

The Droves Solar Farm

Consultation Report Appendix I: Targeted Consultation Overview and Supporting Materials

Prepared by: Copper Consultancy

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Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009





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1 Targeted consultation



1 Targeted consultation

1.1 Overview of the targeted consultation

- 1.1.1 Following the close of statutory consultation, the Applicant identified a number of localised changes to the Scheme boundary based on the findings of ongoing surveys and assessments.
- 1.1.2 Several design refinements were also made in response to continued technical work and feedback received during statutory consultation. A 'Project Update' was subsequently issued to inform the community of these refinements.
- 1.1.3 In total, four changes were identified and consulted upon, and three design refinements were shared as part of the 'Project Update'.

1.2 Proposed changes

- 1.2.1 The changes proposed by the Applicant are summarised below:
 - Change 1: Additional land to accommodate Skylark and Curlew mitigation
 - Change 2: Western extension to safely accommodate overhead line works
 - · Change 3: Provision for temporary alternative access to residential property; and
 - Change 4: Addition of land for safe visibility and temporary alternative access to residential property.

1.3 Approach to consultation

- 1.3.1 In determining how to consult on the proposed changes, the Applicant had regard to paragraph 20 of the Planning Act 2008 (PA 2008), Pre-application stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects, April 2024, which states:
 - "For any material change to a part of the proposed application where the project as a
 whole is not fundamentally changed, for example in the case of linear aspects where
 new information leads to a new alignment for a particular section of the proposal, a
 bespoke and targeted approach to further consultation can be adopted, which can
 address the specific consultation obligations arising proportionately."
- 1.3.2 The Applicant also had regard to Section 15 of the Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC, which states:
 - "If, as a result of feedback, we consider it necessary to undertake further targeted or supplementary consultation because proposals for the Scheme have changed, this will



be undertaken, so far as relevant and proportionate, in accordance with the principles and methods set out in this SoCC."

- 1.3.3 The Applicant considers that the proposed changes do not constitute fundamental alterations to the Scheme. Furthermore, the changes do not substantially change the conclusions of the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR).
- 1.3.4 Accordingly, the Applicant determined that a targeted 28-day consultation, directed towards those considered most likely to be affected by or to have a direct interest in the proposed changes, was appropriate.

1.4 Identifying consultees

- 1.4.1 The Applicant undertook a diligent enquiry process to identify land interests potentially affected by the proposed changes and adopted a strategy to carry out a targeted consultation with consultees engaged under Section 42(d) during the statutory consultation and any newly identified land interests associated with the changes.
- 1.4.2 In addition to those land interests consulted, the Applicant also consulted with:
 - New and existing 'near-neighbours', which were properties within 50m of the Scheme boundary
 - Statutory consultees previously identified and consulted under Section 42 of the PA 2008, as part of the statutory consultation, including host local authorities, host parish councils and technical stakeholders such as Natural England
 - Non-statutory consultees identified as those most likely to have a direct interest in the proposals due to local environmental, heritage, community and recreational considerations, such as the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds; and
 - The community of Castle Acre, given its proximity to the proposed changes.

1.5 Targeted consultation materials

- 1.5.1 The Applicant prepared a targeted consultation Information Leaflet, Annotated Map and Feedback Form to accompany the consultation. A Red Line Boundary Change Plan showing the Scheme boundary during statutory consultation and the proposed new boundary was also made available.
- 1.5.2 The Information Leaflet outlined the proposed changes and included maps illustrating each one. It also provided guidance on how to submit feedback and contact details for the project team for further information or assistance.
- 1.5.3 Copies of these materials are provided within this **Consultation Report Appendix I: Targeted Consultation Overview & Supporting Materials,** and were available on the Scheme website throughout the targeted consultation. Hard copies were also available



free of charge on request, and all materials could be provided in accessible formats, such as large print or braille, upon request.

1.6 Promoting the targeted consultation

1.6.1 The Applicant used a variety of methods to promote the consultation and encourage participants from the identified consultee groups. A summary of these activities is provided in **Table 1**, and copies of the letters and materials issued are provided as part of **Consultation Report – Appendix I: Targeted Consultation Overview & Supporting Materials**.

Table 1 Methods to promote the targeted consultation by consultee group

Consultee group	Overview
Landowners identified under	Letters were issued by post on 29 August 2025 explaining why recipients were being contacted, how to provide feedback, and where to access further information.
Section 42(d)	Each letter included a Red Line Boundary Change Plan showing the Scheme boundary presented at statutory consultation and the revised boundary, along with an Annotated Map summarising the proposed changes (see Section 5).
New and existing 'near-neighbours	Letters were issued by post on 29 August 2025 to properties identified within 50m of the Scheme boundary. The letters explained why the recipients were being contacted, how to provide feedback, and where to find further information. Each letter included a Map (see Section 5) and a Feedback Form (see Section 4).
Statutory consultees	Letters were posted on 29 August 2025 explaining the purpose of the consultation, how to respond, and where to find further information. Each letter included a Red Line Boundary Change Plan showing the previous and revised Scheme boundaries and a Map summarising the proposed changes (see Section 5). Copies of the correspondence and materials were also sent via email, where an appropriate contact address could be identified.
Non-statutory consultees were identified as those most likely to	Letters were issued via email on 2 September 2025 to selected non-statutory consultees, inviting them to



have a direct interest in the proposals	participate in the consultation and offering a briefing meeting. Each email also included a copy of the Map (see Section 5) and the Information Leaflet (see Section 3).
The community of Castle Acre	Given the location of the proposed changes in the northern extent of the Scheme, close to Castle Acre, and the level of engagement from this community during the statutory consultation, the Applicant worked with Castle Acre Parish Council to promote the targeted consultation and encourage local participation.
	The Applicant produced a consultation leaflet inviting members of the Castle Acre community to participate. The leaflet was shared with Castle Acre Parish Council on 11 September 2025 and subsequently distributed throughout the village to raise awareness and encourage feedback.
	Correspondence with Castle Acre Parish Council was ongoing throughout the consultation period, and the Applicant also understands that the consultation was discussed at the Parish Council meeting on 11 September 2025.

1.6.2 In recognition that stakeholders outside the targeted groups might also wish to participate or provide feedback, the Applicant utilised the methods outlined in **Table 2** to reach a wider audience.

Table 2 Other methods used to promote the targeted consultation

Method used	Description
	The Scheme website was updated on 3 September 2025 to coincide with the launch of the targeted consultation (see Section 6).
Website updates	The update notified visitors that the consultation was live and provided details on how to submit feedback, including links to the document page where materials were hosted and to the online Feedback Form.
Hosting of materials at a local information point	For continuity with the statutory consultation, Swaffham Library (The Pightle, Swaffham, PE37 7DF) hosted hard copies of the targeted consultation materials throughout the consultation period. The Applicant conducted regular checks to ensure materials were available, and no additional send-outs were required.



1.7 Engagement as part of the targeted consultation

1.7.1 Prior to the start of the targeted consultation, the Applicant met with Breckland District Council and the Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk to provide an overview of the proposed changes and discuss the scope of the targeted consultation, including who the Applicant proposed to consult and the methods of doing so. A summary of this engagement is provided in **Table 3**.

Table 3 Summary of pre-targeted consultation meetings

Date	Stakeholder attendees (name / organisation)	Meeting summary
21 August 2025	NSIP Team Leader, Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk Senior Planner, Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk Principal Conservation Officer, Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk	The project team presented the proposed changes for the targeted consultation. Officers welcomed the early sight of materials and the refinements to the substation and BESS locations.
26 August 2025	Director of Planning and Building Control, Breckland District Council Head of Development Management, Breckland District Council	The project team outlined the proposed changes for the targeted consultation. Breckland Council officers were supportive of the approach.

- 1.7.2 Throughout the targeted consultation period, the Applicant continued to engage with stakeholders and respond to enquiries via official channels, including the managed inbox.
- 1.7.3 In addition to this engagement, the Applicant also met with representatives from Castle Acre Parish Council. A summary of this engagement is provided below.



1.7.4

Table 4 Summary of meeting with Castle Acre Parish Council

Date	Stakeholder attendees (name / organisation)	Meeting summary
24 September 2025	Chair, Castle Acre Parish Council Councillor, Castle Acre Parish Council Councillor Castle Acre Parish Council	The project team delivered a short presentation outlining the proposed changes and updates, followed by a Q&A session. Discussion focused on the protection of curlew, the management of Bartholomew's Wood, and potential archaeological assets within the Site.

1.8 Targeted consultation feedback

- 1.8.1 Respondents to the targeted consultation were able to provide their responses in the following ways:
 - completing the Feedback Form online, which could be accessed via the Scheme website: www.drovessolarfarm.co.uk
 - completing a printed Feedback Form, which could be collected from the local information point or on request by contacting the Community Relations Team; completed forms could, scanned and emailed back to info@drovessolarfarm.co.uk, or sent to FREEPOST THE DROVES SOLAR FARM (no stamp or further details required)
 - · emailing comments to info@drovessolarfarm.co.uk; and
 - writing to FREEPOST THE DROVES SOLAR FARM (no stamp or further details required).
- 1.8.2 All feedback received has been reviewed and responded to by the Applicant, and a full schedule of responses is provided as part of **Appendix I: Targeted Consultation Overview & Supporting Materials** (see **Section 8**).

2 Letters issued to stakeholders inviting participation in the targeted consultation









2nd September 2025

Dear Sir/Madam,

Invitation to Participate in Targeted Consultation – The Droves Solar Farm

Following the close of statutory consultation for The Droves Solar Farm on Wednesday 9 July 2025, we have been reviewing the feedback received and continuing to carry out further surveys and assessments to inform the final proposals, which we will submit as part of our application for a Development Consent Order (DCO).

As a result of the feedback received and the findings of ongoing surveys and assessments, a number of localised changes to the proposed development boundary have been identified. We are therefore inviting you to participate in a **targeted consultation** to share your views on these proposed changes.

The consultation will run from **Wednesday 3 September until 23:59 on Wednesday 1 October 2025**. You are receiving this letter as an identified organisation who we think would be beneficial to consult as we refine our design proposals further.

About the Project

The Project would comprise approximately 840 hectares of land and include a solar photovoltaic (PV) and battery energy storage system (BESS), located north of Swaffham and south of Castle Acre in West Norfolk. If consented, the Project would have the capacity to generate approximately 500 MWac of renewable electricity, enough to power approximately 115,000 homes each year.

As the proposed generation capacity for The Droves Solar Farm is anticipated to be 500 MWac, it exceeds the 50 MW threshold to be classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP).

Changes being consulted on

The targeted consultation focuses on a number of localised changes to the Project's proposed development boundary. These changes reflect feedback received during statutory consultation, as well as ongoing environmental surveys and assessments.

The changes being consulted on are as follows:

- Change 1 approximately 90 hectares of additional land has been included to the north of the Site to support mitigation for Skylark and Curlew, following ecological surveys which confirmed their presence.
- Change 2 additional land has been included at the western extent of the Site to provide adequate space in which to safely carry works to the existing overhead line.
- Change 3 additional land has been included to allow for temporary alternative access to affected residential property along Petticoat Drove and Washpit Drove.
- **Change 4** additional land has been included either side of the junction between Washpit Drove and Low Road to accommodate potential hedgerow removal, should









this be required to ensure safe visibility for residents using the alternative route (see Change 3) during temporary closures.

A plan showing the changes to the proposed development boundary is enclosed with this letter. An annotated map, designed for community use ('the Targeted Consultation Map'), is also available and highlights the areas affected by each change, as well as a number of design refinements ('updates') that have been made.

Further details on each change and update are set out in the Information Leaflet, which can be accessed via the Documents Library on the Project website: www.drovessolarfarm.co.uk/#documents.

Printed copies of the Information Leaflet, the Map of Proposed Boundary Changes, and the Feedback Form are available to collect from Swaffham Library (details below), or can be provided on request by contacting our Community Relations Team.

Swaffham Library, The Pightle, Swaffham, PE37 7DF

How to Respond to This Consultation

Responses must be received no later than 23:59 on Wednesday, 1 October 2025.

When submitting your response, please include your name and contact details (postal or email address), and confirm your interest in the Project.

You can submit your response in any of the following ways:

- By email to: info@drovessolarfarm.co.uk
- By completing the online feedback form at: www.drovessolarfarm.co.uk
- By post to: FREEPOST THE DROVES SOLAR FARM (no stamp required)

Further Information

If you have any questions about this letter, the targeted consultation, or the Project, please contact our Community Relations Team:

- Email: info@drovessolarfarm.co.uk
- Freephone: 0800 0129 154 (Monday-Friday, 9:00-17:30)

Yours faithfully Harman Sond

Project Development Manager On behalf of The Droves Solar Farm Limited







2nd September 2025

Dear Sir/Madam

Section 42 of the Planning Act 2008 ("the Act"), Regulation 3 of the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009, and Regulations 11 and 13 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 ("the 2017 Regulations")

Following the close of statutory consultation for The Droves Solar Farm ('the Scheme') on Wednesday 9 July 2025, The Droves Solar Farm Limited ('the Applicant') has been reviewing and considering all consultation feedback and continuing to carry out further environmental surveys and assessments to inform the final proposals, which will be submitted as part of an application for a Development Consent Order (DCO).

As a result of feedback received, and the findings of ongoing surveys and assessments, a number of localised changes to the proposed development boundary have been identified. The Applicant is therefore undertaking a targeted consultation to seek any further views on these proposed changes. This consultation will run from **Wednesday 3 September until** 23:59 on **Wednesday 1 October 2025**.

You are being contacted as you have been identified as a consultee under Section 42 of the Planning Act 2008, or Regulation 11 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017.

About the Scheme

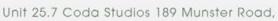
The Scheme would comprise approximately 840 hectares of land and include a solar photovoltaic (PV) and battery energy storage system (BESS), located north of Swaffham and south of Castle Acre in West Norfolk. If consented, the Scheme would have the capacity to generate approximately 500 MWac of renewable electricity, enough to power approximately 115,000 homes each year.

