

The Planning Inspectorate

c/o Quadient

69 Buckingham Avenue

Slough, SL1 4PN

8th April 2026

Dear Mr Wiltshire

Application by Steeple Solar Farm Limited for an order granting development consent for the Steeple Renewables Project

Planning Act 2008 – Section 89 and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 – rule 8 and 9

Further to the Examining Authority’s Rule 8 letter dated 20 November 2025, I write in respect of the information requested from the Applicant at Deadline 6 (08 April 2026).

Documentation Submitted at Deadline 6

Please find enclosed the following documents which have been requested from the Applicant at Deadline 6:

“Rule 8” Submissions

1. Comments on responses to ExQ2

In response to the Deadline 5 submissions received, the Applicant has provided a response in a single document entitled Applicant Comments on Deadline 5 submissions [EN010163/EX/8.56]. This document addresses both the “comments on responses to ExQ2s” and “comments on deadline 5 submissions” listed in the Rule 8 letter.

The ExA will note that the Applicant has not responded to every document received at Deadline 5. Where the Applicant has not responded, this is due to the Applicant considering that its submissions on the matter have been clear to date and that no further clarification or confirmation is required in relation to that submission. An omission to respond should not be taken as agreement to the point being raised by the other party.

2. Comments on the ExA's dDCO

The Applicant has submitted a document entitled “the applicant’s response to the ExA’s commentary on the dDCO” [EN010163/EX/8.59]. This has set out the Applicant’s position regarding the points raised. Where the Applicant has accepted points raised by the ExA, it has updated the dDCO accordingly.

3. Closing Summary Statement

The Applicant has provided a closing statement [EN010163/EX/8.57] in relation to the Application. This does not seek to provide new material into examination but does present the Applicant’s final position in relation to a number of outstanding matters.

4. Statements of Common Ground (SoCG) between Applicant and certain IPs

The Applicant has submitted signed SOCGs with the following parties:

- a. Anglian Water [EN010163/EX/8.31]
- b. Nottinghamshire County Council [EN010163/EX/8.40]
- c. Natural England [EN010163/EX/8.32]
- d. Historic England [EN010163/EX/8.51]

The Applicant has not submitted an SoCG with Network Rail or NGET. The Applicant considers that the positions between the parties are adequately represented in the Section 127 Report as updated in response to the Examining Authority’s Rule 17 request date 02 April 2026.

“Annex E” Documents

5. Statement of Commonality [EN010163/EX/8.5]

6. Guide to the Application [EN010163/EX/1.2]

7. Development Consent Order and Explanatory Memorandum

The Applicant has provided an updated Development Consent Order to respond to changes proposed by the ExA in their commentary on the DCO, as well as provide updates in relation to Schedule 10 to respond to ongoing negotiations with statutory undertakers. The Applicant has provided the following documents as part of this update:

- a. Draft Development Consent Order [EN010163/EX/3.1]
- b. Explanatory Memorandum [EN010163/EX/3.2]

c. Schedule of Changes to the DCO [EN010163/EX/8.20]

8. Land Rights Tracker [EN010163/EX/8.6].

The Applicant has provided an updated Land Rights Tracker [EN010163/EX/8.6].

As part of this refresh, the Applicant has updated the Statement of Reasons [EN010163/APP/4.1] to remove the engagement tracker that was in Appendix 1 and 2 and that document in favour of the Land Rights Tracker. It was considered that this would aid comprehension across the final application documents.

9. Book of Reference [EN010163/APP/4.3]

A revised Book of Reference [EN010163/APP/4.3] has been submitted at Deadline 6. This has been revised as a result of a land refresh. The only updates relate to minor changes on titles, such as the inclusion of a new charge on a title. A Schedule of Changes for the Book of Reference has also been provided [EN010163/EX/8.8].

10. Consents and Agreements Position Statement [EN010163/APP/5.9]

A revised Consents and Agreements Position Statement [EN010163/APP/5.9] has been provided at Deadline 6 to include the consent obtained from Trent Valley Internal Drainage Board for the disapplication of Section 23 of the Land and Drainage Act 1991 within the dDCO plus reference to the Natural England issue of a Letter of No Impediment which was submitted at Deadline 5.

The letter of consent from the Internal Drainage Board has been submitted separately [EN010163/EX/8.58].

11. Documents not submitted:

The Applicant has not submitted an updated Report on the Interrelationship with Other National Infrastructure Projects. This report was last submitted at Deadline 3 in clean [REP3-033] and track [REP3-034]. The Applicant does not consider there to be any substantive amendment since Deadline 3 warranting an update to the report and therefore no updated version has been provided at Deadline 6.

Any further information requested by the ExA under rule 17 of the Examination Procedure Rules

12. Applicant Response to Rule 17 Letter dated 2 April 2026 [EN010163/EX/8.60]

The Applicant has set out its responses to the Rule 17 Letter [PD-010] provided by the ExA and dated 02 April 2026 in the above document. This response has necessitated a number of changes to other submission documents including:

- a. Chapter 7: Ecology and Biodiversity [EN010163/APP/6.2.7]
- b. Planning Statement [EN010163/EX/7.1]
- c. Information to Inform a Habitats Regulations Assessment [EN010163/EX/5.5]
- d. Section 127 / 138 Report [EN010163/EX/8.54]

In addition, the Applicant has amended the outline Landscape Ecology Management Plan [EN010163/APP/6.3.7] to provide additional clarity on skylark mitigation.

“Non-Rule 8” Submissions

13. Outline Written Scheme of Investigation for Post Consent Archaeological Works [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]

This has been amended to respond to comments from NCC, as set out in the Applicant’s comments on Deadline 5 submissions.

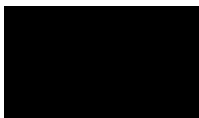
14. Magnitude Surveys Geophysical Survey Report [EN010163/APP/6.3.9]

The Applicant has submitted a tracked copy of the survey reports submitted in clean only at Deadline 5. This represents no change from Deadline 5 but it was thought would aid reference for the ExA.

15. West Burton Power Stations Plan [EN010163/EX/8.61]

The Applicant has submitted the West Burton Power Station Plan which is required to be certified pursuant to the protective provisions provided for the benefit of UKAEA and UKFE at Part 12 of Schedule 10 of the DCO.

Yours sincerely



Will Bridges
DCO Lead Developer
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