



Historic England

**RESPONSES TO EXAMINING AUTHORITY'S
QUESTIONS 29/07/2025
ON BEHALF OF THE
HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND MONUMENTS COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND
(HISTORIC ENGLAND)**

**Interested Party Ref No:
F2E9E53DF**

Peartree Hill Solar Farm (Reference No. EN010157)

Application by

RWE Renewables UK Solar and Storage Limited

1. Introduction

1.1 Historic England is a statutory consultee on all Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects. Our position on the application is set out in the relevant representation [RR-007].

2.0 HISTORIC ENGLAND'S RESPONSES TO THE QUESTION

2.1 Question 1.8.6

Scheduled monuments

Please confirm whether you agree with the applicant's assessment in ES Chapter 9 Table 9-8 [APP-045] that there would be no change and therefore no effect on the setting and significance of the three scheduled monuments?

Historic England considers the changes to the setting of the three scheduled monuments (NHLE 1007843 Meaux Cistercian Abbey; NHLE 1008039 Moated Kiln; NHLE 1015305 Meaux Duck Decoy) represents less than substantial harm to significance, and at the lower end of that scale.

In RR-007, we noted that the Applicant considered screening vegetation to ameliorate potential harm to significance of the three scheduled monuments. We sought confirmation of the viability of existing vegetation to last for the lifetime of the Proposed Development (e.g. in terms of health and susceptibility to disease) and sought confirmation about the climate resilience of the proposed planting mix. This is to ensure that a consistent level of vegetative cover around and between the scheduled monuments is maintained.

We can confirm the Applicant has provided sufficient information, in response to our request. We also understand the Draft DCO [EN010157/APP/3.1] has been updated to state that Historic England would be consulted for matters relevant to their function in the development of the Landscape and Ecological Management Plan, which is welcomed.

We agree that the proposed mitigation planting will help to reduce the visual impact on the setting of the monuments, and is welcomed, although we consider this will

not remove the harm altogether. In relation to this matter, and in coming to a decision the ExA, would therefore need to weigh the harm against the benefits, as set out policy.