

# Springwell Solar Farm

## Applicant's Proposed Itinerary for the Accompanied Site Inspection (ASI)

EN010149/APP/8.19  
Revision 1  
Deadline 1  
June 2025  
Springwell Energyfarm Ltd

Planning Act 2008  
Infrastructure Planning  
(Examination Procedure) Rules 2010

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# 1. Introduction

## 1.1. Purpose of this document

- 1.1.1. An Application ("the Application") for Springwell Solar Farm ("the Proposed Development") was made by Springwell Energyfarm Limited ("the Applicant") to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero ("the Secretary of State") for a Development Consent Order (DCO) ("the Order") under section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 ("PA 2008") (Ref. 1). The Application was accepted for examination on 18 December 2024.
- 1.1.2. On 9 April 2025, the Examining Authority (ExA) issued its Rule 6 letter [\[PD-005\]](#) which set out in Annex F a request for a draft itinerary for the Accompanied Site Inspection (ASI) to be submitted by the Applicant at Deadline 1.
- 1.1.3. Annex F of the Rule 6 letter sets out that the draft itinerary for the ASI should include:
  - Relevant locations referred to in the Relevant Representations received;
  - Any other locations at which the Applicant has predicted likely significant environmental effects; and
  - The locations suggested by Interested Parties submitted by Procedural Deadline A.
- 1.1.4. On 13 May 2025, the ExA issued its Rule 8 letter [\[PD-006\]](#) which confirms that the Applicant's draft itinerary for an ASI should be submitted at Deadline 1 on 03 June 2025, and that time has been reserved in the Examination Timetable to undertake an ASI during the week commencing 14 July 2025.
- 1.1.5. The ExA will review comments received from Interested Parties at Deadline 1 and the draft itinerary (this document) and may make changes to it. The ExA will publish its final itinerary for an ASI on the National Infrastructure Planning Springwell Solar Farm webpage.

## 2. Draft itinerary for the ASI

### 2.1. General arrangements

#### Preparation of the draft itinerary

- 2.1.1. The Applicant has set out the planned inspection points for the ASI, as well as approximate timings and information relevant to the location in Table 2-1 below. The locations of the inspection points are shown at Figure 2-1.
- 2.1.2. The draft itinerary focusses on key areas of discussion likely to be raised during the Examination. It has been prepared having reviewed the content of Relevant Representations, oral submissions made at Open Floor Hearing 1 and Issue Specific Hearing 1, suggested locations submitted by Interested Parties at Procedural Deadline A and the Examining Authority's Written Questions and Requests for Information [[PD-007](#)]. Regard has also been had to the note detailing the ExA's Unaccompanied Site Inspection [[EV1-001](#)] to avoid duplication.
- 2.1.3. The Applicant has also had regard to the viewpoints set out in **ES Volume 2, Figure 10.4: Viewpoint Locations [EN010149/APP/6.2]** [[APP-066](#)]. Where an inspection point corresponds to a viewpoint location, the Applicant has noted this in the 'justification' column of Table 2-1.
- 2.1.4. The Applicant has set out how it has had regard to suggested locations submitted by Interested Parties at Procedural Deadline A in Table 2-2.
- 2.1.5. Where the Applicant has proposed an inspection point which would require either parking at a residential property or consideration of the property itself, the Applicant confirms that this has been agreed with the owners/occupiers of these properties via email. The Applicant also confirms that the draft itinerary has been shared with relevant landowners to ensure access to locations not publicly accessible.
- 2.1.6. In the event that access to an inspection point proposed for the ASI is later revoked, the Applicant will inform the ExA at the earliest opportunity and suggest alternative arrangements to replicate the routing as closely as practicable.

