

RWE Renewables UK Solar and Storage Ltd
Windmill Hill Business Park,
Whitehill Way,
Swindon, Wiltshire,
England,
SN5 6PB

The Planning Inspectorate
FAO Louise Harroway
Temple Quay House
2 The Square, Temple Quay
Bristol
BS1 6PN

23 April 2025

Dear Louise

High Grove Solar Farm – Planning Act 2008 Section 46: Duty to notify Secretary of State of a proposed Application

I am hereby notifying you under Section 46 of the Planning Act 2008 that RWE Renewables UK Limited ("the Applicant") intends to apply under Section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 ("the Act") for a Development Consent Order ("DCO") for the High Grove Solar Farm (the "Proposed Development").

The submission of the application will follow a period of statutory pre-application consultation carried out pursuant to section 42, section 47 and section 48 of the Act, the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedures) Regulations 2009 and the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017.

## **Summary of the Proposed Development**

The Proposed Development will comprise a solar farm capable of generating over 50 Megawatts (MW) Alternating Current (AC) of electricity. It comprises five distinct Panel Areas covering an area of approximately 1,700 hectares (ha), including solar photovoltaic (PV) panels, on-site Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS), underground cabling and associated infrastructure including substations and environmental mitigation and enhancement areas. The Proposed Development will also include underground Cable Corridors, which are still being refined, connecting the Panel Areas to one another and to the point of connection.

The Proposed Development will have the capacity to generate over 50MW of AC electricity. The Proposed Development is located between Narborough and Dereham in the county of Norfolk in the East of England.

In addition to the above, necessary rights and powers may be sought to ensure delivery of the Proposed Development, including compulsory acquisition and temporary use powers and, if required, powers to apply and/or disapply legislation relevant to the Proposed Development.

The Proposed Development is an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) development for the purposes of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment)

Regulations 2017. This means that the proposed works involved constitute development for which an EIA is required and the proposed application for a DCO will therefore be accompanied by an Environmental Statement.

## **Consultation Information**

The Applicant will be undertaking statutory pre-application consultation under Section 42 of the Act between 24 April 2025 and 12 June 2025.

Section 46 of the Act requires the Applicant to send to the Secretary of State the information that it intends to provide to consultees under Section 42 of the Act, on or before the Section 42 consultation.

Please treat this letter as notice to the Planning Inspectorate, and find enclosed:

- An example covering letter sent to consultees under Section 42 of the Act as follows:
  - consultees prescribed in Schedule 1 of the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedures) Regulations 2009
  - o host local authorities as defined in Section 43 of the Act
  - o neighbouring local authorities as defined in Section 43 of the Act
  - o categories 1 and 2 land interests as defined in Section 44 of the Act
  - non-statutory consultees
- Section 48 notice
- Site Location Plan

The consultation materials, including the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR), Non-Technical Summary, consultation brochure, feedback questionnaire and maps and plans can be found on the project website: rwe.com/Highgrove.

## **Consultation arrangements**

Consultation materials will be made available at a deposit location, at public consultation events and online at rwe.com/highgrove, as soon as the project launches on 24 April 2025.

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Further details of the consultation arrangements can be found on the website and in the enclosed Section 48 notice.

Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me using the details provided below or the project team on 01362 350 063.

Please acknowledge that this notice has been received as a record of compliance.

**Yours Sincerely** 



DCO Project Manager, High Grove Solar Farm

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