

Application by RWE Renewables UK Solar and Storage Limited (the applicant) for an order granting development consent for Peartree Hill Solar Farm (the proposed development) (Ref EN010157)

Examining Authority's (ExA) note of an unaccompanied site inspection (USI)

Inspection 1: Environs of the application site and surrounding area – 17 and 18 June 2025

This note is a brief record to inform the applicant, interested parties and any other parties of the actions taken by the ExA (Alex Hutson and Marie-Louise Milliken).

The ExA undertook a USI on Tuesday 17 and Wednesday 18 June 2025. The inspections took place by car or on foot, from public roads and public rights of way. The routes were planned having regard to the applicant's application documents and the USI enabled the ExA to obtain views of, and to become familiar with the application site and surrounding area.

Viewpoint (VP) and photomontage (PM) locations referred to relate to those identified in the applicant's landscape and visual amenity assessment documents [including APP-047, AS-001 and AS-002].

The ExA may undertake further USIs in due course.

## <u>Day 1 – Tuesday 17 June 2025</u>

Weather: Clear and sunny

Visibility: Excellent

The ExA drove the proposed route for construction traffic along the A1035, the A165, Carr Lane (Long Riston), Arnold Lane West, Black Tup Lane, Meaux Lane and Meaux Road (as shown on Figure 14.2 of [APP-158]), including during peak hours, observing the nature of the roads, junctions and character of the areas they pass through.

The ExA visited VPs 30, 8, 9, 12, 19, 32, 28, 13, 27, 33, 24,18, 21, 23, 25, 14, 11 and 7, in that order, driving between them and walking along public rights of way to reach them where necessary. The applicant's PMs were used to assist with the visualisation of the proposed development from the relevant PM locations (at VPs 7, 12, 14, 18 and 21).

The ExA observed the Tickton and Long Riston conservation areas, the Wawne Grange and Meaux Abbey Farm Grade II listed buildings and the Site of Meaux Cistercian Abbey and Medieval Moated Tile Kiln 250m North East of North Grange Farm scheduled monuments to gain an appreciation of these designated heritage assets and their settings.

**Note:** It appears to the ExA that the location of 'Swine Footpath No. 7' as annotated on VP 24b should rather be on the opposite side of Cowdike Drain. It also appears to

the ExA that the title for VP 25a should refer to 'Drove Lane' rather than 'Grove Lane'.

## Day 2 – Wednesday 18 June 2025

Weather: Clear and sunny

Visibility: Excellent

The ExA visited VPs 10, 15, 16, 31, 20, 22, 26, 17 and 29, in that order, driving between them and walking along public rights of way to reach them where necessary. The applicant's PMs were used to assist with the visualisation of the proposed development from the relevant PM locations (at VPs 10, 22 and 26).

The ExA observed the Meaux Duck Decoy scheduled monument to gain an appreciation of this designated heritage asset and its setting.

The ExA observed the proposed cable route and the land that it would pass through, including from footpaths TICKF12, WOODF18, WOODF09, WOODF04, SKIDF11 and SKIDF12.

The ExA observed Figham Common to gain an appreciation of its scale and character.

The ExA observed the Creyke Beck substation site, to which the proposed development would connect.

The ExA also drove the proposed route for construction traffic along the A1174 Hull Road, Long Lane and Park Lane (which includes footpath SKIDF17 and National Cycle Network Route 1), observing the nature of the roads, junctions and character of the areas they pass through.

## **End of USI1**