#### Timings and assumptions

- 2.1.7. The timings below are approximate and will depend on factors such as traffic. The Applicant has allowed for a time period of 15 minutes at each inspection point, as well as scheduled comfort breaks every 2 hours. Where a walking route is proposed, the Applicant has sought to keep these as short as practicable and has taken a conservative approach to

estimating the time taken to complete the walk. Conservative estimates of the time taken to travel to each location, as well as getting on and off the transport provided, are included within the draft itinerary.

- 2.1.8. The Applicant would request that the numbers of interested persons in attendance for the ASI visit is confirmed prior to the visits to allow the Applicant to provide suitable travel arrangements and to inform landowners and property owners.

### Refreshments and bathroom breaks

- 2.1.9. The Applicant has scheduled comfort breaks every two hours, in addition to bathrooms being accessible before and after the ASI takes place.
- 2.1.10. The Applicant has scheduled 30 minutes for lunch. The Applicant requests that attendees bring a packed lunch or allow time to go and buy refreshments at a nearby venue.
- 2.1.11. Water bottles will be provided on the vehicle. There will be facilities to fill up any water bottles during the comfort breaks.

### Transport

- 2.1.12. The Applicant will provide transport for all attendees for the ASI. The Applicant will confirm a meeting place to board the transport (and hence the starting point for the ASI) in the final itinerary.
- 2.1.13. The transport provided by the Applicant will return to the meeting place at the conclusion of the ASI.
- 2.1.14. Attendees will need to make their own arrangements to get to and from the meeting place, noting this will be in close proximity to the proposed Order Limits.

### Clothing

- 2.1.15. The ASI may include some walking on uneven or wet ground. It is therefore advised that attendees bring sturdy footwear and wear clothing that is appropriate for the weather/conditions on the day.
- 2.1.16. Conditions in some areas and the weather on the day may require that wellington boots are required.
- 2.1.17. Foliage on Public Rights of Way and at field boundaries/entrances can be tall and overgrown. All attendees are requested to wear clothing that keeps their arms and legs covered at all times.

## Health and safety

- 2.1.18. The ASI will involve walking on terrain that may be uneven. Anyone who may find it challenging to walk in these conditions is advised to assess whether it is suitable for them to attend the ASI, either partially or in its entirety.
- 2.1.19. A first aid kit will be provided on the transport for the ASI.
- 2.1.20. The Applicant will carry out a walk of the route ahead of the ASI to identify potential hazards in advance.
- 2.1.21. The Applicant will carry out a briefing ahead of the start of the ASI. The aim of this briefing will be to ensure that attendees are aware of any health and safety risks

## Next steps

- 2.1.22. The Applicant would welcome further comments from the ExA and other Interested Parties to finalise the itinerary for the ASI.

## 2.2. Proposed itinerary for the ASI, including suggested routes and timings

Table 2-1: Proposed itinerary for the ASI

Inspection point	Timings (indicative)	Description (and any special arrangements)	Justification	Information
Start	09:15-09:30	The Venue, Navenby, LN5 0JJ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meeting place for the ASI</li> <li>Viewpoint 38</li> </ul>	Rendezvous at The Venue for pick up and health and safety briefing.
1	09:40-09:55	Track to Blankney Estates Offices, LN5 0AX	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Visibility from A15</li> <li>Visibility of proposed point of connection (National Grid Navenby Substation) and relationship with Springwell Substation (cumulative)</li> <li>Corresponds to Viewpoint 30</li> </ul>	Drive from The Venue northbound on Grantham Road through Navenby, turning right onto Green Man Road and then right onto the A15. Go southbound, turning left into the track leading to the Blankney Estates Office. The inspection point is at the junction of the A15 and the track to the Blankney Estates Office.
2	10:05 – 10:20	Toll Bar Cottages, LN4 3JN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Visibility from residential properties</li> <li>Construction traffic access route</li> <li>Site access into proposed Main Construction Compound</li> </ul>	Turning back onto the A15, travel southbound to Toll Bar Cottages. Park at the Toll Bar Equestrian car park and reach inspection point.

