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20 November 2025

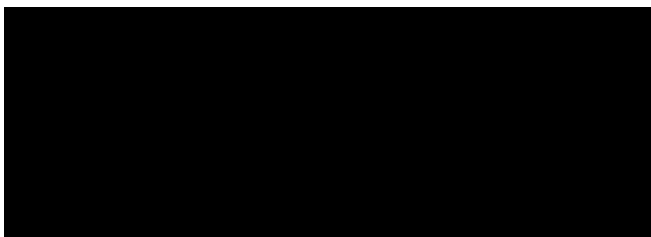
Lime Down Solar Park – Applicant's response to advice and observations provided at Acceptance

Dear Ms Allen,

I'm writing following acceptance of the Development Consent Order ('DCO') application for the Lime Down Solar Park. As you will be aware, advice under Section 51 of the Planning Act 2008 was provided alongside observations contained in the Planning Inspectorate's Section 55 checklist.

The Applicant's response to the advice and observations provided is set out in the attached table. If the Planning Inspectorate would like to discuss the Applicant's responses, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,



Will Threlfall
Senior Project Development Manager
On behalf of Lime Down Solar Park Limited



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Applicant's Response to advice provided under Section 51 of the Planning Act 2008

Advice under Section 51	Applicant's Response
<p>Relevant Representation Period</p> <p>The Inspectorate considers that there is some merit in Wiltshire Council's observations that the targeted consultation publicised in the Applicant's 'Summer Newsletter' may have appeared to be closed to the general public to comment on. On that basis we encourage the applicant to take a precautionary approach to the timeframe for the relevant representations period, in order to allow sufficient opportunity for people to review the additional material included within the targeted consultation and to register an interest in the application.</p>	<p>The Applicant has agreed to provide an extended relevant representation period beyond the minimum statutory timeframe. However, the Applicant's firm view remains that the general public was provided with a proportionate and reasonable opportunity to provide feedback on the changes that formed part of the Targeted Consultation, which was undertaken in accordance with the relevant principles set out in the Statement of Community Consultation. A draft of the Statement of Community Consultation was shared with Wiltshire Council for feedback, and Wiltshire Council confirmed in its Adequacy of Consultation Representation that the approach set out in the Statement of Community Consultation was sufficient. As set out in the Consultation Report [APP-022], a draft of the Applicant's proposed approach to Targeted Consultation was also shared with Wiltshire Council and</p>

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	<p>South Gloucestershire Council, and feedback was provided and incorporated before the Targeted Consultation period commenced.</p> <p>While some members of the community may have suggested to Wiltshire Council that the Targeted Consultation was not open to members of the public, this was not correct. The Summer Newsletter clearly set out how members of the community could participate, as shown in the excerpt provided by Wiltshire Council in its Adequacy of Consultation Representation, under the heading "How to provide your comments":</p> <p><i>"You can submit your comments on our proposed localised changes until 23:59 on 11 July 2025. Your feedback can be provided online via the Project website, in writing or via email. Please visit www.limesdownsolar.co.uk or contact us via our communication lines to find out more."</i></p>

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	<p>It was also open to any member of the public who received this newsletter to contact the Applicant team to clarify if they were able to provide feedback by phone, email, post, or visiting the website, as set out on the last page of the Summer Newsletter.</p> <p>As set out in the Consultation Report [APP-022] (with examples attached to that report), the Summer Newsletter was also only one source of information about the Targeted Consultation, with information on how to provide feedback also being provided through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Written notifications to all prescribed consultees under section 42 of the Planning Act 2008;• Notifying properties in the immediate vicinity of the changes;• Contacting ward members, MPs, parish councils, community groups, and gateway organisations representing localised communities;• Notifying all parties that had registered to be kept informed by email and by post;

