

RWE Renewables UK Solar and Storage Limited

FAO Jake Stephens
The Planning Inspectorate
National Infrastructure Directorate
Temple Quay House
Temple
Quay
Bristol
BS1 6PN

09/07/2025

Dear Jake Stephens,

Proposed Peartree Hill Solar Farm (Application Reference: EN010157)
Request to approve changes/corrections to the DCO Application ("Change Request")

Further to the Applicant's notification dated 3 June 2025 of an intended request to submit Changes/corrections to the application for development consent for the Peartree Hill Solar Farm [AS-004] ("the Change Notification"), the Applicant encloses a Change Request seeking the Examining Authority's ("ExA") consent to include the proposed changes/corrections to the application currently being examined.

The documents submitted with this Change Request comply with the requirements for information (the required information), as set out in the <u>Planning Inspectorate's guidance</u> "Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: Changes to an application after it has been accepted for examination" (the "Changes Guidance"), and the Applicant can confirm that the suggestions set out in the ExA's letter dated 6 June 2025 [<u>PD-005</u>] have also been followed, as set out below.

The proposed changes/corrections

The ExA's approval is sought in relation to the following changes/corrections:

 Change/correction 1: to remove a section of the proposed solar array from 'Land Area B' to reduce visual effects for the residents of a nearby property and to instead use the land for environmental mitigation; and

...



2. **Change/correction 2**: to remove three plots from the Order Limits along Carr Lane which are currently proposed for temporary possession (Plots 10-4, 10-5 and 10-6) but which are no longer required.

The Applicant notes the ExA's view that the changes/corrections are not material and would not lead to the proposed development being different in nature or substance to that which was originally applied for.

The Changes Guidance

In preparing this notification, the Applicant has had regard to the Changes Guidance. In particular, the Applicant has considered the matters described under the heading 'Step 4 - The change application' of the process for requesting a change to an application, namely the information to be included in a change request. In relation to the matters listed under that heading, the Applicant can confirm as follows:

- A description of the changes/corrections is provided at the beginning of this letter. The
 Applicant can confirm that there has been no change to the description of the
 changes/corrections set out in the Change Notification.
- The reasons and need for making the changes were described in the Change Notification.
 - In relation to change/correction 1, prior to the submission of the DCO Application, the Applicant had discussed and agreed with the owner of a nearby residential property, Carr House Farm, to remove a section of solar panels (shown in Figure 1 of the Change Notification) in order to reduce the visual impacts of the panels on their property. However, in error, this was not reflected in the application documents prior to submission of the DCO Application. This area is proposed to be left for environmental mitigation following the removal of the panels, contributing to the Proposed Development's biodiversity net gain proposals. No changes to the Order land, including the powers of compulsory acquisition sought in respect of the Order land, would be necessary as a result of the correction. An image showing the land with the proposed removal of this section of solar panels was set out as Figure 2 of the Change Notification.
 - o In relation to change/correction 2, the Applicant proposes to remove from the Order Limits a section of private road (Carr Lane) that is no longer needed in connection with the Proposed Development following the relocation of the site access further west. An image showing the land, identified as parcels 10-4, 10-5 and 10-6, to be removed from the Order Limits was set out as Figure 3 of the Change Notification.
- A full schedule of all application documents and plans listing the revisions to each document and plan which would occur as a result of the changes/corrections is included within the updated Introduction to the Application submitted alongside this Change Request. Where no revisions are proposed to a document, the relevant section of the Introduction to the Application remains unchanged. The documents which are relevant to this Change Request are also set out in Table 1 below. With the exception of the Environmental Statement Addendum (EN010157/APP/8.2), all documents referred



to in **Table 1** are DCO Application documents or were updated as part of the Change Notification. As agreed with the ExA, where the change to the Order Limits in a DCO Application Plan or Figure would be indecipherable due to the scale at which it is produced, it is not proposed to update that document at this time. Instead, for completeness and to avoid any confusion, the Applicant will submit updated versions at Deadline 6. Table 1 below identifies whether an updated document has been submitted at this deadline.

