was transferred from the Settlement to Mr Nicholson on 5 April 2022. The Title was then immediately subject to a further transfer of the freehold, from Mr Nicholson to Tillside Limited, also dated 5 April 2022. The Applicant contacted the current landowner, and they confirmed that no further transfers of the Title had been made since the close of the Examination. An Option Agreement for plot 10-241 dated 19 February 2021 was also entered into between the Applicant and the representatives of the Settlement. The Secretary of State is satisfied that the update provided by the Applicant sufficiently clarifies the matter.
- 6.9. On 9 August 2024, the Applicant confirmed that it reviewed data held by the Land Registry relating to the registered plots of land listed in the Book of Reference. The Applicant identified a number of changes that have occurred since the close of the Examination, most of which relate to the transfer of property between the Settlement and Tillside Limited. The Secretary of State is content for these changes to be presented by the Applicant in the form of revised pages of Part 1 of the Book of Reference.

We recommend that the applicant checks again with the Land Registry for confirmation as to the registered owner of the following plots:

1-07, 2-04a, 2-04b, 2-05, 2-08, 3-01, 3-03, 5-06, 6-01, 13-05, 13-07, 13-10, 13-11b, 13-12, 13-14, 13-16, 13-17, 13-18, 13-19, 13-20, 15-02, 15-04,15-06, 15-07, 16-01, 16-01a and 16-03.

It is also suggested that as no Option Agreement is yet in place for these plots of land, then formal negotiations should now be carried out between the applicant and Tillside Limited and their status reported in future issues of documents to the Examiner.