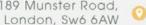
The Scheme is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) and, as such, requires a Development Consent Order (DCO) to be submitted to and determined by the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero.

Changes being consulted on

The targeted consultation relates to a number of localised changes to the Scheme's proposed development boundary. These changes have been identified following feedback received during statutory consultation, alongside the findings of ongoing environmental surveys and assessments.

The changes being consulted on are as follows:









- **Change 1** approximately 90 hectares of additional land has been included to the north of the Site to support mitigation for Skylark and Curlew, following ecological surveys which confirmed their presence.
- Change 2 additional land has been included at the western extent of the Site to provide adequate space in which to safely carry works to the existing overhead line.
- **Change 3** additional land has been included to allow for temporary alternative access to the affected residential property along Petticoat Drove and Washpit Drove.
- Change 4 additional land has been included either side of the junction between Washpit Drove and Low Road to accommodate potential hedgerow removal, should this be required to ensure safe visibility for residents using the alternative route (See Change 3) during temporary closures.

A plan showing the changes to the proposed development boundary is enclosed with this letter. An annotated map, designed for community use ('the Targeted Consultation Map'), is also available and highlights the areas affected by each change, as well as a number of design refinements ('updates') that have been made.

Further details on each change and update are set out in the Information Leaflet, which can be accessed via the Documents Library on the Scheme website: www.drovessolarfarm.co.uk/#documents

Copies of the Information Leaflet, Targeted Consultation Map, and Feedback Form are available for inspection and collection at Swaffham Library, located at The Pightle, Swaffham, PE37 7DF. These materials can also be provided on request by contacting the Community Relations Team using the details below.

How to respond to this consultation

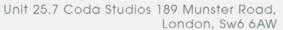
Responses must be received no later than 23:59 on Wednesday 1 October 2025.

When providing your response, please include your name and contact details (a postal or email address) and confirm the nature of your interest in the Scheme.

Completed responses can be submitted:

- a) By email to info@drovessolarfarm.co.uk
- b) Completing the online feedback form: www.drovessolarfarm.co.uk
- c) By returning a hard copy Feedback Form to FREEPOST THE DROVES SOLAR FARM









Further information

SOLAR FARM

If you would like further information about this letter, the consultation or Scheme, please contact the project team by using one of the contact methods provided below:

Emailing: info@drovessolarfarm.co.uk Calling our Freephone: 0800 0129 154

Yours faithfully, Harman Sond

Project Development Manager On behalf of The Droves Solar Farm Limited

3 Targeted consultation – Information Leaflet



The Droves Solar Farm

Targeted Consultation – Information Leaflet

September 2025



2 Community Information Leaflet 3

We are inviting your feedback on a number of proposed changes to the development boundary for The Droves Solar Farm.

As a result of the findings of ongoing surveys and assessments, a number of localised changes to the proposed development boundary for The Droves Solar Farm have been identified. We are inviting you to participate in a targeted consultation to share your views on these proposed changes.

This consultation runs from **Wednesday 3 September until 23:59 on Wednesday 1 October 2025**. We welcome your feedback as we prepare our application for Development Consent.

Since the statutory consultation, the design for The Droves Solar Farm has continued to evolve. In addition to the changes to the proposed development boundary we are consulting on, we are also providing an update on a number of design refinements. **A Project update is provided on pages 10-15.**

Since statutory consultation, we have:



Included dedicated mitigation land to support Skylarks and Curlew.



Included additional provision for temporary access to support safe construction.



Refined the proposed locations of the Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), Customer Substation, and National Grid substation to Fields 24 and 27.



Refined our approach for connecting into the existing overhead line.



Removed Field 32 from the proposed development area.



Pages 4-9 of this leaflet set out the changes we are consulting on through this targeted consultation, and explain why they are being proposed.

About The Droves Solar Farm

The Droves Solar Farm Limited, a subsidiary of Island Green Power (IGP) is bringing forward proposed plans for a solar farm with BESS on land north of Swaffham and south of Castle Acre, West Norfolk ("the Site").

If consented, The Droves Solar Farm ("the Project") could generate approximately 500 MWac (Megawatt Alternating Current) of renewable energy, enough to power approximately 115,000 homes, annually. The BESS would store surplus energy and supply it to the national grid when needed.

As the Project is anticipated to generate approximately 500 MWac, it exceeds the 50MW threshold to be classed as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) under the Planning Act 2008. This means we are required to apply for a Development Consent Order (DCO). The application will be examined by an independent Examining Authority appointed by the Planning Inspectorate, before the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero makes a final decision.



Ecological surveys at the Site have recorded the presence of breeding Skylark and Curlew.

Working with our ecologists, we have identified approximately 80 hectares of land to the north of the Site that is suitable for Skylark mitigation, and 8.8 hectares that is suitable for Curlew mitigation.

To accommodate this mitigation, additional land to the north of the Site will be required. This land is proposed to be used only for the provision of suitable habitat to support the birds, whilst still allowing agricultural use in the case of the skylark plots. No solar development is proposed in these fields.

What is Skylark mitigation?

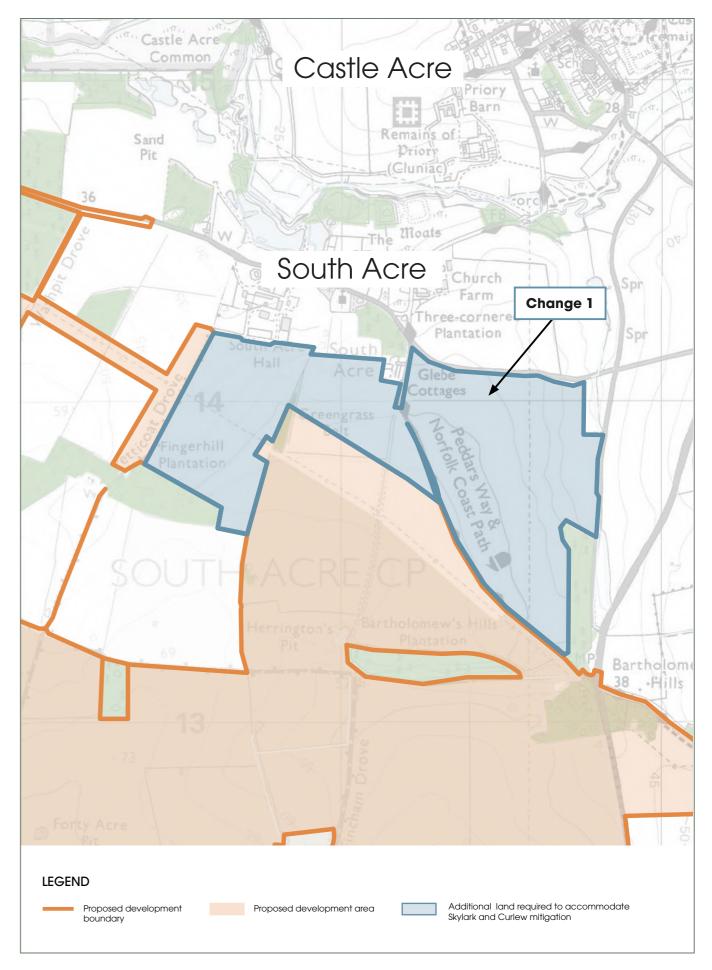
Land used for Skylark mitigation will remain in agricultural use, with two 6 m x 4 m "skylark plots" provided for every hectare of land. These small, open plots provide safe nesting areas for Skylark. If plots cannot be created in a given year, for example, due to crop rotation, the land will be managed in a way that remains suitable for Skylarks, such as organic set-aside.

In addition to the land identified for Skylark mitigation, our ecology team has identified land to mitigate the displacement of Curlew, which will also provide benefits for Skylark. This field will instead not require Skylark plots, but will be managed to create suitable conditions for Curlew.

Both Skylark and Curlew prefer open areas away from tall vegetation and field boundaries, so the proposed mitigation land has been chosen using suitably sized fields that allow for appropriate offsets from hedgerows and other boundary vegetation.

To ensure that the land is managed appropriately throughout the life of the Project, we will submit an outline environmental management plan as part of our DCO application. This plan will be developed in consultation with Breckland Council, Norfolk County Council, Natural England, and Norfolk Wildlife Trust.

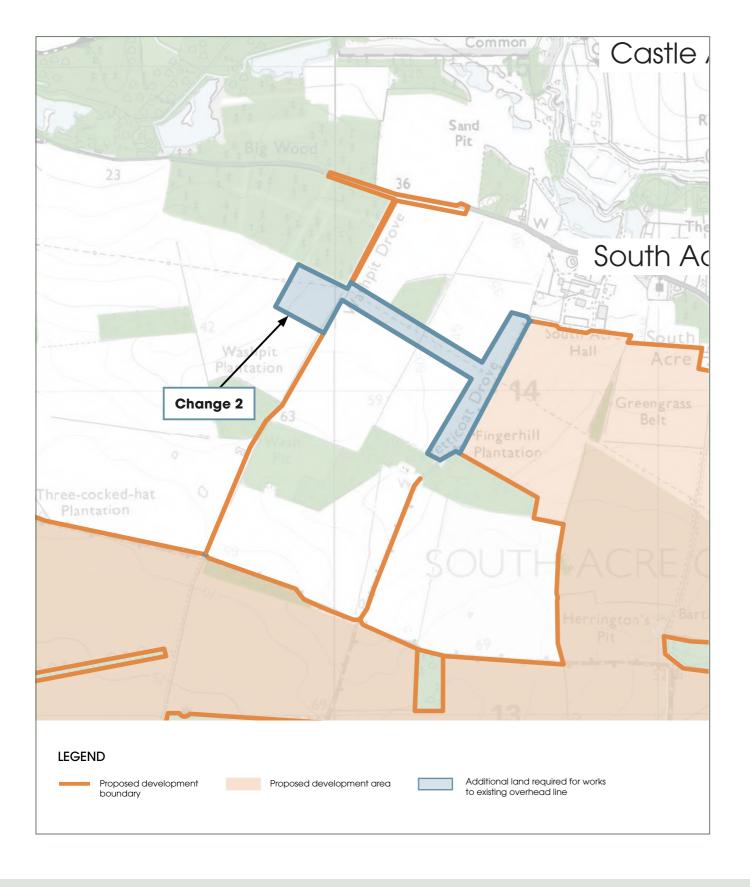




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Change 2 - Western extension to safely accommodate overhead line works

Additional land has been included to provide adequate space in which to safely carry out works to the existing overhead line.

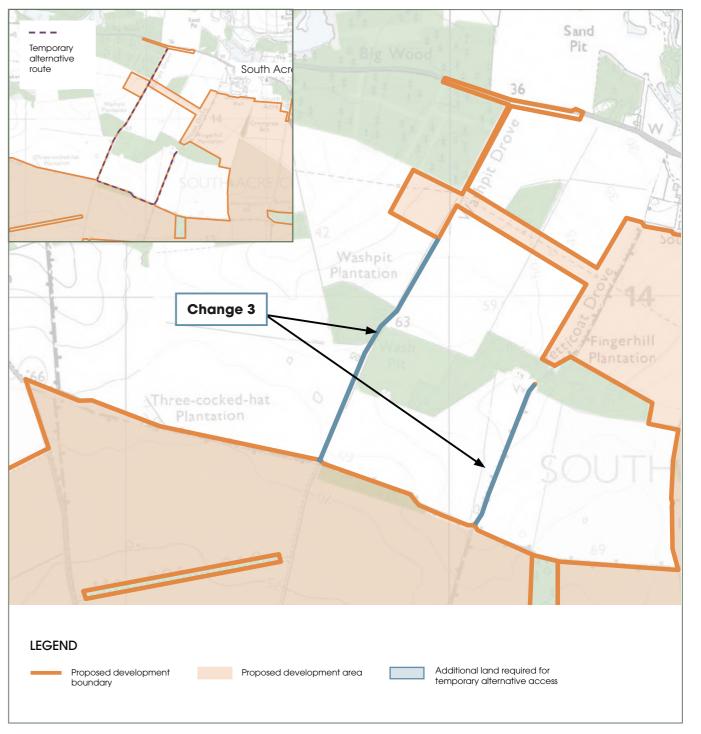


Change 3 - Provision for temporary alternative access to residential property

To safely carry out the western extent of the overhead line works (see Change 2), temporary closures to public rights of way and residential access along Petticoat Drove may be required.

If this happens, alternative access to the residential property affected will be provided via a temporary route along Petticoat Drove, Washpit Drove, and to the junction with Low Road.

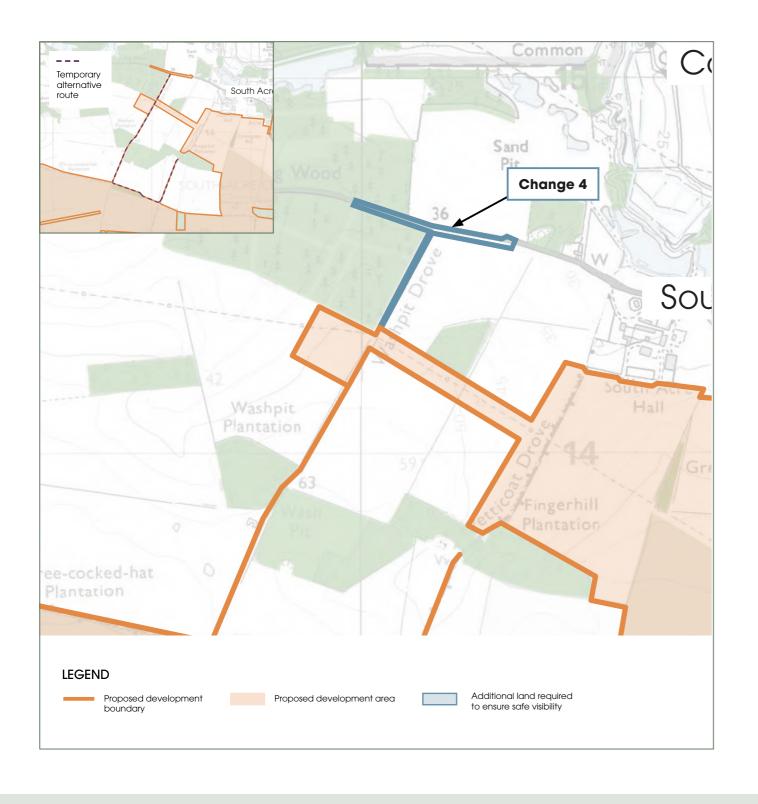
To accommodate this, additional land has been included along Washpit Drove and Petticoat Drove.