3	10:30 – 10:45	Junction of A15 and B1191 (nearest postcode LN4 3JJ)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construction traffic access route and potential road upgrade (B1191 and A15 junction)</li> <li>Advance planting (environmental effects)</li> <li>Proposed PRow across A15</li> <li>Site access into proposed Main Construction Compound</li> </ul>	Continue southbound on the A15. Drive will allow attendees to consider design response along the A15 and passes Viewpoint 29. Turn right onto Temple Road, parking on lay-by and walking to the inspection point utilising field margin.
Break	11:00 – 11:15	The Venue, Navenby, LN5 0JJ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comfort break (15 minutes)</li> </ul>	Continue westbound on Temple Road, passing Viewpoint 32 before turning right onto Pottergate Road to return to The Venue.
4	11:25 – 11:40	Green Man Road (nearest postcode LN5 0JZ)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Visibility of proposed point of connection (National Grid Navenby Substation) and relationship with Springwell Substation (cumulative)</li> <li>Request from Interested Party</li> <li>Corresponds to Viewpoint 39.</li> </ul>	Drive from the Venue northbound on Grantham Road through Navenby, turning right on Green Man Road. Park on layby to consider inspection point 4.
5	11:50 – 12:05	Heath Lane, LN5 0AY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Visibility of proposed point of connection (National Grid Navenby Substation) and</li> </ul>	Drive back towards Navenby, turning left onto High Dike and turning left again onto Vine



			relationship with Springwell Substation (cumulative)	House. Utilise industrial estate to park and visit inspection point.
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Corresponds to Viewpoint 37.</li> </ul>	
6	12:15 – 12:45	<p>Route from Gorse Hill Lane to St John the Baptist Church</p> <p>Start: Gorse Hill Lane, LN5 0BY</p> <p>End: St John the Baptist Church, LN5 0DG</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Visibility from Gorse Lane and New England Lane</li> <li>Proposed permissive footpath</li> <li>Visibility of proposed point of connection (National Grid Navenby Substation) and relationship with Springwell Substation (cumulative)</li> <li>Corresponds to Viewpoints 34 and 36</li> </ul>	Drive to Gorse Hill Lane via High Dike, potentially passing viewpoint 40 and offload at the start of the New England Lane. Walk south along New England Lane to the St John the Baptist Church (1.75km) and meet transportation.
7	12:50 – 13:05	Thompson's Bottom, Temple Bruer Lincoln LN5 0DE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Visibility from residential properties</li> <li>Heritage assets (setting of Thompson's Bottom Farmhouse and outbuildings)</li> <li>Corresponds to Viewpoint 35</li> </ul>	Drive eastbound on Thompson's Bottom Lane to reach inspection point 7 parking in the lay-by past the overhead lines, looking east towards the Proposed Development utilising the field margin.
Break	13:15 – 13:45	The Venue, Navenby, LN5 0JJ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lunch break (30 minutes)</li> </ul>	Return to The Venue via Green Man Lane and Pottergate Road, passing by

				viewpoints 34 and 40 for a lunch break (30 minutes).
8	14:05 – 14:20	Junction of Navenby Lane and Main Street, LN4 3JG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visibility from B1191</li> <li>• Construction traffic access route and potential road upgrades (B1191, Main St junction)</li> <li>• Corresponds to Viewpoint 22</li> </ul>	Depart The Venue, driving eastbound on Green Man Road (viewpoint 39) to turn right onto the A15, travelling southbound to the A15/B1191 junction (passing viewpoints 30 and 29). Turn left onto the B1191, travelling along the B1191 until Main Street. Park on the road and utilise pavements to walk to the inspection point at the junction.
9	14:30 – 14:45	Scopwick Mill, Heath Road, LN4 3JB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Heritage asset (setting of Scopwick Mill)</li> <li>• Visibility from residential properties</li> <li>• Construction traffic access route and potential road upgrades (B1191 RAF Digby bends)</li> <li>• Corresponds to Viewpoint 18</li> </ul>	Continue eastbound on the B1191 towards Scopwick Mill, passing RAF Digby and viewpoint 18. Park on track adjacent to the property.
10	14:50 – 15:15	Route from Scopwick Mill towards B1191  Start: Scopwick Mill, Heath Road, LN4 3JB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposed permissive footpath</li> <li>• Visibility from Rows/5/1</li> </ul>	Drive up the track adjacent to the Scopwick Mill to begin walking route (c. 1.10km), connecting to Rows/5/1