Table 1: Summary of DCO Application documents requiring revisions as a result of the Change Request

Vol- ume	Doc No.	Document Name	Amends required to reflect change	Updated doc- ument sub- mitted	
1	Application Form				
	EN010157/APP/1.2	Introduction to the Appli- cation (clean and tracked versions)	Updated to show superseded versions of documents and any new documents	Yes	
2	Plans / Drawings / Sections				
	EN010157/APP/2.1	Location and Area Plan	Sheets 1 and 2 updated to reflect the removal of plots 10-4, 10-5 and 10-6 from the Order Limits	No - as the change would be indecipherable at this scale	
	EN010157/APP/2.2	Works Plans (clean ver- sion)	Key Plan and Sheets 3 and 10 of 17 updated to reflect the removal of plots 10-4, 10-5 and 10-6 from the Order Limits and the removal of a section of solar PV panels	Yes	
	EN010157/APP/2.3	Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans (clean version)	Key Plan and Sheet 10 of 17 updated to reflect the removal of plots 10-4, 10-5 and 10-6 from the Order Limits	Yes	
	EN010157/APP/2.4	Land Plans (clean ver- sion)	Key Plan and Sheet 10 of 17 updated to reflect the removal of plots 10-4, 10-5 and 10-6 from the Order Limits	Yes	
	EN010157/APP/2.5	Special Category Land Plans	Key Plan only required to be updated to reflect the removal of plots 10-4, 10-5 and 10-6 from the Order Limits	No - as the change would be indecipherable at this scale	



	EN0404E7/ADD/0.6	Crours Lond	Kay plan aply required	No so the
	EN010157/APP/2.6	Crown Land Plans	Key plan only required to be updated to reflect the removal of plots 10-4, 10-5 and 10-6 from the Order Limits	be indecipher- able at this scale
	EN010157/APP/2.8	Tree Preservation Order and Hedgerow Plans (clean version)	•	Yes
	EN010157/APP/2.9	Traffic Measures Plan (clean version)	Key Plan and Sheet 10 of 17 updated to reflect the removal of plots 10-4, 10-5 and 10-6 from the Order Limits	Yes
	EN010157/APP/2.11	Statu- tory/Non-stat- utory Sites or Features of Nature Con- servation and Habitats of Protected Species, Im- portant Habi- tats or Other Diversity Fea- tures Plan (clean ver- sion)	Key Plan and Sheet 10 of 17 updated to reflect the removal of plots 10-4, 10-5 and 10-6 from the Order Limits	Yes
	EN010157/APP/2.12	in a 'River Ba- sin Manage- ment Plan'	the removal of plots	Yes
	EN010157/APP/2.13	Statu- tory/Non-stat- utory Sites or Features of the Historic Environment Plan (clean version)	Key Plan and Sheet 10 of 17 updated to reflect the removal of plots 10-4, 10-5 and 10-6 from the Order Limits	Yes
3	Draft Development C	onsent Order		
	EN010157/APP/3.1	Draft Development Consent Order (clean and	Updated to reflect the removal of plots 10-4, 10-5 and 10-6 from Schedule 10 of the	Yes



		tracked versions)	draft Development Consent Order. The draft Order has also been amended to in-	
			clude appropriate references to the ES Ad-	
			dendum submitted	
			alongside this Change	
4	Compulsory Acquisit	ion Information	Request	
	EN010157/APP/4.1	Statement of	Updated to reflect the	Yes
		Reasons	removal of plots 10-4,	
		(clean and tracked ver-	10-5 and 10-6 from Table A3 Temporary use	
		sions)	of land – by plot num- ber	
	EN010157/APP/4.2	Book of Reference (clean and tracked versions)	Updated to reflect the removal of plots 10-4, 10-5 and 10-6 from Part 1 of the Book of	Yes
5	Penarts and Stateme	ente	Reference	
5	Reports and Stateme EN010157/APP/5.3	Habitats Reg-	Updated to reflect the	No - as the
		ulations Assessment – Information to inform Appropriate Assessment	removal of plots 10-4, 10-5 and 10-6 from the Order Limits in Figure 4-1	change would be indecipher- able at this scale
	EN010157/APP/5.5	Planning Statement	Updated to reflect the removal of plots 10-4, 10-5 and 10-6 from the Order Limits in Appendix 1 within Appendix 4 Minerals Safeguarding Assessment	No - as the change would be indecipherable at this scale
6	Environmental Statement			
	Any changes within the Environmental Statement are reflected within the Environmental Statement Addendum [EN010157/APP/8.2] , submitted at this procedural deadline.			
7	Other Documents			
	EN010157/APP/7.5	Outline Land- scape and Ecological Mitigation Plan (clean versions)	Appendix D (Indicative Environmental Masterplan) updated to show removal of a section of panels from Land Area B and to reflect the re-	Yes
			moval of plots 10-4,	