Change 4 - Addition of land for safe visibility and temporary alternative access to residential property

Additional land has been included either side of the junction between Washpit Drove and Low Road to accommodate potential hedgerow removal, should this be required to ensure safe visibility for residents using the alternative route during temporary closures (see Change 3).

Some hedges may need to be cut back for safety, and any affected hedgerows will be replanted, if required, once construction is complete.



Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)

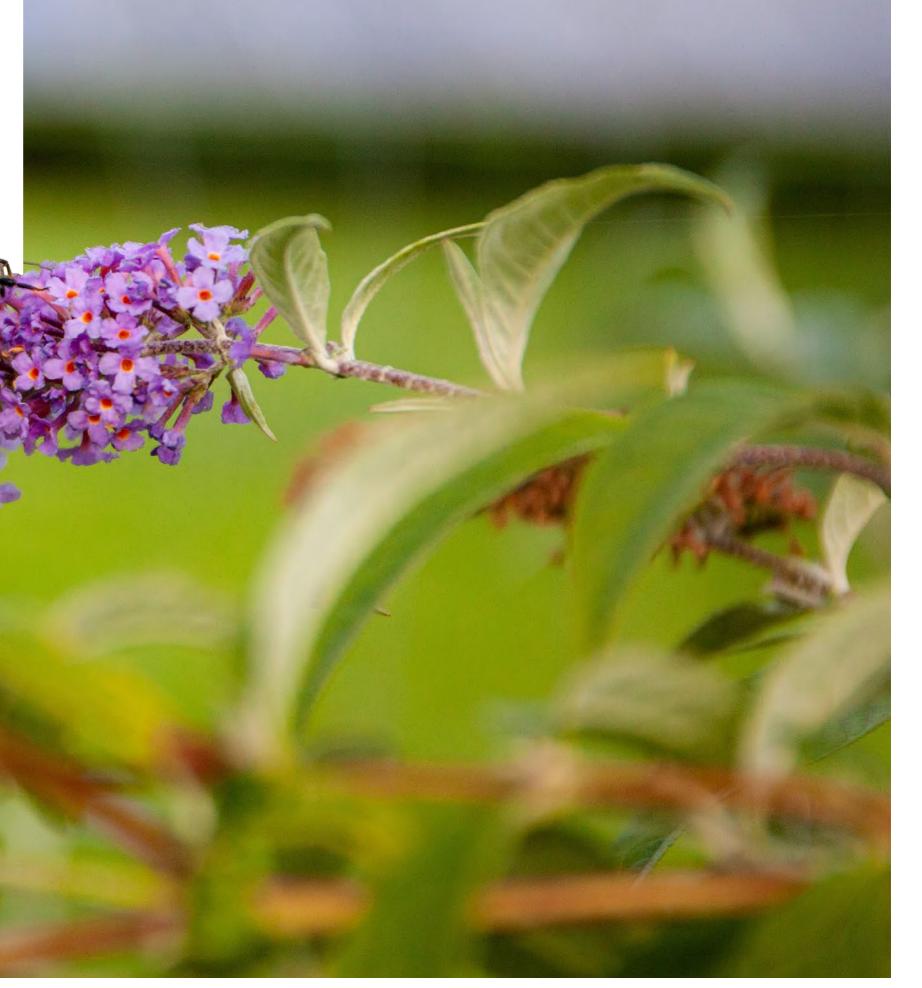
The changes outlined in this information leaflet have been carefully reviewed by our EIA team. As part of the EIA process, we shared our initial environmental assessment in the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) during statutory consultation. The refinements presented here do not



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Project update

Since the statutory consultation, the design for The Droves Solar Farm has continued to evolve, with a number of refinements made in response to feedback and the findings of further surveys and assessments. These updates are set out in the following pages.



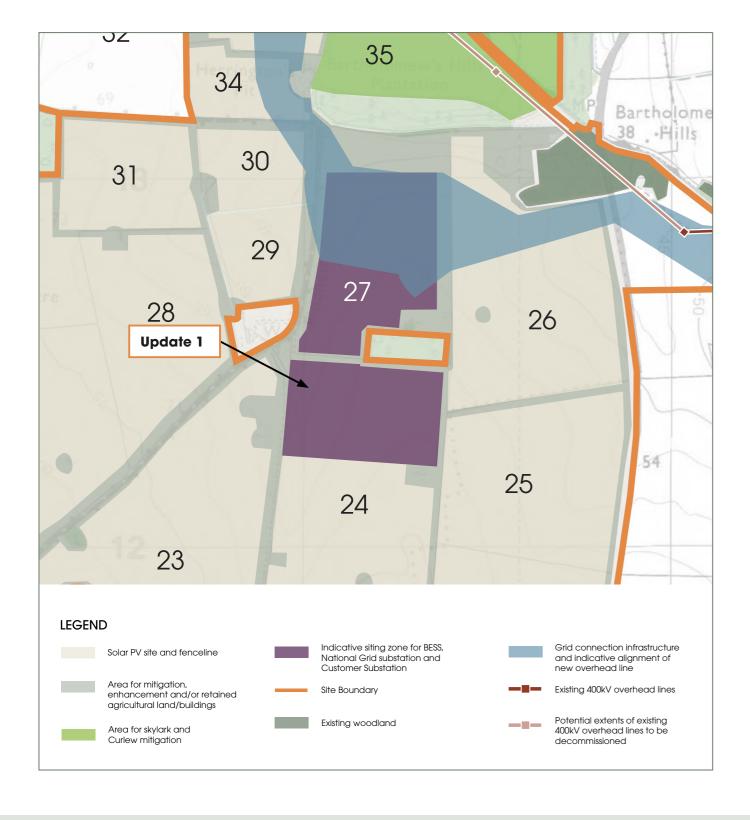
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Community Information Leaflet

Update 1 - Refinement of BESS and substation locations

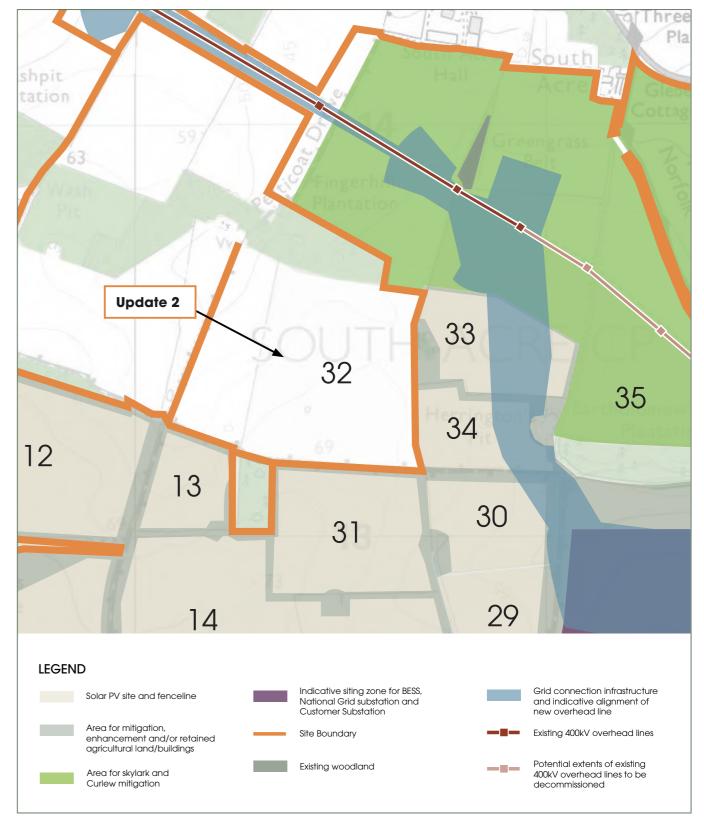
The BESS, National Grid substation, and Customer Substation are now proposed within Fields 24 and 27, which have been identified as the most suitable locations. This includes removing the second option for the National Grid substation in Field 33.

This refined layout reflects local insight into potential visual and environmental impacts, helping to reduce effects on the surrounding landscape and allowing us to respond sensitively to the local character of the Site.



Update 2 - Removal of Field 32

Field 32 is no longer being considered for solar PV panels or mitigation and has been removed from the Site.



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Update 3 – Refinement of indicative alignment of overhead line

To connect into the proposed National Grid substation, we will be required to carry out works to the existing overhead line and pylons. This will allow us to restring and divert the line and connect it safely into the new National Grid substation.

How the works will be undertaken



To safely carry out the works, we will complete them in a series of steps. This approach helps ensure electricity supplies are not affected.



Stage 1:

We will begin by installing new pylons along the route leading into the proposed National Grid substation. At the detailed design stage the exact number will be confirmed, but it will not exceed 10. The new pylons will carry the overhead line into the substation and will be of similar height to those already in place.



Stage 2:

During this stage, diversions will be set up by installing temporary pylons. This will create parallel circuits, which allows one circuit to remain live while the other is switched off and worked on safely, ensuring supplies continue uninterrupted.



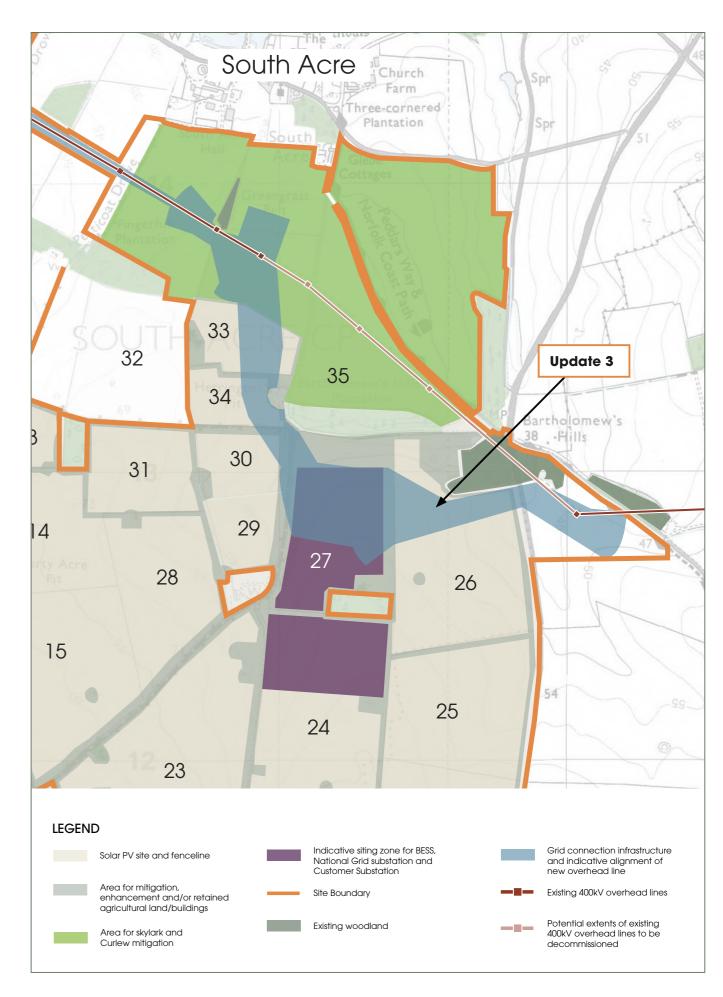
Stage 3:

Once live circuits are running through the new National Grid substation, any temporary pylons used during the works will be removed, leaving the new permanent alignment in place.



Stage 4:

To improve the existing overhead line and make it more reliable in the future, we may carry out additional works to restring the existing line.



LEGEND Change 4 - Addition of land for safe visibility and temporary alternative Solar PV site and fenceline Castle Acre access to residential property Area for mitigation, enhancement and/or retained agricultural land/buildings Change 2 - Western extension to safely accomodate overhead line works Area for Skylark and Change 1 - Additional land Curlew mitigation South Acre to accommodate Skylark and Blakeneyhill Plantation Curlew mitigation Indicative siting zone for BESS, National Grid substation and **Change 3 -** Provision for temporary Customer Substation alternative access to residential property Site Boundary Grid connection infrastructure and indicative alignment of Hill new overhead line 33 32 Existing 400kV overhead lines **Update 3 -** Removal of Field 32 34 12 Potential extents of existing 400kV overhead lines to be 13 30 decommissioned 31 2 Existing woodland 29 14 11 Hall Farm 28 26 3 10 **Update 2 -** Refinement 15 of indicative alignment of overhead line 25 24 9 8 21 **Burntstalks** 16 Solar Farm 22 17 18 **Update 1 -** Refinement of BESS 19 and substation locations 20

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What happens next

Your feedback, along with the results of ongoing assessments and design work, will help shape our final proposals. We will submit our final proposals as part of our DCO application.

When we submit our application, it will include a Consultation Report. This report will summarise the feedback received during our consultations and explain how it has shaped our final proposals. If the Planning Inspectorate accepts our application, the Consultation Report will be published on their website.

Once the application is accepted, you will also be able to register your interest with the Planning Inspectorate. Doing so will ensure that you are kept informed about the progress of our application and will give you opportunities to participate in the examination process, including submitting your views in writing or at hearings.