End: LN4 3JD

- Construction traffic access route and potential road upgrades (B1191 RAF Digby bends)
  - Corresponds to Viewpoints 16, 17, 18
- footpath. Meet the vehicle on track to wastewater plant.

11	15:25 – 15:40	Scopwick House and Barns, Scopwick, LN4 3JA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visibility from residential properties</li> <li>• Construction traffic access route (B1188)</li> <li>• Heritage asset (Scopwick House and Barns)</li> <li>• Corresponds to Viewpoint 11</li> </ul>	Drive eastbound on the B1191, passing viewpoints 18 and 15. Turn left at the B1191/B1188 junction and then left again to park at Scopwick House and Gardens, allowing views towards Springwell East at the inspection point.
Break	15:55 – 16:10	Scopwick Village Hall, Scopwick, LN4 3PA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comfort break (15 minutes)</li> </ul>	Turn right onto the B1188 and then left onto Main Street, arriving at Scopwick Village Hall for a comfort break (15 minutes).
12	16:20 – 16:35	Low Field Farm, Acre Lane LN4 3PH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visibility from PRow</li> <li>• Visibility from residential properties</li> <li>• Corresponds to Viewpoint 6</li> </ul>	Turn right onto Main Street, driving past viewpoint 9 and continuing to Acre Lane. Turn left onto Acre Lane and drive north on the track to reach Low Field Farm.

13	16:55 – 17:10	Spires and Steeples Way (nearest postcode LN4 3FY)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visibility from PRow</li> <li>• Advanced planting</li> <li>• Construction compound</li> <li>• Corresponds to Viewpoint 12</li> </ul>	From Low Field Farm, go westbound on farm track towards the B1188 to reach junction with Spires and Steeples Way. Continue on foot for 600m north on Spires and Steeples Way to reach inspection point. Continue north on the Spires and Steeples Way for 400m to meet transport at entrance to Hall Farm.
End	17:20-17:30	The Venue, Navenby, LN5 0JJ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Return to meeting place to complete ASI.</li> </ul>	Return to The Venue at Navenby to complete ASI.

## 2.3. Applicant's response to suggested inspection points raised by Interested Parties at Procedural Deadline A

Table 2-2: Applicant's response to suggested inspection points raised by Interested Parties at Procedural Deadline A

Interested Party	Suggestion	Applicant's response
Lincolnshire County Council <a href="#">[PD1-002]</a>	<i>The Council would like to suggest further viewpoint locations in Springwell West be visited at any Accompanied Site Inspection (ASI) due to its open character and particularly views from users along the A15. For example, viewpoints 31-35 and 37-39.</i>	The Applicant has proposed eight inspection points within Springwell West, including four adjacent to the A15 and a 1.75km walk between Gorse Hill Lane and St John the Baptist Church. These proposed locations incorporate viewpoints 30, 34, 35, 36, 37 and 39. Following Procedural Deadline A, the Applicant has added inspection points 4 and 5 to consider viewpoints 30 and 39 in response to this request. The Applicant notes that travel between viewpoints would likely pass viewpoints 29, 32, 33 and 40.
North Kesteven District Council <a href="#">[PD1-003]</a>	<i>Temple Road (to west of junction with A15) (TF 5030 3531)– the location provides views looking north along the A15 corridor to appreciate the change in landscape character that will arise from the solar farm.</i>	The Applicant considers that the inclusion of inspection points 2, 3 and 7 would enable the ExA to appreciate views looking north along the A15 corridor from the western part of the Proposed Development. It is noted that this viewpoint would be passed on the visit during travel between inspection points.
North Kesteven District Council <a href="#">[PD1-003]</a>	<i>Thompson's Bottom Farm (TF 5020 3551) – the location provides views within Springwell East to appreciate the change in landscape character that will</i>	This location corresponds with the Applicant's proposed inspection point 7.