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Distributing the press release containing details of the consultation to regional and local media;• Hosting a webinar to present the changes and host a question and answer session;• The website; and• Printed copies of materials at four Community Access Points. <p>It is not unusual for fewer responses to be provided at Targeted Consultation compared to the Statutory Consultation particularly where it related to discrete aspects of the Scheme. Given the relatively small and localised changes the Targeted Consultation related to, 204 submissions demonstrated a good level of engagement on the proposed changes to the Scheme.</p>
<p>Environmental Statement (ES) Wording</p> <p>The wording throughout the ES documents often do not make it clear what part of the proposed development is being discussed. Please review the documentation and</p>	<p>If the Planning Inspectorate is referring to specific documents, please let the Applicant know in order that these can be reviewed accordingly.</p>

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<p>make sure that it is clear what is being referred to, i.e. solar panels, BESS and/ or the cable corridor. This is often the case when referring to area 'D' which contains both solar panels and the BESS.</p>	<p>Notwithstanding, the Applicant will ensure that existing and additional text within documents being updated and resubmitted through the Examination stage clearly identify which area and/or element of the Scheme is being referred to.</p>
<p>Flood Zones</p> <p>The Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) and Drainage Strategy (ES Appendix 11-1 to 11-9) does not differentiate between Flood Zones 3a and 3b. The FRA should clarify which of these flood zones the relevant parts of the site fall into and display this on a figure.</p>	<p>Flood Zones 3a and 3b are not differentiated in the Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy [APP-210 to APP-218] as the Environment Agency does not publish a Flood Zone 3b dataset nationally.</p> <p>Only small peripheral areas of Lime Down D (along Gauze Brook and an Unnamed Main River) and Lime Down E2 (along Gabriel's Well) fall within the Flood Zone 3 extent. Based on a review of the National Flood Risk Assessment (NAFRA2) mapping and local topography, these areas are unlikely to function as Flood Zone 3b.</p> <p>The Cable Route Corridor only intersects Flood Zone 3 at isolated crossing points. The flood risk to all parcels has been assessed, and these areas are low risk from a fluvial</p>

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	<p>perspective in line with standard assessment approaches. The embedded mitigation, particularly the site layout offsets, provides further confidence that no development is within functional floodplain. Given the approach has been agreed with the Environment Agency through consultation the Applicant does not propose to amend the Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy [APP-210 to APP-218].</p>
<p>Labelling of watercourses</p> <p>The FRA and Drainage Strategy (ES Appendix 11-1 to 11-9) provide sections setting out the site conditions and locations of waterbodies in the area. Figures have been provided displaying watercourses and bodies for each of the 'sites'. The names of watercourses and bodies have not been labelled on all these figures although where relevant, the location has been described in the text. The FRA should provide appropriate figures displaying labels for all named watercourses and bodies.</p>	<p>The Applicant will update the Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy set out at ES Volume 3, Appendix 11-1 to 11-9 [APP-210 to APP-218] to include labelling of the watercourses shown, and resubmit the documents at Deadline 1.</p>

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<p>File naming conventions</p> <p>It would assist the Inspectorate if the applicant could name the document files with relevant details to allow for a smoother, and swifter publication process. Eg instead of '6.2 Figure 11-3 Lime Down C1 Flood Risk Map', could you consider adding that Figure 11-3 is part of the Environmental Statement and the volume number. For example, '6.2 ES, Volume 2, Figure 11-3 Lime Down C1 Flood Risk Map'.</p>	<p>The Applicant notes this comment and will adjust the file naming system used for updated Environmental Statement (ES) documents submitted during Examination. This will be in accordance with the format suggested by the Planning Inspectorate to include ES Volume numbering.</p> <p>The Applicant does not propose to amend the file naming system used for ES documents already submitted to the Planning Inspectorate.</p>
<p>Cover sheets</p> <p>The applicant is advised to ensure that documents include cover sheets for ease of use during examination. E.g. ES Appendix 11-3.</p>	<p>The Applicant has reviewed documents submitted on 19 September 2025 and it appears that only ES Volume 3, Appendix 11-3 Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy - Lime Down B [APP-212] was missing a cover sheet.</p> <p>The Applicant will update and resubmit ES Volume 3, Appendix 11-3 Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage</p>