You can find out more about the DCO process for NSIPs on the Planning Inspectorate website: https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate gov.uk/application-process/

How to provide feedback

This targeted consultation runs from Wednesday 3 September until 23:59 on Wednesday 1 October 2025. It is your opportunity to comment on our proposed changes and share your views.

You can provide feedback in the following ways:



Complete an online feedback form on our website: www.drovessolarfarm.co.uk



Email your feedback or a completed form to: info@drovessolarfarm.co.uk



Post your response using our freepost address: FREEPOST THE DROVES SOLAR FARM

Please submit your response by **23:59 on Wednesday 1 October 2025.** Responses submitted after this date may not be considered.





4 Targeted consultation – Feedback Form



The Droves Solar Farm



Section 1: Please use the space below to share any comments you may have on the proposed changes to the Project's development boundary.

The changes are summarised in our **Information Leaflet**, available in the Documents Library on our Project website (**www.drovessolarfarm.co.uk/**). Copies can also be provided on request by contacting the Community Relations Team (details on the back page).

If your comments relate to a specific change, please reference	it in	your
response (for example, "Change 1").		

Section 2: About you

Title	Postcode
Name	Telephone
Address	Email
How would you describe your interest in ou	r proposals? (Please tick all that apply)
Local resident	Regular visitor
Local representative	Statutory organisation (please name)
Landowner	Local interest group (please name)
Local business owner	Other (please specify)
Work locally	
If you have named an organisation above, feedback on behalf of the organisation, an	
Yes, I am responding on behalf of an organisation (please specify)	No, I am not responding on behalf of an organisation
Age range:	
18 and under 36-50	Over 65
19–35 51–65	Prefer not to say



You do not have to supply personal details. However, if you do, it will enable us to contact you regarding your feedback, if necessary. Your personal details will be stored in compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation by Copper Consultancy, acting on behalf of The Droves Solar Farm Limited. The Project's privacy policy can be viewed via the website **www.drovessolarfarm.co.uk/**.



Contact us

If you have any questions or comments, or would like to be kept up to date on the Project, please contact our Community Relations Team using the details below.

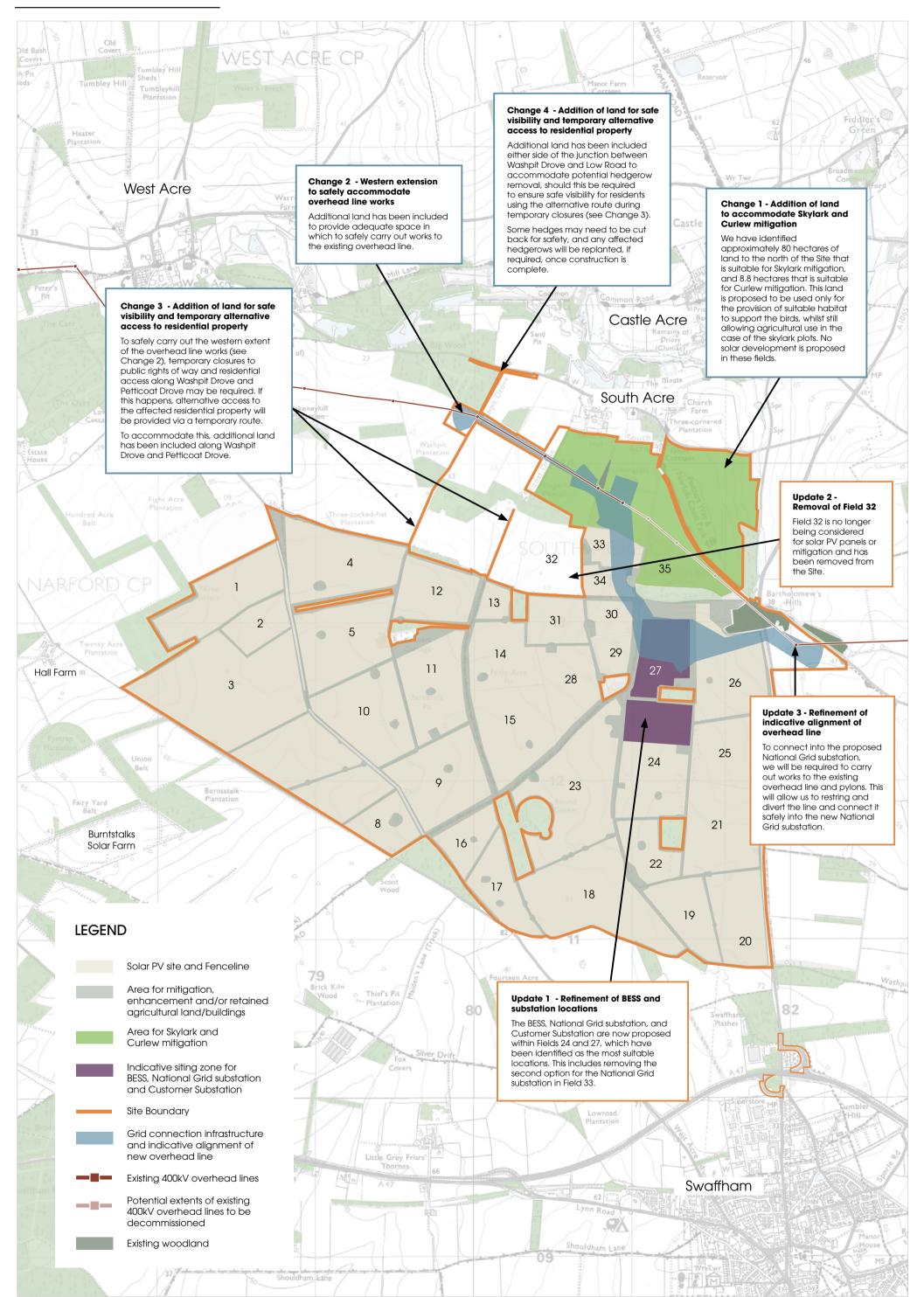
- **@ Email us at:** info@drovessolarfarm.co.uk
- Community Relations Freephone: 0800 0129 154

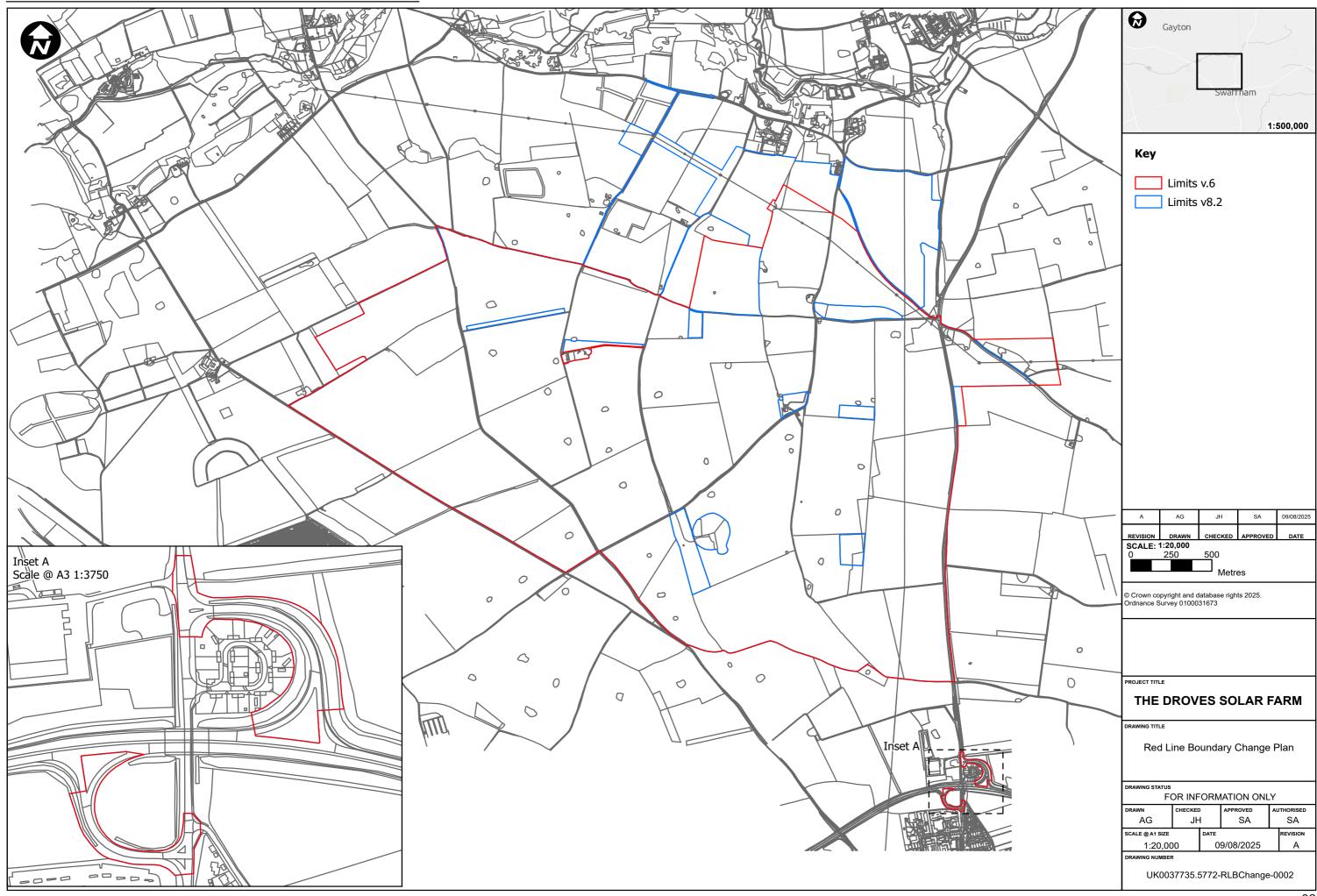
 (Our phone lines are monitored 9:00–17:30 Monday to Friday, with an answerphone facility available outside of these hours)

Our communication lines will remain open during working hours (Monday-Friday 09:00–17:30) throughout the targeted consultation period, between 3 September and 1 October 2025.

It is important to complete the Feedback Form before the deadline.

5 Targeted consultation – Maps and Plans





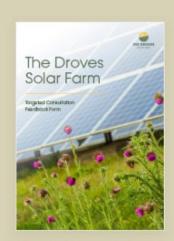
6 Targeted consultation – Website

Documents

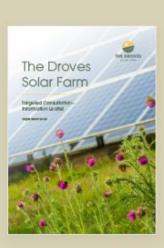
Copies of all the documents relating to The Droves Solar Farm can be found here:

2025

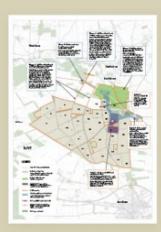
Targeted Consultation Materials



Targeted Consultation -Feedback Form



Targeted Consultation -Information Leaflet



Targeted Consultation -Map



Targeted Consultation – Red Line Boundary Change Plan

7 Targeted consultation – Site Notice Plan



8 Targeted consultation – Responses Recieved and Applicants Response



1 Section 42 Applicant Response Tables

Respondent	Topic	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
	Consultation and engagement	Good afternoon, I just wanted to say thank you again, for agreeing to meet via "Teams" today, your time, and explanations regarding the Targeted Consultation, we certainly found it useful. Thank you.	No	The Applicant welcomes this comment and thanks Castle Acre Parish Council for attending the meeting referenced.
		It is positive that you have selected sites for the BESS and substation further west and south, taking them away from the A1065 and Fields 33, 35.	No	The Applicant welcomes this comment.
Castle Acre Parish Council	Environment	If you could give my comments about Bartholomew's Wood some thought please, it currently provides some good screening to the site from the north and the new mitigation area.	No	The Applicant thanks Castle Acre Parish Council for its feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
Council	Introduction	Submission from Castle Acre Parish Council on The Droves Solar Farm Consultation Updates Castle Acre Parish Council has reviewed the updated proposals for The Droves Solar Farm, including the relocation of the BESS and substation, the removal of Field 32, and changes to overhead line alignment.	No	The Applicant thanks Castle Acre Parish Council for its feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
	Update 1 - Refinement of BESS and substation locations	1. Relocation of BESS and Substations (Fields 24 & 27) Thank you for listening. The removal of Field 33 as an option for the National Grid substation is welcomed, as it reduces the immediate risk of visual and environmental harm to Castle Acre. However, concentrating the BESS, National Grid substation, and Customer substation in Fields 24 and 27 shifts the most intensive industrial infrastructure closer to South Acre. This raises significant	No	The Applicant thanks Castle Acre Parish Council for its feedback on the updates provided. The Applicant confirms that these updates were shared as part of ongoing community engagement but were not subject to targeted consultation; as such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The

Respondent	Topic	Comment issues for that community in terms of noise, visual impact, and	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	
		construction traffic.		through those responses.
	Archaeology and heritage	2. Archaeological Sensitivity Castle Acre is internationally recognised for its archaeological and historic importance, with the Castle, Priory, Bailey Gate, and a designated Conservation Area forming part of a unique medieval settlement. The Nar Valley and surrounding fields - including those earmarked for solar and substation development - are known to be rich in below-ground archaeology, with evidence of Roman, Saxon, Norman, and medieval activity. Any large-scale ground disturbance for solar arrays, substations, or cable trenching risks permanent and irretrievable damage to this heritage landscape. The Parish Council is deeply concerned that insufficient weight is being given to the archaeological setting and buried heritage assets. Large-scale solar development in this location would inevitably erode the archaeological record, fragmenting an area of exceptional cultural value and preventing future archaeological investigations that could add to our knowledge of this landscape.	No	The Applicant thanks Castle Acre Parish Council for its feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
	Update 2 - Removal of Field 32	3. Removal of Field 32 We note that Field 32 has been withdrawn from solar PV development. While this reduces overall intensity, we insist that this land is returned to agricultural use or genuine ecological mitigation, secured by enforceable planning conditions.	No	The Applicant thanks Castle Acre Parish Council for its feedback on the updates provided. The Applicant confirms that these updates were shared as part of ongoing community engagement but were not subject to targeted consultation; as such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
	Update 3 - Refinement of indicative alignment of overhead line	4. Overhead Line Alignment The refinement of overhead line routes remains a serious concern. Any reinforcement of pylons or construction of new overhead lines will further industrialise a sensitive historic landscape. The Parish Council urges undergrounding of cabling wherever technically feasible to mitigate long-term harm to both the setting of heritage assets and the wider valley.	No	The Applicant thanks Castle Acre Parish Council for its feedback on the updates provided. The Applicant confirms that these updates were shared as part of ongoing community engagement but were not subject to targeted consultation; as such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.

