

Thank you for consulting Historic England in regards to The Examining Authority's written questions and requests for information (ExQ1), in relation to Application by One Earth Solar Farm Limited for One Earth Solar Farm.

We note the Examining Authority has named Historic England in both Q.11.0.1 and Q.11.0.2, in section 11.

Q.11.0.1 asks that each party provide evidence to support their position in respect of the suitability of the investigations that have been undertaken and why either further trial trenching or other form of investigation should or should not be carried out.

Our position would be that in locations where there remains high potential for sensitive and important remains unquantified by trial trenching, if the investigation of these areas is to be pushed to post DCO, it is important that this work is secured through requirements, such that the results of those investigations carried out promptly post-DCO can inform adaptive detailing of the scheme and / or mitigation as appropriate.

Q.11.0.2 asks that the applicant discuss whether alternative solutions been explored to piling, such as shoes. We would emphasise that shoes are part of a palette of techniques for mitigating risk to archaeological features, with open space, excavation etc also being options. However, in order for this post-DCO approach to be successful, there needs to be staged yet flexible approach, informed by the additional archaeological data collected to present a measured and justified approach to minimising harm to the historic environment.

We thank you again for consulting Historic England, and welcome further engagement as this project develops.

Hayley James

Inspector of Ancient Monuments

on behalf of Historic England