

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 03 June 2025 17:37
To: Springwell Solar Farm
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: HISTORIC ENGLAND ExA Q1 SPRINGWELL SOLAR FARM EXAMINATION

Categories: Deadline

[REDACTED]

Dear ExA

Q1.7.1

Applicant Historic England Lincolnshire County Council North Kesteven District Council Requirement 11 - Archaeology HE state in its RR [RR-159] that there needs to be a mechanism whereby the results of additional assessment stage trial trenching undertaken post-DCO have a material bearing upon the subsequent phase of the archaeological mitigation scheme. The Examining Authority (ExA) note in paragraph 4.1.7 of the Outline Written Scheme of Investigation (oWSI) [APP0148] that Task specific WSI's would be prepared in consultation with the Local Planning Authority's (LPA) archaeological advisor prior to the carrying out of any archaeological trenching or investigation.

- a. Applicant, explain with reference to the wording of R11 and R5 how the LPA will be involved in determining the scope for any subsequent archaeological work and additional mitigation measures in the detailed design, as a result of the above archaeological trenching or investigation?
- b. Should R11(1) include that any approval by the relevant planning authority (LCC) be in consultation with HE and NKDC?
- c. LCC, NKDC and HE, provide your comments on the proposed drafting of this requirement including any additional/ revised drafting as appropriate with accompanying justification.

HE RESPONSE

We advise a staged requirement to ensure that necessary archaeological work is undertaken; reported, archived and brought to the public, and that there is independent curation and quality control of that work by LCC with the advice of HE and NKDC.

The requirement should ensure the planning balance struck in the DCO determination is delivered; further to EN-01 5.9.6, 5.9.11 (bearing on assessment) and 5.9.16-5.9.21 (bearing on mitigation).

The oWSI (a certified document at DCO) and the post-DCO mitigation strategy addendum to the oWSI would provide a yardstick against which the acceptability of the subsequent submissions are to be considered by LCC with the benefit of the advice of the NKDC archaeological curators and HE.

The precise wording of the Requirement is a matter in the first instance for the Applicant and LCC as they will be parties to discharge, we advise following key stages should be addressed:-

- A) The oWSI needs to set out (prior to DCO) the necessity, scope and methods of further archaeological assessment that will be carried out post-DCO.

- B) The further archaeological assessment post-DCO shall set out in WSI submitted to and approved by LCC (in consultation with NKDC and HE) and shall be in accordance with the oWSI).
- C) The results of that additional assessment shall be reflected in a mitigation strategy addendum to the oWSI submitted to and approved by LCC in consultation with NKDC and HE.
- D) WSI for mitigation shall be submitted to and approved by LCC (in consultation with NKDC and HE) and shall be in accordance with the oWSI as updated by the mitigation strategy addendum to the oWSI.
- E) LCC shall only fully discharge the requirement when all archaeological work is completed, analysed, archived, and brought to the public through an appropriate publication strategy.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED] for Historic England (HBMCE)

[REDACTED]
Team Leader (Development Advice)

Midlands Region
Historic England
The Foundry, 82 Granville Street, Birmingham B1 2LH

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Ensuring our heritage lives on and is loved for longer.

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