

The Planning Inspectorate  
National Infrastructure Planning  
Temple Quay House  
2 The Square  
Bristol  
BS1 6PN

3 June 2025

Dear Sir/Madam

## Springwell Solar Farm – Deadline 1 Submissions

On behalf of Springwell Energyfarm Limited (the 'Applicant') and further to the publication of the **Rule 6 letter** [\[PD-005\]](#) on 9 April 2025 and the **Rule 8 letter** [\[PD-006\]](#) on 13 May 2025, we write to provide the Applicant's written submissions for Deadline 1 of the Springwell Solar Farm Development Consent Order (DCO) Examination.

### Submissions made at Deadline 1

Appendix 1 of this letter provides an overview of the documents submitted by the Applicant at this Deadline. Table 1 comprises the application documents for which updated versions are being submitted, and summarises how and why each document has been updated. Each updated document has been submitted with both clean and tracked change versions to aid the Examining Authority (the 'ExA') in identifying the changes made.

Table 2 comprises the new documents being submitted which were requested by the ExA in the Rule 8 letter to be provided by the Applicant at Deadline 1. These are provided as a result of the hearings held in May 2025, in response to submissions made at Deadline A, and following further engagement with Interested Parties. These are included within a new Part 8 – Examination Documents and are also identified in the **Guide to the Application** [\[EN010149/APP/1.2.3\]](#), which sets out the current status of documents.

Revised documents are submitted with both tracked change and clean versions to aid signposting to where changes are made. The exclusions to this are the ES Figures packages (ES Volume 2) and the Plans submitted as Part 2 of the DCO application, where a Revisions Schedule has been provided as part of those documents.

### Cumulative Assessment

A revised version of **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16: Cumulative Assessment** [\[EN010149/APP/6.1.2\]](#) is being submitted at Deadline 1 to take account of the Leoda Solar Farm (EN0110016) for which the EIA Scoping Report was submitted in January 2025. At Deadline 2, a full update of the inter-project long and short lists will be submitted, with an assessment cut-off date of 30 May 2025. The same process will be repeated for Deadline 4, with an assessment cut-off date of 29 August 2025.



## Statements of Common Ground ('SoCGs')

The Applicant worked with key stakeholders throughout the pre-submission and pre-examination stages to draft SoCGs, and a summary of the status of discussions was set out in the Statement of Commonality submitted as part of the DCO Application.

The **Rule 8 letter** [\[PD-006\]](#) requests submissions of SoCGs by the Applicant at Deadlines 2, 3 and 5. However the Applicant has undertaken further engagement with a number of parties following receipt of their Relevant Representations, and so is able to submit draft SoCGs at Deadline 1 rather than Deadline 2 to reflect that engagement. Deadlines 3 and 5 remain unaffected.

We trust this information is useful. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require any further details.

Yours sincerely,

Rory Carmichael

Principal Development Manager

On behalf of Springwell Energyfarm Limited

## Appendix 1 – List of documents submitted by the Applicant at Deadline 1

Table 1 – Revised Documents

Doc Ref.	Rev No.	Document Name	Reason for Submission
1.2.3	3	Guide to the Application	To provide an up-to-date list of the status of application documents and to identify where any have been superseded.
2.4.3	3	Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans	<p>The green dashed line on Sheet 10 has been adjusted negligibly to clarify that the proposed footpath will align with where the public are understood to exit Bloxholm Wood, following the minor discrepancy raised by Lincolnshire County Council and in agreement with the landowner. This has always been the intent of the proposed footpath as described on p.125 of the Design Approach Document.</p> <p>The solid blue line on Sheet 10 has been corrected to complete the “circular walking loop” permissive path from Bloxholm Wood described on p.125 of the Design Approach Document. The original Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plan showed a road crossing to the public right of way in error. This correction has been agreed with Lincolnshire County and the landowner.</p> <p>The Applicant considers these do not constitute a change to the application. Interested parties will have the opportunity to comment as part of the examination process and there are considered to be no other unregistered parties who may be affected by the clarification and correction.</p>
2.5.3	3	Illustrative Layout Plans & Sections	Updates to reflect minor amendments to drawings – please refer to plans pack for details.
3.1.2	2	Draft Development Consent Order	Updated to reflect the progressions of discussions with Interested Parties, and to address S55 advice.
3.2.2	2	Explanatory Memorandum	Updated to correspond to changes made to the <b>Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1.2]</b> .