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	<p>Strategy - Lime Down B [APP-212] at Deadline 1 and include a cover sheet.</p> <p>The Applicant will ensure that cover sheets are included in all documents submitted going forwards, although note that ES Volume 2 figures do not have cover sheets.</p>
<p>PDF metadata</p> <p>The applicant is advised to check the metadata within PDF documents so that the name of the file matches the metadata. If these two differ it can affect how the document appears when published on to a website.</p>	<p>The Applicant has reviewed the documents submitted on 19 September 2025 and confirms that there were a limited number of cases where metadata remained within submitted documents.</p> <p>The Applicant does not propose to update and resubmit documents which include metadata, however, will ensure that metadata is removed from all documents submitted in the Examination stage.</p>
<p>Consultees identified on a precautionary basis</p> <p>Given the individual circumstances of this case, the Inspectorate advises taking a precautionary approach to consultation under s42(1)(a) of PA2008 to ensure that all</p>	<p>The Applicant does not consider that the bodies listed in Box 6 of the Section 55 Checklist fall within s56(2)(a) (for example, as they do not have any apparatus within the Order limits).</p>

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<p>persons potentially affected by, or potentially likely to have an interest in the application, are given the opportunity to participate fully in the examination of the application. On this basis, the applicant may wish to serve notice on the bodies listed in Box 6 of the section 55 checklist when it serves notice of the accepted application under s56(2)(a) of the PA2008; unless there is a specific justification why this is not necessary.</p>	<p>However, the Applicant has taken a precautionary approach and served these consultees with notice under s56(2)(a) of the Planning Act 2008.</p>
<p>Minor errors and omissions</p> <p>There are examples of minor errors and omissions, as reflected in Box 30 of the acceptance checklist which the applicant is advised to act on. These are not exhaustive so please review the entire documentation prior to submission.</p>	<p>The minor errors and omissions identified have been addressed below. Where no immediate correction is proposed, an explanation has been provided.</p>

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Applicant's Response to observations provided under Section 55 of the Planning Act 2008

Observations under Section 55	Applicant's Response
Land Plan (Doc 2.2) and Book of Reference (Doc 4.3) There are minor errors in the plans including the use of relevant road names, e.g. Reference 01-021 is described in the Book of Reference (Doc 4.3) as to 'the west of Tetbury Road', however from the plan information available it appears to be west of Farnhill Lane.	The Applicant will amend the use of descriptors in the next version of the Land Plan [APP-006] and/or Book of Reference [APP-020] submitted into the Examination.
Works Plan (Doc 2.3) There are minor errors in the plans e.g. the markings of 10a and sheet 6 appear to be incorrect.	The Applicant will amend the Works Plan [APP-007] error which appears on the label on sheet 7. Work No 10B was incorrectly labelled as 10A. The amended Works Plan [APP-007] will be resubmitted at Deadline 1.
Draft Development Consent Order (dDCO) (Doc 3.1) Sch 4 (article 8, page 48) of dDCO refers to areas marked in purple or green on the Street Plan (Doc 2.4). However, on	Schedule 4 of the Draft DCO [APP-016] identifies areas subject to street works, as marked purple in the Streets Plan [APP-008] . The corresponding powers under Article 8

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Observations under Section 55	Applicant's Response
<p>the specific sheets these are marked in purple and green alternating lines.</p> <p>Requirement 5(4) states works within Work No.5 must accord with the parameters within Table 2-5 of the design principles and parameters plan – this should be Table 2-4 as Table 2-5 relates to Work No.6.</p>	<p>enable the undertaker to carry out a range of activities including breaking open the street, drilling, tunnelling or boring, placing apparatus, and repairing, replacing or altering the street's surface.</p> <p>Schedule 5 of the Draft DCO [APP-016] identifies both permanent and temporary alterations of streets, as marked green in the Streets Plan [APP-008]. The corresponding powers under Article 10 include altering the level or width of any kerb, footway, cycle track or verge, making and maintaining passing places, and altering, removing, replacing or relocating street furniture.</p> <p>As the powers conferred under Article 8 and Article 10 are distinct, any streets that have been identified with both purple and green alternating lines are subject to both types of powers. For that reason, no corrections are proposed to the Streets Plan [APP-008].</p>