*arise from the solar farm including the development of the Springwell Substation and BESS as well as the heritage asset.*

North Kesteven District Council [ <a href="#">PD1-003</a> ]	<i>Navenby Heath Road (TF 5011 3575) – location of proposed National Grid Substation. The location will provide an appreciation of the proximity and layout of the proposed National Grid Substation and cumulative impacts that will arise from proposed energy related developments in the locality. There will be an opportunity to view the potential for enhancement of the hedgerows along the A15.</i>	This location is considered to be covered by the inclusion of inspection points 1 (Viewpoint 30) and 5 (Viewpoint 37).
North Kesteven District Council [ <a href="#">PD1-003</a> ]	<i>Wind Pump Farm, Green Man Road (TF 5002 3585) – location of proposed Green Man Road BESS development for which a planning application is due to be submitted by the end of April 2025 by CSWE1 Limited. The location will</i>	The Applicant has added this location as inspection point 4 in response to this comment.

*provide an appreciation of the cumulative impacts that will arise from proposed energy related developments in the locality.*

Frost Household [[PD1-005](#)]

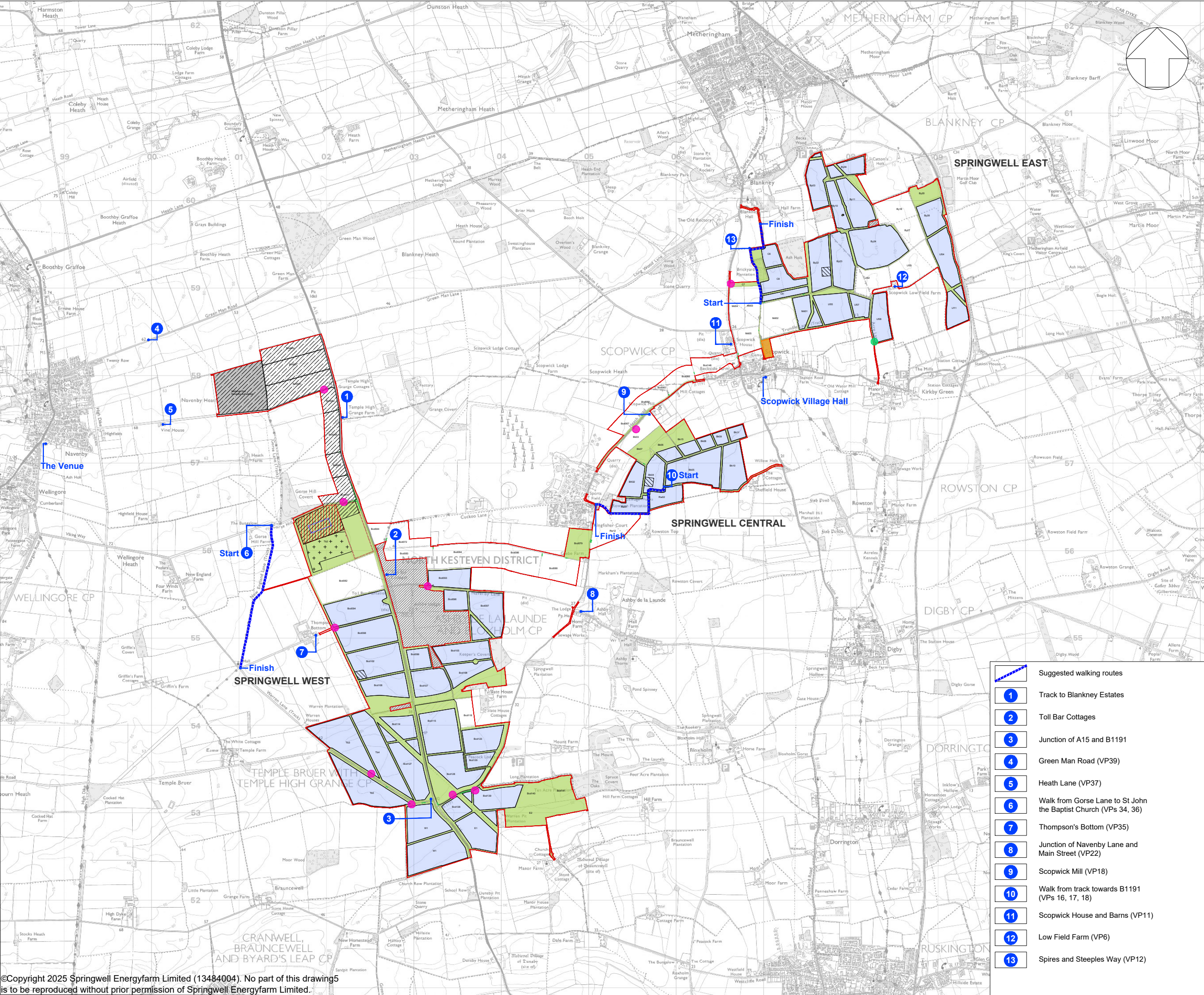
*The suggestion is the stretch of Spires and Steeples footpath to the North of Scopwick joining Scopwick with Blankney. I have significant concern relating to safety, usability, noise, dust and detrimental visual effect on the spires and steeples footpath and especially the section running north from Scopwick to Blankney [see submission for further detail].*