			10-5 and 10-6 from the	
			Order Limits	
	EN010157/APP/7.7	Outline Con-	Appendix B (Main	No - as the
		struction Traf-	Construction Com-	change would
		fic Manage-	pound Location Plan)	be indecipher-
		ment Plan	and Appendix C (Pro-	able at this
			posed Traffic Routes	scale
			for Construction Traf-	
			fic) updated to reflect	
			removal of plots 10-4,	
			10-5 and 10-6 from the	
	EN010157/APP/7.8	Outline Soil	Order Limits	No so tha
	ENUTUTO//APP//.8		Appendix A (map of soil handling units) up-	No - as the change would
		Management Plan	dated to reflect re-	be indecipher-
		гіан	moval of plots 10-4,	able at this
			10-5 and 10-6 from the	scale
			Order Limits	Soulo
	EN010157/APP/7.11	Archaeologi-	Appendix A (location	No - as the
	2.101010177.11177111	cal Manage-	of excavated and un-	change would
		ment Strategy	excavated trial	be indecipher-
		37	trenches) updated to	able at this
			reflect removal of plots	scale
			10-4, 10-5 and 10-6	
			from the Order Limits	
8	Post-Submission Do			
	EN010157/APP/8.1	Schedule of	Updated to reflect	Yes
		Changes to	changes to the draft	
		the Draft	Development Consent	
		DCO (clean	Order as a result of the	
		version)	proposed	
	ENIO 4 0 4 57 (4 DD /2 0		changes/corrections	.,
	EN010157/APP/8.2	Environmen-	Produced to record all	Yes
		tal Statement	changes to ES chap-	
		Addendum	ters, figures and ap-	
			pendices as a result of	
			the proposed	
			changes/corrections	

- Neither of the proposed changes/corrections would have any impact on securing consents or licences for the Proposed Development or would result in any delay in securing these before the close of the examination.
- Clean and tracked versions of the draft Development Consent Order showing the proposed changes/corrections are provided with this Change Request. The Change Request is also accompanied by a revised version of the Schedule of Changes to the Draft DCO, which sets out the reasons for any updates made. No changes to the Explanatory Memorandum are required as a result of the proposed changes/corrections, so an updated Explanatory Memorandum has not been provided.



- Neither of the proposed changes/corrections would require additional compulsory acquisition powers in respect of land. Accordingly, it is not necessary to provide any information pertaining to the Infrastructure Planning (Compulsory Acquisition) Regulations 2010 with this request. The Applicant notes that the ExA agreed with this position in its letter dated 6 June 2025.
- Neither of the proposed changes/corrections would result in any new or different likely significant environmental effects. Change/correction 1 would reduce the impact of the Proposed Development on the visual amenity of residents at Carr House Farm, primarily on views from the approach to the residence, the users of Riston Footpath no. 2. and reduce the number of solar PV modules introduced into Landscape Character Area 19d Central Holderness Open Farmland. While the impacts would be lessened, the overall level of effects stated in ES Volume 2, Chapter 11: Landscape and Visual [APP-047] would remain unchanged. With regard to Glint and Glare, the removal of solar PV modules as a result of change/correction 1 would reduce the reflecting area; however, since all reflecting panels are already predicted to be screened by intervening vegetation, terrain and buildings, there are no effects on the impacts or conclusions of the assessment for the nearby dwelling. The removal of panels would slightly reduce the reflecting area for some road receptors along the A165 to the east, and towards some aviation receptors at Beverley Airfield, Hill Farm Airfield, and Burton-Constable Airfield. The impacts predicted in the report would not be affected. The overall level of effects stated in ES Volume 4, Appendix 5.4: Glint and Glare Assessment [APP-100] would therefore remain unchanged as a result of Change/correction 1. Change/correction 1 would result in an area that was previously proposed to contain solar PV modules, with areas of grassland between the panels and at the field margins, becoming an area that would wholly function as field margin grassland. This change is anticipated to result in a slight increase (a fraction of a per cent) in biodiversity net gain (BNG) for area-based habitats. As the change would only result in a very minor BNG increase, it is not proposed to update ES Volume 4, Appendix 7.10: Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment [APP-114] as a result of this change/correction. The conclusions of ES Volume 2, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [APP-043] and associated appendices and 5.3 Habitats Regulations Assessment - Information to inform Appropriate Assessment [APP 145] would remain unchanged as a result of Change/correction 1. Accordingly, the provisions of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 cited in the Changes Guidance do not apply to this request. The Applicant also notes that the ExA agreed with this position in its letter dated 6 June 2025.
- The Applicant has engaged with landowners in relation to the proposed changes/corrections in the manner descried in the Change Notification. The Change Notification also included copies of the letters sent to landowners. No responses to that engagement have been received. As such, the Applicant has not produced a discrete consultation report to accompany this Change Request. However, the Applicant can confirm that, in line with the ExA's suggestion, a letter was sent to Doggerbank Offshore Wind Farm Project 1 Projco Limited (in respect of plot 10-5) and Doggerbank Offshore Wind Farm Project 2 Projco Limited (in respect of plot 10-6) clarifying the Applicant's proposals. A copy of that letter dated 11 June 2025 is enclosed as Appendix A to this request. No responses to those letters were received.