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	The Applicant will correct the reference at Requirement 5(4) from Table 2-5 to Table 2-4 of the Design Principles and Parameters [APP-269] at Deadline 1.
<p>Statement of Reasons (Doc 4.1)</p> <p>The document does not clearly set out whether affected parties were sent the Statement of Reasons. Other documents regarding compulsory acquisition and affected parties were provided.</p> <p>Para 1.4.4 refers to land edged black on the Land Plan as that where powers are sought to suspend rights and override other rights (Art.25 and 27 of the DCO). Note: para 5.6.1 confirms that this power applies to all plots where CA/TP is sought (that is those shaded pink, blue and yellow) and so would exclude the National Grid Substations shown on Sheet 16 (DCO 2.2) however this area is also edged black.</p>	<p>All affected parties have been notified of the acceptance of the DCO application pursuant to s56(2)(d) of the Planning Act 2008. The notice contained the prescribed details, including where copies of the DCO application documents, such as the Statement of Reasons [APP-018], are available to view and download.</p> <p>The Applicant notes that the reference to "land edged black" in the Executive Summary of the Statement of Reasons [APP-018] is unclear (as the black edging to the blue plots surrounding plot 16-020 also edges plot 16-020). As has been noted, paragraph 5.6.1 of the Statement of Reasons [APP-018] refers to powers to suspend and override private rights and states that "<i>Article 25 of the draft DCO is relied upon in respect of this land and apply in relation</i></p>

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	<i>to land in which compulsory acquisition or temporary possession are proposed (that is, land shaded pink, blue or yellow on the Land Plan [EN010168/APP/2.2])". This is consistent with the drafting of Article 25 in the draft DCO [APP-016] which refers only to land subject to compulsory acquisition and temporary possession powers (i.e. the land shown coloured pink, blue and yellow on the Land Plans and excluding the National Grid Substation).</i>
Land and Rights Negotiation Tracker (Doc 4.4) Tables from page 11 onwards are of insufficient size for clear readability.	The Applicant will amend the font size in the next version of the Land and Rights Negotiation Tracker [APP-021] submitted into the Examination.
Environmental Statement (Doc 6.1) Chapter 3 Para 3.3.52 of ES Chapter 3 refers to the cable route corridor being up to 665m in width whereas in para 4.6.11 of Chapter 4 of the ES this is cited as being up to 600.	The Applicant confirms that ES Volume 1 Chapter 4 Alternatives and Design Evolution [APP-056] should state up to 665m. As this is a minor error, the Applicant does not propose to update and resubmit this document. However, should any substantive amendments be required

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Observations under Section 55	Applicant's Response
	to this document at a later stage, the Applicant will correct this error at that time.
<p>Environmental Statement (Doc 6.1) Chapter 9</p> <p>There is a missing reference in the second column of ID 3.3.2.</p> <p>Paragraph 9.9.3 refers to the "Schedule of Protective Ecological Buffers" as Appendix 9.9. The correct reference is Appendix 9.8.</p>	<p>The Applicant confirms that this reference is to Table 9-2 of ES Volume 1 Chapter 9 Ecology and Biodiversity [APP-061]. Whilst the table numbering is missing from the reference itself, it is hyperlinked correctly to Table 9-2 of ES Volume 1 Chapter 9 Ecology and Biodiversity [APP-061].</p> <p>The Applicant also confirms that Paragraph 9.9.3 of ES Volume 1 Chapter 9 Ecology and Biodiversity [APP-061] should refer to 'ES Volume 3, Appendix 9.8 Schedule of Protective Ecological Buffers [EN010168/APP/6.3]'.</p> <p>As these are minor errors, the Applicant does not propose to update and resubmit ES Volume 1 Chapter 9 Ecology and Biodiversity [APP-061]. However, should any substantive amendments be required to this document at a later stage, the Applicant will correct this error at that time.</p>