Respondent	Topic	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	
	Environment	5. Protection of Bartholomew Hills (also known locally as Bartholomew Wood) Bartholomew Hills, often referred to locally as Bartholomew Wood, is a long-established woodland feature and a vital ecological and landscape element within the site boundary. While it may not carry the formal "Ancient Woodland" designation on official maps, its historic and ecological value is nonetheless significant. It forms part of the historic and environmental character of the Nar Valley and, as the site of a medieval leper hospital administered by West Acre Priory, it is of heritage importance too.		The Applicant thanks Castle Acre Parish Council for its feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
	Environment	The Parish Council requires that a detailed protection and management plan for Bartholomew Hills/Wood be put in place and secured as a binding planning condition. This must include: A substantial buffer zone free from development or ground disturbance. Prohibition of construction traffic, trenching, or cabling works within or adjacent to the woodland. Long-term management to enhance biodiversity and protect the integrity of this valued habitat. Any encroachment on Bartholomew Hills/Wood would be wholly unacceptable and contrary to national and local planning policy on the protection of important landscapes and ecological features.		The Applicant thanks Castle Acre Parish Council for its feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
	Formal objection	6. Overall Assessment While the removal of Field 33 reduces the direct impact on Castle Acre village, this does not lessen our opposition to the scheme. The scale and industrial character of the proposed development remain fundamentally incompatible with the archaeological and historic sensitivity of Castle Acre, South Acre, and the Nar Valley.	No	The Applicant thanks Castle Acre Parish Council for its feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
	Cumulative impacts	The displacement of harm from Castle Acre to South Acre is not acceptable, and the overall cumulative impact is severe - particularly when considered alongside the proposed High Grove Solar Farm to the west.	No	The Applicant thanks Castle Acre Parish Council for its feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
	Concluding statement	7. Conclusion While Castle Acre Parish Council is pleased to see that some positive changes/adaptations have been made as part of the feedback process, CAPC continues to oppose the Droves		The Applicant thanks Castle Acre Parish Council for its response to the targeted consultation and for its engagement throughout the pre-application process.

Respondent	Topic	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
	Introduction	Great Massingham Parish Council welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Droves Solar Farm proposals. While we fully acknowledge the urgent national need to increase renewable energy generation and reduce carbon emissions, we consider that this scheme is of an inappropriate scale and location.	No	The Applicant notes this comment and thanks Great Massingham Parish Council for its response to the targeted consultation. The Applicant concurs with the national need for low-carbon energy generation, but does not agree that the Scheme is of an inappropriate scale and location. However, this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. The issues raised within this comment are adequately addressed within Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2].
Great Massingham	Local policy	In its current form, it conflicts with adopted local planning policies and directly undermines the objectives of Neighbourhood Development Plans (NDPs) designed to protect landscape character, heritage, biodiversity, and agricultural land.	No	The Applicant thanks Great Massingham Parish Council for its feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
Parish Council	Formal objection	We also wish to place on record our full support for the detailed response submitted by Castle Acre Parish Council (11 July 2025) and endorse their objections, which we adopt in addition to our own.	No	The Applicant thanks Great Massingham Parish Council for its feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
	Landscape and visual impact	 Key Concerns 1. Conflict with NDP objectives and rural character The proposal introduces a vast, industrial-scale development into an open agricultural setting, fundamentally at odds with the area's rural identity, historic settlement patterns, and tranquillity. Associated infrastructure including fencing, security lighting, cabling, access roads, and battery storage would irreversibly industrialise the landscape. 	No	The Applicant thanks Great Massingham Parish Council for its feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.

Respondent	Topic	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	
		Solar Farm. The scheme poses risks to heritage, archaeology, valued woodland, and the wider landscape, as well as to the quality of life of neighbouring communities. With two years of construction beginning in 2031, the loss of agricultural land, the reduction of local food production, and the disruption of tenant farming livelihoods, this large-scale industrial development will inevitably harm the rural economy and diminish the well-being of those living in affected villages and towns. We therefore urge decision-makers to refuse consent for this development and to protect the unique historic, archaeological, and natural environment of the Nar Valley for future generations.		The issues raised within this response with relation to the Scheme are adequately addressed within Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant also notes that the ES [APP/6.1 – 6.5] has considered impacts resulting from the construction, operation and maintenance (including replacement activities), and decommissioning phases of the Scheme, and considers mitigation measures to avoid, reduce or offset any likely significant adverse effects on the environment and, where possible, enhance the environment. Where applicable, the ES [APP/6.1 – 6.5] has also identified residual effects, defined as effects remaining following the inclusion or adoption of mitigation measures. The Applicant welcomes further engagement with Castle Acre Parish Council, if required.
East Cambridgeshire District Council	No comments	Re. EXT/00014/25 (Your Ref: The Droves Solar Farm, Targeted Consultation) Thank you for your letter on the above project, dated 2nd September 2025. I can advise that the Council does not wish to provide any comments in response to this consultation.	No	The Applicant notes this comment and thanks East Cambridgeshire District Council for its response to the targeted consultation.
Forestry Commission	No comments	Thank you for consulting the Forestry Commission on the planned changes. We have no further comments to make.	No	The Applicant notes this comment and thanks the Forestry Commission for its response to the targeted consultation.
Fulcrum Pipelines Limited	No comments	We can confirm Fulcrum Pipelines Limited do not have any existing pipes or equipment on or around the above site address. Please note that other gas transporters may have plant in the area which could be affected by your proposed works. We will always make every effort to help you where we can, but Fulcrum Pipelines Limited will not be held responsible for any incident or accident arising from the use of the information associated with this search. The details provided are given in good faith, but no liability whatsoever can be accepted in respect thereof. If you need any help or information simply contact Fulcrum on 03330 146 455.		The Applicant notes this comment and thanks Fulcrum Pipelines Limited for its response to the targeted consultation and advice provided.

Respondent	Topic	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
	Introduction	Great Massingham Parish Council welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Droves Solar Farm proposals. While we fully acknowledge the urgent national need to increase renewable energy generation and reduce carbon emissions, we consider that this scheme is of an inappropriate scale and location.	No	The Applicant notes this comment and thanks Great Massingham Parish Council for its response to the targeted consultation. The Applicant concurs with the national need for low-carbon energy generation, but does not agree that the Scheme is of an inappropriate scale and location. However, this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. The issues raised within this comment are adequately addressed within Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2].
Great Massingham	Local policy	In its current form, it conflicts with adopted local planning policies and directly undermines the objectives of Neighbourhood Development Plans (NDPs) designed to protect landscape character, heritage, biodiversity, and agricultural land.	No	The Applicant thanks Great Massingham Parish Council for its feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
Parish Council	Formal objection	We also wish to place on record our full support for the detailed response submitted by Castle Acre Parish Council (11 July 2025) and endorse their objections, which we adopt in addition to our own.	No	The Applicant thanks Great Massingham Parish Council for its feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
	Landscape and visual impact	 Key Concerns 1. Conflict with NDP objectives and rural character The proposal introduces a vast, industrial-scale development into an open agricultural setting, fundamentally at odds with the area's rural identity, historic settlement patterns, and tranquillity. Associated infrastructure including fencing, security lighting, cabling, access roads, and battery storage would irreversibly industrialise the landscape. 	No	The Applicant thanks Great Massingham Parish Council for its feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.

Respondent	Topic	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	
	Local policy	2. Undermining of Neighbourhood Development Plans Local NDPs, including Castle Acre's, were developed specifically to safeguard heritage, agricultural landscapes, key views, and biodiversity. Approving this development would undermine these hard-won community protections.	No	The Applicant thanks Great Massingham Parish Council for its feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
	Archaeology and heritage	 The site lies close to significant heritage assets, notably Castle Acre Priory. The scale of the arrays and infrastructure would harm their setting and diminish the historic character of the wider landscape. National policy requires minimising harm to heritage; this scheme's magnitude makes such mitigation implausible. 	No	The Applicant thanks Great Massingham Parish Council for its feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
	Cumulative impacts	 4. Precedent and cumulative effect Granting consent would set a precedent for further industrial-scale solar projects across rural Norfolk. The cumulative impact with other existing and proposed schemes is likely to result in the incremental erosion of heritage and landscape character at a regional level. 	No	The Applicant thanks Great Massingham Parish Council for its feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
	Environment	 5. Landscape, ecological, and agricultural harm At more than 800 hectares, the array would dominate views and replace soft, traditional farmland patterns with uniform infrastructure. Despite proposed mitigation, the scheme risks habitat fragmentation, species displacement, and long-term soil degradation. Loss of productive farmland would reduce local agricultural resilience and food security. 	No	The Applicant thanks Great Massingham Parish Council for its feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
	Construction and operational phases	6. Construction and operational impacts Rural lanes are unsuited to the large volumes of HGVs and plant required. Increased traffic, noise, dust, and lighting would create significant disruption during both construction and maintenance.	No	The Applicant thanks Great Massingham Parish Council for its feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided.

Respondent	Topic	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	
	Concluding remarks	Conclusion Great Massingham Parish Council objects strongly to the Droves Solar Farm proposal as currently presented. While we support the principle of renewable energy, this development is of a scale and character that would irreparably damage the rural landscape, heritage setting, biodiversity, and agricultural resources of the area. It is fundamentally incompatible with local and national planning policy and with the objectives of adopted Neighbourhood Development Plans. We therefore urge that this proposal be refused in its present form and request that future renewable energy projects be pursued in locations and at scales that better respect rural communities, their heritage, and their landscapes.		through those responses. The Applicant thanks Great Massingham Parish Council for its consultation throughout the pre-application process. The issues raised within this response with relation to the Scheme are adequately addressed within Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant also notes that the ES [APP/6.1 – 6.5] has considered impacts resulting from the construction, operation and maintenance (including replacement activities), and decommissioning phases of the Scheme, and considers mitigation measures to avoid, reduce or offset any likely significant adverse effects on the environment and, where possible, enhance the environment. Where applicable, the ES [APP/6.1 – 6.4] has also identified residual effects, defined as effects remaining following the inclusion or adoption of mitigation measures.
Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk	Introduction	 Thank you for your letter of 2 September 2025 and for your invitation to respond to your targeted consultation on proposed changes to the Scheme's proposed development boundary. It is noted that the changes being consulted on are: Change 1 – approximately 90 hectares of additional land has been included to the north of the Site to support mitigation for Skylark and Curlew, following ecological surveys which confirmed their presence. Change 2 – additional land has been included at the western extent of the Site to provide adequate space in which to safely carry works to the existing overhead line. Change 3 – additional land has been included to allow for temporary alternative access to the affected residential property along Petticoat Drove and Washpit Drove. Change 4 – additional land has been included either side of the junction between Washpit Drove and Low Road to accommodate potential hedgerow removal, should this be required to ensure safe visibility for residents using the alternative route (See Change 3) during temporary closures. 		The Applicant thanks the Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk for its response to the targeted consultation. The Applicant confirms that the changes listed were those for which the Applicant sought feedback as part of the targeted consultation.
	Introduction	In addition to the above, it is noted that the Targeted Consultation Map provided with the consultation material includes a series of 'Updates': • Update 1 - The BESS, National Grid substation, and Customer Substation are now proposed within Fields 24 and 27, which have been identified as the most suitable locations. This		The Applicant confirms that the updates listed were shared to coincide with the targeted consultation but were not themselves subject to consultation, as they did not constitute material changes. Justification for this approach is provided in Section 3.1 of Consultation Report Appendix I: Targeted Consultation – Overview and Supporting Materials [APP/5.2].