Doc Ref.	Rev No.	Document Name	Reason for Submission
4.2.2	2	Funding Statement	Update made to organisational chart.
4.4.2	2	Schedule of Negotiations and Powers Sought	Updated to reflect the progressions of discussions with Affected Persons.
6.1.2	2	ES Volume 1, Chapter 3 - Proposed Development Description	Updated to reflect further engagement with Interested Parties following submissions of Relevant Representations.
6.1.2	2	ES Volume 1, Chapter 7 – Biodiversity	Minor updates to ensure conformity with the <b>Design Commitments [EN010149/APP/7.4]</b> <a href="#">[APP-0138]</a> .
6.1.2	2	ES Volume 1, Chapter 11 – Land, Soil and Groundwater	Updated to respond to requests from Natural England.
6.1.2	2	ES Volume 1, Chapter 13 – Population	Minor update to employment capacity.
6.1.2	2	ES Volume 1, Chapter 16 – Cumulative Effects	Update to include Leoda Solar Farm within the cumulative assessment.
6.1.2	2	ES Volume 1, Chapter 17 – Mitigation Schedule	Update to include outline management plans commitment to provide carbon reduction plan.
6.2.2	2	ES Volume 2, Proposed Development Description Figures 3.1 – 3.15	Minor updates to drawings – please refer to figure pack for details.
6.2.2	2	ES Volume 2, Cumulative Effects Figures 16.1 – 16.8	Update to include Leoda Solar Farm within the cumulative assessment.
6.3.2	2	ES Volume 3, Appendix 5.4 – Glint and Glare Study	Updated to reflect further engagement with Interested Parties following submissions of Relevant Representations.
6.3.2	2	ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.1 – Preliminary Ecological Appraisal	Minor revision made to Table 6 in Appendix 2 in response to comments from the Butterfly Conservation Trust.
6.3.2	2	ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.5 – Bat Activity Survey	Minor updates to figures pack.
6.3.2	2	ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.14 – Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment	Updated to reflect further engagement with Interested Parties following submissions of Relevant Representations.

Doc Ref.	Rev No.	Document Name	Reason for Submission
6.3.3	3	ES Volume 3, Appendix 9.1 – Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment and Stage 1 Setting Assessment	Additional figure provided to clarify the Zone of Theoretical Visibility and heritage assets.
6.3.2	2	ES Volume 3, Appendix 16.1 – Long List of Other Approved and or Existing Developments	Updated to include Leoda Solar Farm within the cumulative assessment.
7.3.2	2	Design Approach Document	<p>Minor clarifications and to provide an additional Appendix 2 to demonstrate adherence to NSIP: Advice on Good Design guidance.</p> <p>The Applicant has also corrected an error where two path lengths were mistakenly switched. The proposed paths now have the correct approximate length noted.</p>
7.6.2	2	Grid Connection Statement	Updated to respond to the Examining Authority's First Written Questions, Issue Specific Hearing 1 and the acceptance of the Modification Application.
7.7.2	2	Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan	Updated following engagement with Interested Parties.
7.8.2	2	Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan	Updated following engagement with Interested Parties.
7.9.2	2	Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan	<p>Updated following engagement with Interested Parties and to address ExQ1.</p> <p>The Applicant has also corrected an error where two path lengths were mistakenly switched. The proposed paths now have the correct approximate length noted.</p>
7.10.2	2	Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan	Updated in response to the Examining Authority's First Written Questions and Relevant Representation received from the Environment Agency.
7.11.2	2	Outline Soil Management Plan	Updated in response to the Examining Authority's First Written Questions and Relevant Representation received from Natural England..

