



FAO Mr John Wheadon  
Head of Energy Infrastructure Planning Delivery & Innovation  
Department of Energy Security and Net Zero  
3-8 Whitehall Place  
London  
SW1A 2AW

15<sup>th</sup> May 2026

Dear Mr John Wheadon,

**One Earth Response to Request for Information Letter from Secretary of State dated 1 May 2026**

**Planning Act 2008 and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010**

**Reference: EN010159**

The Applicant has noted the 'Secretary of State's Request for Information' letter dated 1 May 2026 and has provided a response below for each separate matter raised in the Response Document [EN010159/APP/9.51], as follows:

- > Biodiversity and ecology;
- > Hydrology and hydrogeology;
- > Protective provision;
- > Land rights;
- > Crown land.

Following a review of the Secretary of State's (SoS) decision on Springwell Solar Farm [EN010149] (paragraph 4.51) the Applicant considers that it would also be of assistance to the SoS to provide specific references where the effects of the Proposed Development on agricultural land has been considered in the Application and to provide further evidence in relation to the existing use of land within Order Limits, to support consideration of food security matters. As such, this information has also been included in the Response Document [EN010159/APP/9.51].

The following documents and Appendices have been included to provide additional information that should be read in conjunction with this letter, as necessary:

- > Applicant Response Document [EN010159/APP/9.51]
- > Appendix 1 – Updated Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP) [EN010159/APP/7.7.7] (clean and tracked)
- > Appendix 2 – Updated Outline Battery Safety Management Plan (oBSMP) [EN01059/APP.7.11.7] (clean and tracked)

- > Appendix 3 – Agreed protective provisions for Northern Powergrid (Yorkshire) Plc
- > Appendix 4 – Agreed protective provisions for National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc
- > Appendix 5 – Agricultural Land Use in the United Kingdom (Defra)

We would be grateful if you could please confirm receipt of this letter and the documents detailed above in response to the SoS letter dated 1 May 2026. If we can be of further any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us using the details provided below.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D Boyd', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

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