

The Rt. Hon. Ed Milliband – MP
Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero
Department of Energy Security and Net Zero
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Sent via email to:
Oneearthsolar@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Date: 19/06/26

Dear Secretary of State,

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

Application by One Earth Solar Farm Ltd (the Applicant) for an Order granting Development Consent for the One Earth Solar Farm (the Proposed Development)

We write further to but separate from the recent letter issued by Newark and Sherwood District Council (NSDC) on the 15th May 2026.

For the avoidance of doubt, this correspondence does not relate to your specific request for further information dated the 1st May 2026, (for which the NSDC reply was issued on the 15th May 2026).

This letter seeks to raise additional points and sets out a number of concerns, following a meeting of the 'Full Council' on the 19th May, where a motion was passed in relation to the consideration of this NSIP Project by the Secretary of State (SoS).

A copy of the report can be viewed here: [Motion One Earth Solar Farm.pdf](#) but the purpose of this correspondence is to set out the important matters that formed part of that Full Council motion.

On behalf of our local constituents, NSDC have the following points of clarification that we would be grateful if the SoS could confirm:

- How will Water Framework Directive Non-Deterioration duties and the 'precautionary principle' be applied, prior to a decision being made.
- How risks to strategic drinking water infrastructure are being weighed, given the presence of the Anglian Reservoir that serves Lincoln.
- The extent of effective engagement and inputs from consultation bodies during the examination and how this can be reconciled with an informed and lawful decision.

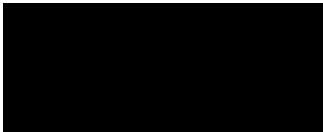
As such, aligned to the above, we would also seek explicit confirmation and reassurance of the following points relating to drinking water:

- Lincs Reservoirs and associated treatment infrastructure are recognised as sensitive receptors.
- Risks from micro plastic pollution, BESS fire run-off and fire-fighting water contamination have been fully assessed.
- The Drinking Water Protected Area designation has been given full legal and policy weight.

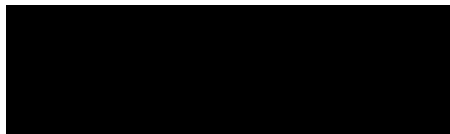
We also share concerns relating to a number of Freedom of Information requests related to various statutory bodies, whereby responsiveness has impacted the ability to respond appropriately during the examination timetable and as such, whether this undermines the procedural fairness of the previous examination process.

Finally, and fundamentally, NSDC seek the SoS's assurance that, should their decision be one of approval, this decision will have been made only after fully considering all information necessary to reach a safe recommendation and that there is a clear and transparent audit trail, in light of information remaining outstanding from key statutory bodies.

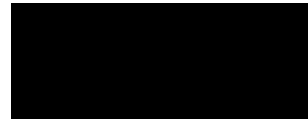
Yours faithfully



Councillor Paul Peacock
(Leader of the Council)



Councillor Andy Freeman (Chair
of Planning Committee)



Councillor Linda Dales
(Local Ward Member
for Collingham)