Doc Ref.	Rev No.	Document Name	Reason for Submission
7.12.2	2	Outline Public Rights of Way and Permissive Path Management Plan	Updated following engagement with Interested Parties and to make minor corrections.
7.13.2	2	Outline Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan	Updated in response to the Examining Authority's First Written Questions and Relevant Representation received from the Environment Agency.
7.14.2	2	Outline Battery Safety Management Plan	Updated following engagement with UK Health Security Agency and in response to the Examining Authority's First Written Questions.
7.16.3	3	Flood Risk Assessment	Updated to include the revised EA Flood Mapping released in March 2025.
7.19.2	2	BESS Plume Assessment	Updated following engagement with UK Health Security Agency and in response to the Examining Authority's First Written Questions.
7.26.2	2	Statement of Commonality	Updated to reflect the progression of discussions with SoCG parties at Deadline 1.

**Table 2 – New Documents**

Doc Ref.	Document Name	Reason for Submission
8.1	Draft Statement of Common Ground - Lincolnshire County Council	Draft agreed with SoCG party and submitted to provide the ExA with an overview of discussions.
8.2	Draft Statement of Common Ground - North Kesteven District Council	Draft agreed with SoCG party and submitted to provide the ExA with an overview of discussions.
8.3	Draft Statement of Common Ground - Historic England	Draft agreed with SoCG party and submitted to provide the ExA with an overview of discussions.
8.4	Draft Statement of Common Ground - Natural England	Draft agreed with SoCG party and submitted to provide the ExA with an overview of discussions.

Doc Ref.	Document Name	Reason for Submission
8.5	Draft Statement of Common Ground - Environment Agency	Draft agreed with SoCG party and submitted to provide the ExA with an overview of discussions.
8.6	Statement of Common Ground - UK Health Security Agency	Final agreed with SoCG party and submitted to provide the ExA with an overview of discussions.
8.7	Draft Statement of Common Ground - Ministry of Defence	Draft agreed with SoCG party and submitted to provide the ExA with an overview of discussions.
8.8	Draft Statement of Common Ground - Network Rail	Draft agreed with SoCG party and submitted to provide the ExA with an overview of discussions.
8.9	Draft Statement of Common Ground - National Highways	Unilateral version submitted to provide the ExA with an overview of discussions.
8.10	Health and Wellbeing Summary Statement	To set out how the DCO application documents have considered impacts on health and wellbeing.
8.11	Interrelationships with other Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects and Major Development Schemes	To set out the interrelationships with other NSIPs and major developments – provided at the request of Lincolnshire County Council.
8.12	Planning Statement Addendum	To set out how the DCO application aligns with Clean Power 2030 and updates to the NPPF; and to provide further information on siting in response to Issue-Specific Hearing 1.
8.13	Responses to Relevant Representations	As requested by the ExA in the <b>Rule 8 letter</b> <a href="#">[PD-006]</a> , this sets out the Applicant's responses to the Relevant Representations submitted.
8.14	Responses to ExQ1	To provide the Applicant's responses to the ExA's First Written Questions issued as part of the <b>Rule 8 letter</b> <a href="#">[PD-006]</a> .
8.15	Written Summary of Oral Submissions at Open Floor Hearing 1	To provide the summary of the Applicant's oral submissions made at Open Floor Hearing 1.
8.16	Written Summary of Oral Submissions at Issue Specific Hearing 1	To provide the summary of the Applicant's oral submissions made at Issue Specific Hearing 1 and its written submissions in

Doc Ref.	Document Name	Reason for Submission
		response to the action points arising from the hearing.
8.17	Schedule of Changes to the Draft DCO	To provide the ExA with a summary of the changes made to the <b>Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1.2]</b> at Deadline 1.
8.18	Road Safety Audit and Designer's Response	Provided in response to LCC's request for the Applicant to undertake a Stage 1 Road Safety Audit for the Proposed Development.
8.19	Proposed Itinerary for the Accompanied Site Inspection	As requested by the ExA in the <b>Rule 8 letter [PD-006]</b> , this provides the Applicant's proposed itinerary for the Accompanied Site Inspection.