Respondent	Topic	 includes removing the second option for the National Grid substation in Field 33. Update 2 - Field 32 is no longer being considered for solar PV panels or mitigation and has been removed from the Site. Update 3 - To connect into the proposed National Grid substation, we will be required to carry out works to the existing overhead line and pylons. This will allow us to restring and divert the line and connect it safely into the new National Grid 	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	
	Change 2 - Western extension to safely accommodate overhead line works Change 3 - Provision for temporary alternative access to residential property Change 4 - Addition of land for safe visibility and temporary alternative access to residential property	The Council has no comment to make on Changes 2, 3 and 4 and is content that Breckland District Council and Norfolk County Council will respond as host authorities on matters within their jurisdiction.	No	The Applicant notes this comment and confirms that Breckland District Council and Norfolk County Council provided responses to the targeted consultation. The responses and the Applicant's consideration are set out in Consultation Report Appendix I: Targeted Consultation – Overview and Supporting Materials [APP/5.2].
	Change 1 - Additional land to accommodate Skylark and Curlew mitigation	With respect to Change 1, the Council notes that land to the north of Bartholomew's Hill Plantation is proposed to only be used for the provision of suitable habitat to support Skylark and Stone Curlew, whilst still allowing agricultural use (as appropriate). The Council has no objection to this Change subject to agreement from Natural England as to the suitability of the land for this proposed use and subject to an appropriate management plan being put in place for the lifetime of the development. The Council would also recommend that agreement is secured from the Archaeology and Historic Environment Team at NCC in respect of the creation of the Skylark and Stone Curlew plots in order to avoid damage and disturbance to any below ground archaeology.		The Applicant notes this comment and confirms that Natural England was consulted as part of the targeted consultation. Its response and the Applicant's consideration is set out in Consultation Report Appendix I: Targeted Consultation – Overview and Supporting Materials [APP/5.2]. The Applicant also welcomes further engagement with relevant officers at Norfolk County Council with regard to below-ground archaeology.
	Update 2 - Removal of Field 32 Update 3 - Refinement of indicative	The Council welcomes Updates 2 and 3 in respect of the removal of Field 32 from the scheme and the proposal to locate the BESS, National Grid substation and Customer Substation within Fields 24 and 27, to the south of Bartholomew's Hill Plantation. This update includes the removal of the second option to locate the National Grid Substation in Field 33 (to the north of Bartholomew's Hill	No	The Applicant thanks the Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk for its feedback on the updates provided. As noted above, these updates were shared as part of ongoing community engagement but were not subject to targeted consultation; as such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H:

Respondent	Topic alignment of overhead line	Comment Plantation). This update positively responds to the Council's Statutory Consultation Response.	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed
	overnead line	Statutory Consultation Response.		through those responses.
	Update 2 - Removal of Field 32 Update 3 - Refinement of indicative alignment of overhead line	Although this refined layout, due to potential visual and environmental impacts, is to help reduce effects on the surrounding landscape, it will also move the noise sources of the BESS and Substations further from the larger settlements of South and West Acre (within King's Lynn & West Norfolk).	No	The Applicant thanks the Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk for its feedback on the updates provided. The Applicant confirms these updates were shared as part of ongoing community engagement but were not subject to targeted consultation; as such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
	Update 1 - Refinement of BESS and substation locations	It should be noted that whilst the BESS and Substations will be screened by Bartholomew's Hill Plantation, this screening is reliant upon the plantation trees. As such, visibility could change in the future as the plantation is managed. As mitigation is reliant upon the plantation the Council would expect a management plan to be put in place for the lifetime of the development to ensure that the appropriate level of screening is maintained.	No	The Applicant thanks the Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk for its feedback on the updates provided. The Applicant confirms these updates were shared as part of ongoing community engagement, but were not subject to targeted consultation; as such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
	Update 1 - Refinement of BESS and substation locations	The Conservation Team note that the proposed change has made a difference to the impact of the proposal upon the historic village of Castle Acre. The views out of Castle Acre and the way that the village is experienced in the landscape is now much improved from the first scheme. However, we note that the final arrangement of buildings and heights has yet to be arranged and that the final impact is yet to be assessed. We consider that the scheme has moved in the right direction and should it continue to move along this route, we would be happy to continue to work with the applicant to come up with a final arrangement of buildings that continues to minimise the harm.	No	The Applicant thanks the Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk for its feedback on the updates provided. The Applicant confirms these updates were shared as part of ongoing community engagement but were not subject to targeted consultation; as such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
	Update 3 - Refinement of indicative alignment of overhead line	The Council notes that Update 3 relates to the works required to restring and divert the existing overhead line and connect it to the new National Grid Substation. The Council has no objection to this update, subject to the necessary detail being secured by Requirement and for appropriate environmental management plans to be put in place in respect of these works.	No	The Applicant thanks the Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk for its feedback on the updates provided. The Applicant confirms these updates were shared as part of ongoing community engagement, but were not subject to targeted consultation; as such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.

Respondent	Topic	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	
	Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR)	The Council welcomes that these amendments do not substantially change the conclusions of the initial environmental assessment (in the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) submitted as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process), and that a full and updated environmental assessment will be provided in the Environmental Statement to be submitted as part of the Development Control Order application.	No	The Applicant confirms that an ES [APP/6.1 – 6.5] forms part of the DCO Application and has considered impacts resulting from the construction, operation and maintenance (including replacement activities), and decommissioning phases of the Scheme, and considers mitigation measures to avoid, reduce or offset any likely significant adverse effects on the environment and, where possible, enhance the environment. Where applicable, the ES [APP/6.1 – 6.5] has also identified residual effects, defined as effects remaining following the inclusion or adoption of mitigation measures.
	Aerodromes and aviation	Whilst responding, the Council wishes to raise a further matter for the Applicant's attention. It has been reported to the Council that RAF Marham has raised concerns regarding potential impacts on the operation of the RAF base. The Council seeks assurance from the Applicant that appropriate engagement has taken place with the MOD and personnel at RAF Marham and that any effects on their operations will be duly considered in the EIA.	No	The Applicant thanks the Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk for its feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
	Soils	As the proposed development boundary has changed, the Applicant should ensure that the ES clearly identifies the study area relevant to the soils assessments and potential areas of impact. The Council welcomes the inclusion of a soil management plan to help guide good practice and minimise potential effects on soils and land quality. The Council would expect that the ES will assess significant effects on soil quality within the new development boundary and mitigation measures will be described in the ES and set out in the Soil Management Plan (SMP), which should be secured through the DCO. While no relevant human receptors for potential pollutant linkages were identified on site, or off-site, the sensitive receptors (including controlled waters and private water supplies) should be clarified in relation to the new development boundary.		The Applicant thanks the Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk for its feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
	Air quality	In respect of air quality, since the submission of earlier comments, Defra have published Interim Planning Guidance on PM2.5 Targets. There has also been changes to the NPPF in terms of transport with an emphasis now on taking a vision-led approach to vehicle movements.	No	The Applicant thanks the Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk for its feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
	Air quality	In light of these changes and having regard to the decision on Scoping Opinion (EN0110013) it is agreed that construction vehicle emissions can be scoped out from further air quality		The Applicant thanks the Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk for its feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to

Respondent	Topic	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		assessment based on IAQM screening criteria, as long as sufficient information is provided on vehicle movements (24-hr AADT) during the construction and decommissioning phases. Given access roads off from the A47 within BCKLWN area are narrow and minor with the potential for receptors to be in close proximity to the construction vehicles and their vehicle pollutants over relevant exposure periods, the Council would request that any uncertainty when deriving the AADT is considered.		the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
Little Dunham Parish Council	No comments	Thank you for consulting us in respect of the amendments to the development boundary and Little Dunham Parish Council has no comments.	No	The Applicant notes this comment and thanks Little Dunham Parish Council for its response to the targeted consultation.
	Consultation and engagement	Please find attached my letter, confirming the safeguarding position of the Ministry of Defence, in respect of the above statutory pre-application targeted consultation. Can you please keep us informed as to any updates, progress or submissions in relation to this please? Thank you for your previous engagement, we are in the midst of obtaining technical input to the recently submitted queries by your agents.	No	The Applicant thanks the Ministry of Defence for its response to the targeted consultation. The Applicant further confirms that engagement with the Ministry of Defence is ongoing, as detailed in this Consultation Report [APP/5.1] .
Ministry of Defence	Introduction	Dear Sir/Madam, The Droves Solar Farm Limited - Proposed plans for a solar farm with battery energy storage located on land north of Swaffham and south of Castle Acre, West Norfolk. Statutory pre-application targeted consultation under Section 42 of the Planning Act 2008 The Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO) Safeguarding Team represents the MOD as a consultee in UK planning and energy consenting systems to ensure that development does not compromise or degrade the operation of defence sites such as aerodromes, explosives storage sites, air weapon ranges, and technical sites or training resources such as the Military Low Flying System. This objective is supported by the provisions of Paragraph 102 of the National Planning Policy Framework (December 2024) and the Town and Country Planning (Safeguarded aerodromes, technical sites and military explosives storage areas) Direction 2002. This proposal is to build, operate and decommission a new solar farm capable of generating over 50Megawatts (MW) Alternating Current (AC) of electricity, consisting of arrays of ground mounted photovoltaic (PV) panels with associated inverters, battery storage facilities, electrical substations, cable and grid connections and other associated infrastructure as well as environmental mitigation and enhancement. The proposed development will be located south of South Acre, West Acre and Castle Acre, West Norfolk.	No	The Applicant notes this comment and that The Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO) Safeguarding Team represents the Ministry of Defence as a consultee.

Respondent	Topic	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	
	Aerodromes and aviation	The development area identified occupies statutory height, technical and birdstrike safeguarding zones that surround RAF Marham. It is understood that the current targeted consultation is being carried out in accordance with the requirements of section 42 of the Planning Act 2008 (as amended) and forms part of the preapplication procedure leading toward an application for an order granting development consent.		The Applicant notes this comment and confirms that the DIO was consulted as a statutory consultee under Section 42 of the Planning Act 2008.
	accommodate	At this point in time, based upon the plans and information submitted in support of this proposal the MOD has the following observations and safeguarding requirements relating to change 1 regarding approximately 90 hectares of additional land included to the north of the site to support mitigation for Skylark and Curlew.		The Applicant notes this comment and has responded to the issues raised below regarding the targeted consultation.
	Change 1 - Additional land to accommodate Skylark and Curlew mitigation Aerodromes and aviation	The proposed development is within the statutory birdstrike safeguarding zone surrounding RAF Marham. Within this zone, the principal concern of the MOD is the creation of landscape features such as open bodies of water, wetland habitat or other forms of habitat creation and landscaping may attract and support populations of large and, or flocking birds hazardous to air traffic. The inclusion of these features in the proposed development could contribute to an increase in birdstrike risk to air traffic operating from RAF Marham. The mitigation proposal for Skylark and Curlew includes land designated and managed to create and allow suitable conditions for Curlew. At present no details are available of how this will look. These fields will be suitably sized to allow offset from the field boundaries, and the land will be managed throughout the life of the project with an outline environmental management plan to be submitted at a later stage. The creation of habitat targeted at Curlew usually includes management as a hay meadow or by grazing, with vegetation of varied heights and with vegetation typical of damp habitats favoured. The inclusion of damp areas should not result in a significant attractant for hazardous birds in this location; however, the inclusion of shallow pools has the potential to create environment that may attract and support populations of large and, or flocking birds hazardous to air traffic.		The Applicant notes this and confirms that engagement with the Defence Infrastructure Organisation regarding safety zones is ongoing. The Applicant does not consider there to be an increased risk in terms of attracting hazardous bird species, as the proposed mitigation is for Skylark, Lapwing, and Curlew would not include the creation of shallow pools. Appendix 7.3: Proposed Mitigation Strategy for Ground Nesting Birds Requiring Open Habitats [APP/6.4] provides further detail regarding proposed mitigation and compensation package in relation to ground-nesting bird species. Measures will include the following: Provision of new managed open grassland areas providing specific opportunities for ground nesting species Favourable management of grassland margins and associated habitats, which will provide increased foraging value and therefore raise carrying capacity across the site as a whole for these species; and Incorporation of Skylark plots within arable land located outside of the solar development areas.
	accommodate Skylark and Curlew mitigation	The MOD advises the design of any habitat creation, drainage basins, landscaping and planting that may be included in the development, should be undertaken to minimise the attractants that are afforded to bird species considered hazardous to aviation in proximity to RAF Marham. The above concerns will need to be addressed in the preparation of any application relating to this proposal and the MOD should be consulted, via the above multiuser email address at all future application stages of this development to allow further detailed safeguarding assessments to be completed.		The Applicant does not consider there to be an increased risk in terms of attracting hazardous bird species as a result of the proposed mitigation. The Applicant is, however, open to further discussion with the DIO regarding the matter.

Respondent	Topic	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	
	Aerodromes and aviation	The MOD, through DIO Safeguarding, has previously responded to the Droves Solar Farm Limited statutory pre-application consultation under Section 42 of the Planning Act 2008 via a letter dated 23rd July 2025. The MOD identified an infringement of the Precision Approach Radar (PAR) technical installation sited at RAF Marham and appraised the proposal, in its current form, as not being compatible with MOD's safeguarding requirements.	No	The Applicant notes this comment and confirms that engagement regarding PAR has been undertaken since the statutory consultation, as detailed in this Consultation Report [APP/5.1]. The Applicant welcomes further engagement with the DIO regarding the matter. The Applicant further notes that as this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
	Aerodromes and aviation	Additionally, the proposed development could have a potential impact on aviation safety from glint and glare effects. The above concerns outlined in our response remain to be applicable and the applicant should address these concerns to ensure the scheme is compatible with the MOD's safeguarding requirements for RAF Marham.	No	The Applicant thanks the DIO for its feedback on the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
	Aerodromes and aviation	The MOD must emphasise that the advice provided within this letter is in response to the data and information detailed on the The Droves Solar Farm website for this application as of the date of this letter. Any variation of the parameters (which include the location, dimensions, form, and finishing materials) detailed may significantly alter how the development relates to MOD safeguarding requirements and cause adverse impacts to safeguarded defence assets or capabilities. In the event that any amendment, whether considered material or not by the determining authority, is submitted for approval, the MOD should be consulted and provided with adequate time to carry out assessments and provide a formal response.		The Applicant thanks the DIO for its feedback on the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
	Consultation and engagement	Should you wish to submit further information or provide any updated proposals, the MOD will gladly review these and advise of our safeguarding position. I trust this is clear however should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me. Yours sincerely	No	The Applicant notes this and confirms that further engagement regarding safeguarding zones is welcomed. The Applicant thanks the DIO for its response to the targeted consultation.

