

Date: 10 September 2025
Our ref: 525993
Project ref: EN010155



Planning Inspectorate

deanmoorsolar@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

BY EMAIL ONLY

Customer Services
Hornbeam House
Crewe Business Park
Electra Way
Crewe
Cheshire
CW1 6GJ

T 0300 060 3900

Dear Mr. Woodward

Dean Moor Solar Project – Issue Specific Hearing 1 (ISH1) response

With regards to the ISH1 on 16th September 2025, we will not be attending but would be pleased to respond to any questions from the Examining Authority (ExA) that arise from the hearing at a subsequent deadline.

We are unable to attend due to limited Specialist availability within the timescales and are also awaiting further information from the Applicant on issues that may impact our advice to the ExA. As outlined in our Written Representation the outstanding issue relates to the potential impacts of the Project on peat. We have been engaging regularly with the Applicant on this issue and have made progress.

It was agreed between the applicant and NE (during a meeting on 08/09/25) that the applicant will provide further clarity on the peat survey results to give a clearer indication of the presence of peat across the site. NE also advised ensuring cross referencing with the outline Soil Management Plan (oSMP) and providing a clearer methodology for how peat soils will be handled, as well as outlining the requirements for post-consent surveys. NE will need to review this information prior to providing further advice to the ExA.

We would like to highlight that where Natural England does not attend hearings, this should not be construed as a lack of concern on outstanding issues.

Yours sincerely

A black rectangular box used to redact the signature of the Sustainable Development Higher Officer.

Sustainable Development Higher Officer