Department for Energy Security and Net Zero

THE BOTLEY WEST SOLAR FARM

THE PLANNING ACT 2008 AND THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) REGULATIONS 2017

NOTICE OF A DECISION ON AN APPLICATION FOR DEVELOPMENT CONSENT FOR EIA DEVELOPMENT

The Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero ("the Secretary of State") gives notice under regulation 31(2) of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 ("the 2017 Regulations") that a determination has been made on an application made by Photovolt Development Partners ("PVDP") on behalf of SolarFive Ltd. ("the Applicant") for development consent under the Planning Act 2008 ("the 2008 Act") for development that constitutes "Environmental Impact Assessment development" as defined in the 2017 Regulations.

The Application is for the construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of a photovoltaic solar farm and associated infrastructure, with a generating capacity of 840MW ("the Proposed Development"). The Proposed Development comprises ground mounted photovoltaic panels, connecting cabling and associated infrastructure, located on approximately 1,400 hectares of land across West Oxfordshire, Cherwell and Vale of White Horse Districts.

The Secretary of State has decided, following consideration of the report of the Examining Authority who conducted an examination into the Application, that development consent should be **refused** for the Proposed Development.

The statement of reasons for the Secretary of State's decision under section 116 of the 2008 Act and regulation 31(2) of the 2017 Regulations and information regarding the right to challenge the decision and the procedures for doing so, is published on the Planning Inspectorate's website:

https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010147

Hard copies of the decision documentation will also be available to inspect at the Planning Inspectorate's offices (by appointment using the contact details below):

The Planning Inspectorate
National Infrastructure Directorate
c/o QUADIENT
69 Buckingham Avenue
Slough
SL1 4PN

To make an appointment for inspection of the documents contact the Planning Inspectorate on 0303 444 5000 or email NIEnquiries@planninginspectorate.gov.uk.

Copies of the Secretary of State's decision letter can be obtained by writing or sending an e-mail to the Planning Inspectorate. No charge will be made for this service.