Respondent	Topic	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	
	Introduction	On behalf of National Grid Electricity Transmission, please find attached, the submission of NGET's official section 42 response as well as a copy of the 'Third-Party Technical Guidance for Working Near NGET equipment' document. I also enclose a plan showing the location of NGET's apparatus near and within the scoping area.	No	The Applicant thanks National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET) for its response to the targeted consultation and has responded to the matters raised below.
	Introduction	Dear Sir / Madam Ref: The Droves Solar Farm Statutory Consultation: Sections 42 of the Planning Act 2008 (the "Act") I refer to your notice dated 2nd September 2025 regarding the Proposed Development. This is a response on behalf of National Grid Electricity Transmission PLC (NGET).	No	The Applicant notes this.
	Consultation and engagement	Due to the proximity of some of our existing or future assets, NGET wishes to express their interest in further consultation while the impact on our assets is still being assessed.	No	The Applicant notes this comment and confirms that engagement has been undertaken since the targeted consultation, as referenced in Chapter 8 of the Consultation Report [APP/5.2] . The Applicant also notes the Grid Connection Statement [APP/7.1] .
National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET)	Consultation and engagement	Where the Promoter intends to acquire land, extinguish rights, or interfere with or work within close proximity to any of NGET's apparatus and land, this will require appropriate protection and further discussion on the impact to its apparatus and rights.	No	The Applicant notes this.
	Consultation and engagement	NGET assets form an essential part of the electricity transmission network in England and Wales. Please continue to consult NGET in regard to this development.	No	The Applicant notes this comment and confirms that consultation with NGET will continue.
	Protective Provisions	NGET will require an adequate form of Protective Provisions included within the Order.	No	The Applicant notes this and confirms that a form of protective provisions has been included for NGET's benefit in Schedule 15 of the draft DCO [APP/3.1] . The Applicant welcomes NGET's comments on these.
	Existing assets	Existing Infrastructure: Overhead Lines 4VV 400 kV OHL NORWICH MAIN - WALPOLE 1 NORWICH MAIN - WALPOLE 2	No	The Applicant notes this.
	Existing assets	I enclose a plan showing the location of NGET's apparatus in the scoping area. The interaction is shown on plan below with the 4VV OHL route, between towers 4VV094 and 4VV104.	No	The Applicant notes this.
	Existing assets	New Infrastructure	No	The Applicant notes this and has referred to the documents as appropriate.

Respondent	Topic	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	
		The National Energy System Operator (NESO) took over the electricity network planning responsibility from National Grid Electricity System Operator Limited (NGESO) on the 1st October 2024. Please consult with NESO separately from NGET where further information on the strategic need or capacity is sought.		
		Please refer to the Holistic Network Design (HND) and the NESO website to view the strategic vision for the UK's ever growing electricity transmission network:		
		Proposed New Onshore Infrastructure	No	
	New substation	A new substation will be required to facilitate customer connections along the Norwich to Walpole 400 kV Overhead Line. The location of the new substation is still to be confirmed.		The Applicant notes this comment.
	Formal objection	NGET wish to lodge a holding objection to this proposed application and NGET should be engaged to fully explore the feasibility of this option without comprise to proposed NGET works.	No	The Applicant notes this objection and further notes that it will continue to engage with NGET.
	Existing and future assets Consultation and engagement	NGET requests that all existing and future assets are given due consideration given their criticality to distribution of energy across the UK. We remain committed to working with the promoter in a proactive manner, enabling both parties to deliver successful projects wherever reasonably possible. As such we encourage that ongoing discussion and consultation between both parties is maintained on interactions with existing or future assets, land interests, connections or consents and any other NGET interests which have the potential to be impacted prior to submission of the Proposed DCO.	No	The Applicant notes this comment and welcomes ongoing consultation with NGET to resolve the matters raised.
	Existing and future assets Consultation and engagement	The Great Grid Upgrade is the largest overhaul of the electricity grid in generations, we are in the middle of a transformation, with the energy we use increasingly coming from cleaner greener sources. Our infrastructure projects across England and Wales are helping to connect more renewable energy to homes and businesses. To find out more about our current projects please refer to our network and infrastructure webpage. Where it has been identified that your project interacts with or is in close proximity to one of NGET's infrastructure projects, we would welcome further discussion at the earliest opportunity.	No	The Applicant notes this comment and thanks NGET for sharing the link to the network and infrastructure page.
	Existing and future assets	These projects are all essential to increase the overall network capability to connect the numerous new offshore wind farms that are being developed, and transport new clean green energy to the homes and businesses where it is needed.	No	The Applicant thanks NGET for its feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The

Respondent	Topic	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
	Guidance	Electricity Infrastructure: National Grid's Overhead Line/s is protected by a Deed of Easement/Wayleave Agreement which provides full right of access to retain, maintain, repair and inspect our asset Statutory electrical safety clearances must be maintained at all times. Any proposed buildings must not be closer than 5.3m to the lowest conductor. National Grid recommends that no permanent structures are built directly beneath overhead lines. These distances are set out in EN 43 – 8 Technical Specification for "overhead line clearances Issue 5 (2019)", which publicly available. If any changes in ground levels are proposed either beneath or in close proximity to our existing overhead lines, then this would serve to reduce the safety clearances for such overhead lines. Safe clearances for existing overhead lines must be maintained in all circumstances. The relevant guidance in relation to working safely near to existing overhead lines is contained within the Health and Safety Executive's (www.hse.gov.uk) Guidance Note GS 6 "Avoidance of Danger from Overhead Electric Lines" and all relevant site staff should make sure that they are both aware of and understand this guidance. Plant, machinery, equipment, buildings or scaffolding should not encroach within 5.3 metres of any of our high voltage conductors when those conductors are under their worse conditions of maximum "sag" and "swing" and overhead line profile (maximum "sag" and "swing" should be obtained using the contact details above. If a landscaping scheme is proposed as part of the proposal, we request that only slow and low growing species of trees and shrubs are planted beneath and adjacent to the existing overhead line to reduce the risk of growth to a height which compromises statutory safety clearances. Drilling or excavation works should not be undertaken if they have the potential to disturb or adversely affect the foundations always extend beyond the base area of the existing tower and foundation ("pillar of support") drawings can be obtained u	No	The Applicant thanks NGET for its feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.

Respondent	Topic	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		Act. These provisions provide National Grid full right of access to retain, maintain, repair and inspect our assets. Hence, we require that no permanent / temporary structures are to be built over our cables or within the easement strip. Any such proposals should be discussed and agreed with National Grid prior to any works taking place.		
		Ground levels above our cables must not be altered in any way. Any alterations to the depth of our cables will subsequently alter the rating of the circuit and can compromise the reliability, efficiency and safety of our electricity network and requires consultation with National Grid prior to any such changes in both level and construction being implemented.		
	Consultation and engagement	NGET requests to be consulted at the earliest stages to ensure that the most appropriate protective provisions are included within the DCO application to safeguard the integrity of our apparatus and to remove the requirement for objection. All consultations should be sent to the following email address: box.landandacquisitions@nationalgrid.com		The Applicant notes this comment and welcomes further engagement.
	Concluding remarks	I hope the above information is useful. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me. In the meantime, we look forward to receipt of further information and consultation relating to potential impacts on our assets. The information in this letter is provided not withstanding any discussions taking place in relation to connections with electricity customer services.		The Applicant notes this comment and thanks NGET for its response to the targeted consultation. It also notes that additional information has been shared, as detailed in Chapter 8 of the Consultation Report [APP/5.1]
National Highways	No comments	Thank you for your email regarding the targeted consultation on the abovementioned project received on the 4th September 2025. We have reviewed the amended information and we have no further comments to our previous comments issued as part of the previous consultation, dated 9th July 2025. I have attached a copy for ease.	No	The Applicant notes this comment and thanks National Highway for its response to the targeted consultation.
		The Droves Solar Farm - Targeted Consultation (Section 42 Consultation) Location: Land north of Swaffham and south of Castle Acre, West Norfolk	No	The Applicant notes this comment and thanks Natural England for its response to the targeted consultation.
Natural England	Introduction	Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 02 September 2025, which was received by Natural England on the same date. Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.		The Applicant also notes Natural England's statutory duties and the documents that have been reviewed as part of its response. The Applicant further notes this does not change the advice provided as part of the statutory consultation, which is set out in Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2], alongside the Applicant's consideration.

Respondent	Topic	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	
		Natural England has reviewed the following documents as provided;		
		Targeted Consultation Map		
		Targeted Consultation Red Line Boundary Change Plan		
		Targeted Consultation Information Leaflet		
		The 4 changes, and 3 updates proposed by this consultation will result in additional areas being included within the development boundary. The increase in these additional areas does not change the advice provided by Natural England in our previous response to the Section 42 consultation (dated 08 July 2025, our ref 512311). We advise that all the additional areas included in the development boundary area should be subject to ecological surveys of a sufficient scope to enable a thorough assessment of the potential environmental impacts of the proposed development.		
	Consultation and engagement	In future consultations, when providing maps of the proposed development, which include legends e.g. the map on pages 16 and 17 of the Information Leaflet, Natural England would welcome if areas of mitigation and enhancement and other infrastructure e.g. Area for mitigation, enhancement and/or retained agricultural land/buildings could be separated out into separate entries, so that areas which are for mitigation/enhancement are more easily identifiable from other retained infrastructure i.e. two separate legend entries for mitigation/enhancement areas and other retained infrastructure.	No	The Applicant notes this comment and will take it into consideration for the production of any community facing materials in the future.
	Change 1 - Additional land to accommodate Skylark and Curlew mitigation	Where Natural England have specific comments with regard to each of the 4 changes, and 3 updates, these are detailed below: Change 1 - Approximately 90 hectares of additional mitigation land for Skylark and Curlew Natural England welcomes the inclusion of this additional mitigation land to support these species. At this stage, due to the lack of detail on this mitigation, we are unable to offer any indication as to whether the mitigation being proposed is appropriate. If you require advice on this matter, please provide us with further details and we will provide comment. Additionally, we would welcome if you could clarify the exact species of curlew that this mitigation land is being proposed for e.g. Numenius Arquata (Eurasian curlew), or Burhinus oedicnemus (stone-curlew).	No	The Applicant notes this comment and confirms ES Appendix 7.3: Proposed Mitigation Strategy for Ground Nesting Birds Requiring Open Habitats [APP/6.4] sets out in more detail the proposed mitigation and compensation package in relation to ground-nesting bird species. The Applicant welcomes further engagement with Natural England regarding the matter, if required. The Applicant also confirms that the surveys at the Site recorded two pairs of Eurasian Curlew.
	Update 1 - Refinement of BESS and substation locations	Update 1 - Refinement of BESS and substation locations Natural England welcomes the removal of the BESS and substation from field 33. As based on the Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) grade map in Appendix 6 of the ALC Survey Report (Appendix 11.2), this area appears to be grade 1 best and most versatile (BMV) land. However, we note that the newly	No	The Applicant thanks Natural England for its feedback on the update provided. The Applicant confirms that these updates were shared as part of ongoing community engagement but were not subject to targeted consultation. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and

Respondent	Topic	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		proposed location, which includes fields 24 and 27 still appear to be an area of BMV Land, consisting of a mix of Grade 2 and 3a. Natural England therefore advise that the siting of this infrastructure is further considered. We advise that the survey results of the ALC report are used to inform micro-siting of infrastructure, such as the proposed substation infrastructure, to avoid BMV land as much as is practicable prior to submission.		Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
	Closing statement	For any further advice on this consultation please contact using the email below and copy to consultations@naturalengland.org.uk	No	The Applicant notes this point of contact and thanks Natural England for its engagement throughout the pre-application process.
	Consultation and engagement	Thank you for your email and consultation below. In order to provide a thorough response from the various County Council specialist teams (including Highways; LLFA, Minerals and Waste, & Public Health); and inform/consult locally elected members, I would like to request an extension of time to respond by Friday 10/10/25.	No	The Applicant confirms that an extension was granted for Norfolk County Council until 18 July 2025 to provide its response.
Norfolk County Council	Introduction	Norfolk County Council's Technical Response to the: Targeted Consultation by The Droves Solar Farm Limited on their Proposed Amendments to The Droves Solar Farm Line Project September 2025 1. Introduction 1.1 In July 2025, the County Council responded to The Droves Solar Farm Limited's statutory consultation on the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) for the project. The Droves Solar Farm, which will be located 1km north of Swaffham, will deliver up to 500 MW of electricity, which will be sufficient to provide power for approximately 115,000 homes annually. It will cover approximately 825 hectares (ha) of countryside and require not only solar panels, but significant supporting infrastructure including battery storage, transformers and convertors, and a grid connection to the existing 400kV overhead lines that run through the site. 1.2 The County Council responded to the statutory consultation making both Over-Arching Strategic Comments and comments on the Grid Connection, Panel Options and on a number of the environmental impacts of the project. The County Council's comments made in July 2025 are set out in Appendix 2 and these remain valid. 1.3 In September 2025 The Droves Solar Farm Limited have undertaken an additional Targeted Consultation, as a result of a number of proposed changes to the development boundary for The Droves Solar Farm. The County Council has been invited to		The Applicant notes this comment and thanks Norfolk County Council for its response to the targeted consultation. The Applicant further notes this does not change the response provided to the statutory consultation, which is set out in Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2], alongside the Applicant's consideration.

			Has this resulted in	
Respondent	Topic	Comment	a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		respond to the Targeted Consultation. This reports sets out the details of the response to the consultation.		
		1.4 Further details on each change and update as proposed by the applicant are set out in the Information Leaflet, which can be accessed via the Documents Library on the Project website: www.drovessolarfarm.co.uk/#documents		
		2. Background - The Targeted Consultation	No	
		2.1 The Targeted Consultation is concerned with a number of changes to the Project's proposed development boundary. These changes, the consultation states, reflect feedback received during statutory consultation, as well as ongoing environmental surveys and assessments. The changes being consulted on are as follows:		
		 Change 1 – Approximately 90 hectares of additional land has been included to the north of the Site to support mitigation for Skylark and Curlew; 		
	Introduction	 Change 2 – Additional land has been included at the western extent of the Site to provide adequate space in which to safely carry out works to the existing overhead line; 		
		 Change 3 – Additional land has been included to allow for temporary alternative access to an affected residential property along Petticoat Drove and Washpit Drove; and 		The Applicant confirms that the changes listed were those for which the Applicant sought feedback as part of the targeted consultation. The Applicant further confirms the updates listed reflect those provided as part of the
		 Change 4 – Additional land has been included either side of the junction between Washpit Drove and Low Road to accommodate potential hedgerow removal, should this be required to ensure safe visibility for residents using the alternative route (Change 3) during temporary closures. 		'project update' provided to coincide with the targeted consultation.
		2.2 In addition the applicant is proposing 3 Updates comprising:		
		 Update 1 - Refinement of the Battery Energy Storage System and substation requirement; 		
		Update 2 - Refinement of the indicative alignment of overhead line; and		
		Update 3 - Removal of a Field 32 as no longer needed.		
		2.3 These changes are summarised on the Map in Appendix 1 below.		
		3. Response to Targeted Consultation	No	
	Introduction	3.1 The County Council welcomes the opportunity to comment on The Droves Solar Farm Limited's Targeted Consultation.		The Applicant notes and welcomes this comment.
	Consultation and engagement	3.2 The technical officer-level comments below are made on a without prejudice basis to the previous comments made by the County Council (July 2024) to The Droves Solar Farm Limited's statutory consultation on the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR). The County Council's comments made in response to the PEIR consultation remain valid. The comments	No	The Applicant notes this comment.