Finally, as requested in the ExA's letter dated 6 June 2025, the Applicant has calculated that, the removal of panels as a result of change/correction 1 equates to approximately 0.7 MW of the gross electrical capacity of the Proposed Development. However, this loss can be mitigated through various design adjustments (within the limits of the **Design Parameters [APP-150]**) and it is not considered that the reduction of panels as a result of change/correction 1 would reduce the gross electrical output capacity of the Proposed Development.

Updated Flood Risk Assessment

In response to the request made in the Planning Inspectorate's section 51 advice, an updated Flood Risk Assessment has been produced and accompanies this submission.

In making the changes to the Flood Risk Assessment in response to the section 51 advice, the Applicant has become aware that Appendix C: Modelling Report, to this document was missing a number of its appendices (with the exception of Appendix F: Modelling addendum of Appendix C). The missing information comprised drawings of an earlier layout and modelling drawings associated with this, all of which had been issued to and reviewed by the Environment Agency prior to DCO Application submission. The Applicant has updated the Flood Risk Assessment submitted at this procedural deadline to include those missing Appendices to Appendix C.

The Rule 6 Letter

The Applicant has considered the Rule 6 letter published on 24 June 2025 and provides the following comments:

- The Applicant considers that the draft timetable at Annex D of the Rule 6 letter is reasonable and appropriate, subject to the following minor suggestions. In respect of Deadline 2 and Deadline 3, the Applicant considers that the provision of a small amount of additional time would improve Interested Parties' ability to participate in the examination process. For example, extending the date associated with Deadline 2 to Friday 12 September 2025 would afford Interested Parties two additional days to reflect upon and respond to submissions made at Deadline 1, which are likely to be voluminous having regard to the number of actions falling on Deadline 1. In addition, if the date associated with Deadline 3 were to be extended to Wednesday 8 October 2025, this would provide Interested Parties with two weeks to respond to the ExA's second written questions. Currently, a deadline of 6 October would mean that Interested Parties have only seven full working days to provide those responses. The Applicant considers that these minor adjustments could be accommodated with minimal impact overall to the draft timetable and examination process.
- The Applicant will attend in person and wishes to speak at both the preliminary meeting and open floor hearing 1. A list of attendees attending on behalf of the Applicant will be provided to the case team in due course.
- The Applicant notes the ExA's request to produce a draft itinerary for an Accompanied Site Inspection ("ASI"), for submission at Deadline 1. As regards potential locations for the ASI, a list has been compiled and is included as Appendix 1 to this letter. In each case, the reason for nomination, issues to be observed and whether the location(s) require access to private land, are all as stated in the appendix. The locations included



do not duplicate those locations which the ExA attended as part of its unaccompanied site inspection on 17-18 June 2025.

The ExA's Unaccompanied Site Inspection

In response to the points identified by the ExA following an unaccompanied site inspection on 17-18 June (ExA document reference EN010157-000217-PHSF - USI1 Note), the Applicant has captured the necessary changes to ES Volume 2, Chapter 11: Landscape and Visual [APP-047], ES Volume 4, Appendix 11.4: Viewpoint Analysis [APP-131] and Appendix 11.6: Viewpoints and Visualisations Part 1 [AS-001] in the ES Addendum [EN010157/APP/8.2].

I trust that the information provided above is sufficient to enable the ExA to accept the Applicant's Change Request.

I would be grateful if you would please acknowledge safe receipt of this letter and the enclosed documents.

Kind regards,



Mike Greslow Lead DCO Development Project Manager RWE Solar and Storage UK Ltd



Appendix 1: Potential locations for the Accompanied Site Inspection

In the Rule 6 letter (dated 24 June 2025) the ExA requested that interested parties submit suggested locations for the Accompanied Site Inspection (ASI), including the following detail:

- Sufficient information to identify the location
- Issues to be observed at the location
- Information on whether the site can be accessed via public land
- The reason why the location has been suggested.

The Applicant recommends the below suggested locations be included in the agenda for the ASI:

- 1) The proposed location of Project Substation East at the eastern boundary of Field C3 (see Figure 1 below), within Land Area C. This would allow the ExA to see the proposed location of Project Substation East within the context of the surrounding land-scape. This is located on private land and could only be seen via public land from a distance if viewing from the public right of way to the west of Field C3.
- 2) The proposed location of Project Substation West at the north eastern boundary of Field E8 (see Figure 2 below), within Land Area E. This would allow the ExA to see the proposed location of Project Substation West within the context of the surrounding landscape. This location would also allow the ExA to view the adjoining fields. This is located on private land and cannot be accessed via public land.



Figure 1: Location of Project Substation East (shown by the blue box in Field C3)

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Figure 2: Location of Project Substation West (shown by the brown box in Field E8)