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**Late Submission to Deadline 4 - ExA Q's2 - Historic England SPRINGWELL SOLAR FARM**

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From [REDACTED]@HistoricEngland.org.uk>  
Date Wed 2025-09-24 10:29  
To Springwell Solar Farm <SpringwellSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>  
Cc [REDACTED]@headlandarchaeology.com>

Dear ExA

My apologies for not submitting our responses yesterday, we refer you to the answers below alongside the signed SoCG and updated documents submitted by the applicant yesterday following discussion with Historic England.

**Answers to ExA Q's2.**

Q2.7.5

**(b) Interested Party (IP) [REP3-083] submitted an independent report on the impact of the Proposed Development on the Temple Bruer Preceptory Church Tower Grade I Listed Building and Scheduled Monument.**

Regarding the grade i and scheduled Temple Bruer Preceptory and grade ii Farmhouse there would in NPS/NPPF terms be a low level of less than substantial harm to significance resulting from change to the character of the historic estate and rural landscape context through the introduction of the arrays. In terms of the EIA assessment (as per the scoping methodology) we agree this is a slight impact upon an asset of high importance. This would result in a non-significant effect in EIA terms but an impact to be nevertheless weighed by the decision maker in NPS/NPPF terms.

This does not alter HE's position in respect of the scoping out of impacts at Temple Bruer from the ES (since the likely effect falls below the threshold for reporting). We have however agreed with the applicant that, since all harm in respect of designated heritage assets requires to be weighed by the decision maker, the impact noted above should be described in an NPS harm statement (which we understand has been included in the updated Setting Assessment submitted by the application deadline 4).

Our intent was to memorialise this in the SoCG as submitted at Deadline 4. However, we note that in the signed SoCG submitted at deadline 4 the in-text link to *Environmental Statement Volume 3, Appendix 9.1: Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment and Stage 1 Setting Assessment* goes to the previously submitted version of the Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2.2] [AS-018].

The setting impact upon assets at Temple Bruer is we understand addressed under the *latest revision of the Environmental Statement Volume 3, Appendix 9.1: Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment and Stage 1 Setting Assessment as submitted at deadline 4*. And it is to this revised text that the SoCG intended to refer.

## Q2.7.3

(a) With reference to any outstanding concerns,  
(b) that any concerns can be accommodated at detailed design stage  
(c) whether the oWSI provides satisfaction that these matters will be addressed post-consent.

1. Our outstanding concerns have been addressed on the basis of the documents submitted by the applicant at deadline 4 and as memorialised in the SoCG (subject to updating of in-text links to updated documents as submitted at deadline 4).
2. The mechanism in Requirement 11 allows for further assessment work to inform refinement to the archaeological mitigation strategy in the oWSI. This addresses our concern that design stage can accommodate archaeological significance revealed through further assessment through detailed design as a part of archaeological mitigation (hence that harm can be designed out and/or addressed through archaeological excavation in a manner appropriate to the importance and sensitivity of the remains in question).
3. The draft oWSI provides satisfaction with the mechanism in the latest version of the Draft DCO, specifically Requirement 11 ARCHAEOLOGY REP3-004 Springwell Energy Farm Limited 3.1.3 Draft Development Consent Order (Clean) **Revision 3**.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED] (for Historic England)

[REDACTED] MA FSA

Team Leader (Development Advice)

Midlands Region

Historic England

The Foundry, 82 Granville Street, Birmingham B1 2LH

Direct Line [REDACTED]

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