While it is noted that the ExA has walked along this part of the Spires and Steeples Trail on its Unaccompanied Site Inspection, the Applicant has added inspection point 13 to the draft itinerary which – including walking to and from the inspection point - would cover a large extent of the part of the Spires and Steeples Way between Scopwick and Blankney. This includes consideration of the proposed access point noted in the submission.

# Appendix 1 - Suggested inspection points for the ASI







- KEY:
- Order Limits
  - Areas outside the Order Limits
  - Proposed area for Solar PV development
  - Proposed sitting zone for Satellite Collector Compounds
  - Proposed sitting zone for BESS
  - Proposed sitting zone for Grid Connection Corridor
  - Proposed sitting zone for Springwell Substation and Main Collector Compound
  - Proposed sitting zone for Springwell Substation transformers
  - Proposed sitting zone for Earth Bund
  - Indicative site access location
  - Indicative secondary access location (emergency)
  - Proposed area for green infrastructure
  - Proposed area for community growing

- NOTES:
- Ordnance Survey (OS) 1:25,000 scale data adopted as the drawing base map.
  - The location of features shown are indicative only. Exact locations to be confirmed on site.
  - Additional features may be present on site that have not been identified on the OS data.
  - The Order Limits are drawn to Land Registry boundaries. In some locations the Land Registry boundaries differ from the OS MasterMap data which results in the Order Limits not aligning with the line work shown on the base map.

02	JUN 2025	DEADLINE 1	LDA	LDA	EDF
01	APR 2025	DCO EXAMINATION	LDA	LDA	EDF
App	Date	Description	Drn	Chk	App

Springwell Solar Farm



DOCUMENT:  
APPLICANT'S PROPOSED ITINERARY FOR THE ASI

TITLE:  
FIGURE 2.1  
SUGGESTED INSPECTION POINTS FOR THE ASI

PIN REFERENCE NUMBER:  
EN010149/APP/8.19

SCALE : 1:40,000 @ A3	REV: 01





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