



North
Northamptonshire
Council

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REIS Responses

February 2026

PINS Reference EN010170

LPA Reference NW/25/00239/EXT

NNC unique registration identification number F8DE03132

Proposal (summary): An application for a Development Consent Order to construct, operate, maintain and decommission the Green Hill Solar Farm

Location: Green Hill Solar Farm

RQ6: To SGHS, NE and NNC: Please confirm if you have further comments or concerns in relation to the applicant's survey data

NNC Response – In response to the answer regarding FLL and survey effort, we consider that the surveys undertaken use an appropriate methodology and at a level of detail that is sufficient to identify FLL that might be impacted by the proposals. This position is taken notwithstanding that some parcels of land have not been surveyed to the same extent or with the same timings as other land due to the late inclusion of these areas within the order limits, as the applicant has adopted a precautionary approach in the assessment of potential FLL in these areas.

RQ10: To WNC and NNC: Please comment on the timing of the availability of the proposed mitigation for FLL, set out in the applicant's updated OLEMP [REP3-062]

NNC Response – We consider it important that the proposed mitigation land is available and managed as mitigation land prior to the commencement of construction. The suitability of the land for use is not exclusively determined by availability as a physical space, but requires that suitable food sources have had the opportunity to colonise and develop sufficiently to act as a resource for wintering birds. The land required as mitigation is to compensate for the loss of land used as a winter feeding site. If the applicant maintains that the land set aside for mitigation already functions as a site that can provide for winter foraging, this should not be considered as mitigation, as no new land is provided to offset the loss. If the applicant is claiming that converting the land for mitigation post commencement is the intention, they should evidence the concept that the mitigation land will be able to offer an additional resource at a level sufficient to offset the loss of land without any time-lag.

RQ19: To NNC and SGHS: Please comment on the further measures identified by the applicant in the OBSSMP [REP1-143] in relation to your concerns on the SPA and Ramsar site.

NNC Response – As already stated, NNC Ecology is not able to comment on the technical solutions to the issue of fire control, and the containment of contaminants arising. We remain concerned to understand what the potential impacts of such an event are, notwithstanding the efforts that are being made to reduce the risk. Unless it is absolutely guaranteed that no contamination is possible, or reasonably so, this is an ongoing concern.