

Mark Harrison  
Lead Member of the Examining Authority  
The Planning Inspectorate

**Our ref:** XA/2024/100129/03  
**Interested Party No.** FA0BE702C  
**Your ref:** EN010170  
**Date:** 25 February 2026

Via email to:  
greenhill@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Dear Mark,

## **Green Hill Solar Farm – Examination Deadline 5**

### **Environment Agency response**

Thank you for consulting the Environment Agency.

We are satisfied with the Applicant's continued engagement with us on matters within the Statement of Common Ground for this Development Consent Order (DCO). We provide our updated position on such matters in Appendix 1. We believe it is likely that all matters which remain under discussion can be resolved by the close of the Examination.

### **Environment Agency update on disapplication**

We wish to confirm that the Applicant's request to disapply Flood Risk Activity Permits (FRAP) under the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016 has been deemed appropriate for the proposed development. For disapplication of FRAP to be acceptable, standard Protective Provisions in favour of the Environment Agency are required in the DCO, and the following conditions must also be met by the Applicant:

- All Main River crossings must use Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) methodology.
- The Wilby Flood Storage Area at NGR: SP8610865442 must be acknowledged in relevant documents, including the Crossings Register.

- Details must be provided that the Applicant's works do not impact Environment Agency assets.
- Ideally, we do not want the cable under the control structure/ reservoir wall, we would also prefer if it was further upstream in the storage area, in the event we wished to do works to the reservoir embankment. The Applicant should take heed of this comment.

We do not consider it necessary or appropriate for the scheme to require any amendments to our standard Protective Provisions. Our standard Protective Provisions should be included in the DCO instead of any amended iterations.

The Environment Agency's formal decision on the disapplication of FRAP, and the conditions set out above, have been provided to the Applicant in advance of Deadline 5. An update has also been included in the Applicant's draft Statement of Common Ground.

Yours sincerely,

**Siobhan Martin**  
**Planning Advisor – National Infrastructure team**  
Email: [NITeam@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:NITeam@environment-agency.gov.uk)

## Appendix 1 – Summary of Environment Agency Position

Subject	Work package	Baseline assessment / scope / surveys	Impact	Solution	Requirement	Status	EA Rel Reps ref no:
Ecology	Environmental Statement						EA/FBG/01, EA/FBG/03
	Outline Ecological Protection and Mitigation Strategy						EA/FBG/02
	Water Framework Directive Assessment						EA/FBG/04
Water Resources	Water Supply Strategy						EA/WR/01
Flood Risk	Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy						EA/FR/01, EA/FR/02, EA/FR/03, EA/FR/04, EA/FR/05, EA/FR/06
Surface and Ground Water Quality	Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan				Requested to be included as consultee in Requirement 13		EA/WQ/11
	Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan				Requested to be included as consultee in Requirement 14		EA/WQ/08, EA/WQ/09

	<b>Decommissioning and Restoration</b>				Requested to be included as consultee in Requirement 21	
	<b>Outline Battery Safety Management Plan</b>					EA/WQ/01, EA/WQ/02, EA/WQ/03, EA/WQ/08, EA/WQ/09
	<b>Foul Water Disposal Strategy</b>				Requested to be included as consultee in Requirement 11	EA/WQ/04
	<b>Environmental Statement</b>					EA/WQ/05, EA/WQ/06, EA/WQ/07, EA/WQ/08, EA/WQ/09, EA/WQ/10, EA/WQ/11, EA/WQ/12, EA/WQ/13
	<b>Water Framework Directive Assessment</b>					EA/WQ/14
	<b>Drainage Strategy</b>					EA/WQ/08, EA/WQ/09
	<b>Preliminary Risk Assessment for panel areas and BESS</b>					EA/WQ/15
	<b>Discovery Strategy</b>					EA/WQ/11

Permitting	Flood Risk Activity Permit (FRAP)						EA/FR/07 See comments above.
------------	-----------------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	---------------------------------

