By email to:
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[redacted]
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03 November 2026

Dear Sir/Madam,

Meridian Solar Farm Limited EN10169
Lincolnshire County Council — Late Submission for Deadline 3
Comments on Deadline 2 documents
IP No. [redacted]

Further to the submission of our Deadline 3 comments on 27 October 2026, comprising our response to ExQ1 and comments on DL2 documents, Lincolnshire County Council highlighted that, due to a combination of time constraints and unforeseen illness, we were unable to provide comments in respect of certain matters. The Council therefore respectfully requests that the comments set out in this letter and the two Appendices can be accepted into the Examination as a late submission for DL3.

There are three matters which are addressed in this submission:

1. Response to ExQ1 relating to the Outline Flood Emergency Response Plan (ExQ 19.0.17) and Safety of Workers in construction compounds (ExQ 19.0.18)
2. LCC's comments on the applicant's response to the Council's LIR with respect to LVIA matters (comments provided by AAH consultants)
3. LCC's comments on the applicant's response to the Council's LIR with specific reference to Appendix ii – RAC report on Soils and Agriculture.

With respect to the third matter, while comments on the applicant's review of the Council's LIR were made with respect to the section on Soils and Agriculture in the main body of the report, we inadvertently omitted to include specific comments relating to the applicant's review of the RAC technical report at Appendix ii of our LIR. Whilst there is a degree of overlap between the comments relating to the main body of the LIR text and the Appendix ii RAC report, we hope these additional comments are helpful to the ExA and the applicant. Please accept our apologies for this oversight.

1. Response to ExQ1 relating to Outline Flood Emergency Response Plan (ExQ 19.0.17) and Safety of Workers in construction compounds (ExQ 19.0.18).

ExQ 19.0.17 Outline Flood Emergency Response Plan

The Outline Flood Emergency Response Plan has been reviewed by LCC's Emergency Planning and Business Continuity team who have provided the following comments and observations on the document.

- Pg 9 – South Holland Main Drain Catchment – Unsure if there is a flood warning if the drain itself breaches or overtops, our understanding is that fluvial flood alerts and warnings relate to local watercourses and rivers that the EA maintain. Suggest that it would be worthwhile liaising with one of the IDB's that cover that area.
- Pg 29 – Concern that during the construction phase there is anticipated to be a maximum of 855 construction staff using the site per day and across the 23 compounds (places of safety) proposed by the scheme, refuge could be provided for up to 368 personnel. If there is a need to evacuate the remaining 487 to enable the 368 to be accommodated in refuges, why are they not evacuating the whole site if an evacuation order is required? Section 3.7.3 – goes on to say that all staff would be evacuated from the site at the flood warning stage, so question why there would be 368 personnel being kept in a place of safety in those circumstances?
- Section 3.7.4 goes on to state that the Site Manager, on receipt of a Flood Warning, will assess whether all staff can be safely evacuated from the site to a designated evacuation point and that if a safe evacuation is not possible, then all staff go to the safe refuge cabins, which already cannot accommodate the daily work force as referred to above. Will staff know which group of evacuees they belong to, whether to stay on site, go to a safe refuge, or follow the egress route for each Land Parcel?
- Further clarity is required on the numbers that will remain on site or not and who takes responsibility for them – The Emergency Planning team suggests that the applicant provides further clarity on HSWA requirements in this regard. Section 3.7.7 suggests the Site Manager should consider zoning work areas to facilitate an evacuation procedure – we would suggest that something more robust than a simple statement should be provided in here.
- Section 3.7.11 – suggests that staff during an evacuation will assemble at designated locations on site to collect emergency equipment before safely exiting the site by vehicle. The text does not specify that this should be done if safe to do so, nor does it specify what the emergency equipment is – is this likely to be covered in staff training/briefing? It is usual when an emergency procedure is implemented that it is not further constrained by adding in various activities that need to be undertaken.
- Pg 34 makes references to off-site reservoir plans (prepared by the LLFA) – both reservoirs mentioned are outside LCC area and fall within Leicestershire & Rutland, so LCC LLFA would not produce the off-site plans. We would suggest that the applicant consults with the relevant authority for clarity on this.

ExQ 19.0.18 Safety of workers in construction compounds

This question concerns fluvial and coastal flood risk in Flood Zones 2 and 3. Lincolnshire County Council's role with respect to major developments is to provide technical advice on surface water flood risk and drainage. In the circumstances, LCC considers that the

Environment Agency are better positioned, as responsible authority, to provide a definitive response to this question.

2. LCC's comments on the Applicant's Review of LCC's Local Impact Report – Landscape and Visual Impact matters

AAH consultants have reviewed the applicant's comments on both the Council's Written Representation [REP2-014] and its Local Impact Report [REP2-015] on behalf of the Council. Their Technical Memorandum 9 AAH TM09) is attached to this submission, at Appendix A.

3. LCC's comments on the Applicant's Review of LCC's Local Impact Report – Soils and Agriculture – RAC Report Appendix ii to the LIR

Supplementary to the comments submitted at DL3 relating to the section on soils and agriculture in the main body of the LIR, RAC Consultants have undertaken a review of the Applicant's comments specifically on Appendix ii of the Council's LIR (the Report of Reading Agricultural Consultants). Their comments are provided in the report attached to this submission at Appendix B.

A copy of this letter and appendices has been sent to the applicant directly to enable them to review the late submission at the earliest opportunity in advance of the scheduled hearings next week.

We trust that the Examining Authority finds these comments helpful.

Yours faithfully,

[redacted]

On Behalf of
[redacted]
Head of Planning

Appendix A: AAH Report – Technical Memorandum 9 (AAG

Appendix B: RAC report – Review of Applicant's Comments on Local Impact Report Appendix ii ('Report of Reading Agricultural Consultants'), November 2026