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Observations under Section 55	Applicant's Response
<p>Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) Assessment Appendix Statutory Biodiversity Metric Calculation</p> <p>This document has been provided as a pdf with static 'screen shots' of the metric. An Excel spreadsheet would be useful.</p>	<p>The Applicant will submit an Excel version of the BNG calculation for the Examining Authority's information at Deadline 1.</p>
<p>Environmental Statement (Doc 6.1) Chapter 11</p> <p>The cover sheet for Appendix 11-3 is missing.</p>	<p>The Applicant will update and resubmit ES Volume 3 Appendix 11-3 Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy - Lime Down B [APP-212] to include a cover sheet at Deadline 1.</p> <p>The Applicant will ensure that cover sheets are included in all documents submitted (apart from ES volume 2 figures) going forward.</p>
<p>Environmental Statement (Doc 6.1) Chapter 12</p> <p>Paragraphs 13.8.1 and 13.10.1 of chapter 12 do not contain text or references to the location of information.</p>	<p>The Applicant understands that the Planning Inspectorate is referring to ES Volume 1 Chapter 13 Transport and Access [APP-065], rather than ES Volume 1 Chapter 12 Cultural Heritage [APP-064] in this comment.</p>

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Observations under Section 55	Applicant's Response
	<p>The references in both Paragraph 13.8.1 and 13.10.1 should be to Section 13.9. Whilst the section numbering is missing from the references themselves, these are hyperlinked correctly to Section 13.9 of ES Volume 1 Chapter 13 Transport and Access [APP-065].</p> <p>As these are minor errors, the Applicant does not propose to update and resubmit ES Volume 1 Chapter 13 Transport and Access [APP-065]. However, should any substantive amendments be required to this document at a later stage, the Applicant will correct this error at that time.</p>
<p>Environmental Statement (Doc 6.1) Appendix 1.2</p> <p>While the presentation of the Planning Inspectorate's Scoping Opinion responses in Table 1 is acceptable, it would improve clarity and usability if the Scoping ID numbers from the Scoping Opinion were also included in Table 1.</p>	<p>The Applicant will update Table 1 of ES Volume 3 Appendix 1-2 Scoping Opinion Response Table [APP-181] to include Scoping ID numbers and resubmit the document at Deadline 1.</p>

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Observations under Section 55	Applicant's Response
<p>Statement of Need (Doc 7.1)</p> <p>Labelling/ formatting error – paragraph 5.10.15 refers to a 'blue arrow' as shown on Figure 12 but is purple.</p> <p>The legend/ key (used to define the arrow and diamond) as shown on Figure 12 has overlapped with the main image and may currently be interpreted as identifying a specific point on the chart</p>	<p>The Applicant will update the Statement of Need [APP-266] in order that Paragraph 5.10.15 refers to a purple arrow, rather than blue. In addition Figure 12 of the Statement of Need [APP-266] will be amended to separate the legend and content of the figure. The amended document will be resubmitted at Deadline 1.</p>
<p>Habitat Regulations Assessment Report (Doc 7.10)</p> <p>The HRA report refers to the Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) as Document 7.18. Document 7.18 is the Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP). The correct reference for the CEMP is Document 7.12.</p>	<p>The Applicant confirms that references to the Outline CEMP in the Habitat Regulations Assessment Report [APP-275] use the incorrect document number and should instead refer to 'EN010168/APP/7.12'.</p> <p>As these are minor errors, the Applicant does not propose to update and resubmit the Habitat Regulations Assessment Report [APP-275]. However, should any substantive amendments be required to this document at a later stage, the Applicant will correct this error at that time.</p>