Respondent	Topic	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		set out in this response are to be read as additional comments and do not supersede the previous comments made in response to the PEIR consultation. The County Council reserves the right to make further comments at the: (a) Formal submission stage of the Development Consent Order (DCO) and make appropriate relevant representations; and (b) Examination Stage – prepare a Local Impact Report (LIR) setting out the County Council's position.		
	Consultation and engagement	3.3 It should be noted that County Council officers will continue to engage in direct dialogue with The Droves Solar Farm Limited in order to work through the issues and concerns previously raised under the PEIR consultation; and the issues set out below in relation to this targeted consultation ahead of the submission of the DCO.	No	The Applicant notes this comment and welcomes continued dialogue with relevant officers.
	Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR)	3.4 The County Council notes that the proposed changes set out in the Targeted Consultation do not address any of its previously stated comments set out in its response to the consultation on the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) in July 2025. The County Council would therefore again draw the applicant's attention to both the strategic and detailed technical comments set out in its response to the PEIR consultation, and particularly those relating to Overarching Strategic considerations, the Grid Connection and Panel Option. A full copy of the County Council's to the consultation on the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) is attached in the Appendix 1 to this report.	No	The Applicant notes this comment and considers that feedback provided on the PEIR as part of the statutory consultation is adequately addressed within the ES [APP6.1 – 6.5]. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are further set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2].
	Introduction	3.5 This report focuses on the technical officer-level comments in response to the current Targeted Consultation. The detailed technical officer-level comments are set out below:	No	The Applicant notes this and has addressed the comments below.
	Change 1 - Additional land to accommodate Skylark and Curlew mitigation	(a) Strategic Comments 3.6 The proposed changes as indicated do not address the County Council's previous concerns raised; and moreover raise additional concerns in relation to the further potential loss of agricultural land (90 hectares) as proposed under Change 1.	No	The Applicant notes this comment and considers that feedback provided on the PEIR as part of the statutory consultation is adequately addressed within the ES [APP6.1 – 6.5]. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are further set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant also notes that the proposed mitigation land would be managed within the wider landholding in order to reflect appropriate cropping rotations.
	Change 2 - Western extension to safely accommodate overhead line works Change 3 - Provision for temporary	(b) Highway Authority (HA) Comments 3.7 The Highway Authority have advised in relation to Changes 2, 3, and 4 of the proposed changes set out in the Targeted Consultation Information Leaflet, that further detail is required regarding the proposed works to ensure that highway visibility and carriageway widths are acceptable and compliant with relevant standards.	No	The Applicant notes that construction access routes to the Scheme have been identified through a review of the LRN to identify suitable locations in highway safety terms, including being sufficient to accommodate HGVs and the provision of appropriate visibility splays. Further information is provided in the Access Strategy, which forms part of the Scheme design and is set out within ES Figure 5.2: Construction Masterplan [APP/6.3].

Respondent	Topic alternative access	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response The Applicant welcomes further engagement with the Highway Authority to discuss
	to residential property Change 4 - Addition of land for safe visibility and temporary alternative access to residential property			the changes, if required.
	Consultation and engagement	3.8 It should be noted that the Highway Authority have engaged directly with the applicant and they are aware of the concerns previously raised. Should you have any queries with the above comments please contact - @norfolk.gov.uk	No	The Applicant confirms that direct engagement has been undertaken. The Applicant also notes this point of contact.
	Update 1 - Refinement of BESS and substation locations Update 2 - Removal of Field 32	(c) Norfolk Fire and Resue (NFRS) Comments 3.9 Norfolk Fire and Rescue Service acknowledge Updates 1 and 2 (above), which involves the refinement of both the BESS and the substation locations; and the proposed realignment of the overhead line. At this stage NFRS does not have any additional comments to make, as a result of the Targeted Consultation, but maintains its previous comments (July 2025). 3.10 Should you have any queries with the above comments please contact: @norfolk.gov.uk	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback on the updates provided. The Applicant confirms that these updates were shared as part of ongoing community engagement but were not subject to targeted consultation. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant notes this point of contact and welcomes further engagement, if required.
	Change 1 - Additional land to accommodate Skylark and Curlew mitigation	(d) Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) Comments 3.11 The Lead Local Flood Authority has the following comments to make on the four proposed changes set out in the Targeted Consultation Information Leaflet: Change 1 - Additional Land to Accommodate Skylark and Curlew Mitigation 3.12 The LLFA notes the area identified for Skylark and Curlew mitigation is currently farmed through a mixture of arable crops and pig farming activities. It notes that pig farming results in a significant reduction of vegetation ground cover and compaction that leads to an increase in surface water runoff from these areas. The applicant has stated ""This land is proposed to be used only for the provision of suitable habitat to support the birds, whilst still allowing agricultural use in the case of the skylark plots."" It is not clear to the LLFA from the information provided whether the pig	No	The Applicant does not anticipate pig rearing to take place. The Applicant notes that the Skylark and Curlew mitigation will provide grassland habitat. As noted by the Lead Local Flood Authority, the land surrounding these supplies is currently used for pig rearing as well as arable crop production. As such, there is likely to be a marginal improvement in the quality of surface runoff and inputs to groundwater through the reduction in the application of nitrates and phosphates, and inputs from animal waste, which is cited as a pressure on the River Nar in the Norfolk Rivers Trust in the Water Framework Directive Local Catchment Plan.

Respondent	Topic	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	
		farming activities will continue in these areas. Clarification is required.		
	Additional land to accommodate	3.13 Furthermore, the applicant states "If plots cannot be created in a given year, for example, due to crop rotation, the land will be managed in a way that remains suitable for Skylarks, such as organic set-aside." It is not clear what 'crops' would prevent the inclusion of skylark plots or whether pig rearing is included in the crops considered as preventing the inclusion of skylark plots. Clarification is required.		In order to reflect cropping rotations whilst ensuring Skylark plots are provided within the most suitable areas, the precise locations of plots would necessarily vary from year to year, such that a larger area within the landholding has been identified, within which the proposed 77ha arable land will be managed to include Skylark plots on a rotational basis. Further details of this are provided in ES Appendix 7.3: Proposed Mitigation Strategy for Ground Nesting Birds Requiring Open Habitats [APP/6.4]
	accommodate	3.14 The LLFA notes that previously the applicant has indicated the removal of pig farming could be considered in providing a betterment for surface water flood risk management. However, should the pig farming activities remain as part of the agricultural activities rotating through the land, then the benefits claimed could be limited from a flood risk perspective. Further information is required.		The Applicant does not anticipate pig rearing to take place.
	Change 2 - Western extension to safely accommodate overhead line works	Change 2 - Western Extension to Safely Accommodate Overhead Line Works 3.15 There is a lack of information about what works will be undertaken in this area and whether there will be any temporary or permanent changes that could increase the impermeable area, alter the surface water flow regime or how long this would be in place for. At present there is no information to assess whether the proposed development would increase flood risk onsite or elsewhere. Further information is required.		The Applicant notes this comment. The works associated with the western extension to accommodate overhead line activities would be temporary in nature and during the construction phase. The Applicant further notes that Scheme is described in Schedule 1 of the draft DCO [APP/3.1] , where the 'authorised development' is divided into Works Areas. Work No. 5 refers to the Grid Connection Infrastructure, including a diversion and potential decommissioning of the existing 400kV overhead line, removal of old pylons (if required) and installation of new pylons, including works to lay electrical cables, access, and temporary construction laydown areas for electrical cables. ES Chapter 12: Water Resources [APP/6.2] considers that Work No. 2: BESS Compound, Work No. 3: Customer Substation and Work No. 4: National Grid Substation are the only Scheme infrastructure during the construction phase which have any potential to impact the groundwater resource due to the absence of concrete pouring and substantial excavation associated with other infrastructure which makes up the Scheme.
	Change 3 - Provision for temporary alternative access to residential property	Change 3 – Provision for Temporary Alternative Access to Residential Property 3.16 The information for the alternative access routes has not stated whether there will be an increase in impermeable area or not. There is a lack of information relating to the proposed design, the supporting infrastructure such as drainage and how long this facility will be in place. At present there is no information to assess whether the proposed development would increase flood risk onsite or elsewhere. Further information is required.		The Applicant notes this comment. The alternative access would be temporary in nature and during the construction phase. The Applicant further notes that Scheme is described in Schedule 1 of the draft DCO [APP/3.1], where the 'authorised development' is divided into Works Areas. Work No. 5 refers to the Grid Connection Infrastructure, including a diversion and potential decommissioning of the existing 400kV overhead line, removal of old pylons (if required) and installation of new pylons, including works to lay electrical cables, access, and temporary construction laydown areas for electrical cables.

Respondent	Topic	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response ES Chapter 12: Water Resources [APP/6.2] considers that Work No. 2: BESS Compound, Work No. 3: Customer Substation and Work No. 4: National Grid Substation are the only Scheme infrastructure during the construction phase which
				have any potential to impact the groundwater resource due to the absence of concrete pouring and substantial excavation associated with other infrastructure which makes up the Scheme.
	Change 4 - Addition of land for safe visibility and temporary alternative access to residential property	Change 4 – Addition of Land for Safe Visibility and Temporary Alternative Access to Residential Property 3.17 The information for the alternative access routes has not stated whether there will be an increase in impermeable area or not. Furthermore, there is a lack of information relating to the proposed design, the supporting infrastructure such as drainage and how long this facility will be in place. At present there is no information to assess whether the proposed development would increase flood risk onsite or elsewhere. Further information is required.	No	The Applicant notes this comment. Change 4 has been included to accommodate potential hedgerow removal during construction, should it be required for safe visibility at the junction between Washpit Drove and Low Road during works to the existing overhead line. The Applicant further notes that the Scheme is described in Schedule 1 of the draft DCO [APP/3.1] , where the 'authorised development' is divided into Works Areas. Work No. 5 refers to the Grid Connection Infrastructure, including a diversion and potential decommissioning of the existing 400kV overhead line, removal of old pylons (if required) and installation of new pylons, including works to lay electrical cables, access, and temporary construction laydown areas for electrical cables. ES Chapter 12: Water Resources [APP/6.2] considers that Work No. 2: BESS Compound, Work No. 3: Customer Substation and Work No. 4: National Grid Substation are the only Scheme infrastructure during the construction phase which have any potential to impact the groundwater resource due to the absence of concrete pouring and substantial excavation associated with other infrastructure which makes up the Scheme.
	Update 1 - Refinement of BESS and substation locations	3.18 Update 1 – Refinement of the BESS and Substation locations; and Update 2 -Refinement of indicative alignment of the overhead lines - there is no information to assess whether the proposed Updates 1 and 2 would increase flood risk onsite or elsewhere. Further information is required.	No	The Applicant thanks the LLFA for its feedback on the updates provided. The Applicant confirms that these updates were shared as part of ongoing community engagement but were not subject to targeted consultation. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
	Supporting guidance	3.19 Further information on the LLFA's Developer Guidance can be found available online at https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/article/38642/Information-for-developers 3.20 Should you have any queries with the above comments please contact: Lead Local Flood Authority	No	The Applicant thanks the LLFA for its feedback and notes the point of contact provided.
	Archaeology and heritage	(e) Historic Environment Comments 3.21 The County Council's Archaeological Officer has advised that any scheme of the scale proposed will have considerable impacts on below-ground archaeology and that consequently the four	No	The Applicant thanks the County Council's Archaeological Officer for their feedback on the updates provided. The Applicant confirms that these updates were shared as part of ongoing community engagement but were not subject to targeted consultation. As such, a detailed response has not been provided.

Respondent	Topic	Comment proposed changes and refinement Updates (1 and 2 above) set	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in
		out in the Targeted Consultation Information Leaflet have the potential to increase impacts on below-ground archaeology.		Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
	Archaeology and heritage	3.22 The County Council's Archaeological Officer advises that a geophysical survey and a limited scope of archaeological trail trenching have taken place, and that further archaeological mitigation will be required, for example in Fields 24 and 27.	No	The Applicant thanks the County Council's Archaeological Officer for their feedback on the updates provided. The Applicant confirms that these updates were shared as part of ongoing community engagement but were not subject to targeted consultation. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
	Change 1 - Additional land to accommodate Skylark and Curlew mitigation	3.23 They additionally comment that creating species-rich grassland for stone curlew habitat sometimes involves deep till soil inversion techniques which are potentially highly damaging to below-ground archaeology. They propose to discuss this further with the applicant in course of their next meeting.	No	The Applicant notes that archaeological surveys do not cover the areas for skylark and curlew mitigation, as these will not be subject to below-ground disturbance. An outline Archaeological Mitigation Strategy is included as Appendix 8.7: outline Archaeological Mitigation Strategy [APP/6.4].
	Supporting guidance	3.24 Should you have any queries with the above comments please contact: @norfolk.gov.uk	No	The Applicant thanks the County Council's Archaeological Officer for their feedback and notes this point of contact.
	No comments	(f) Natural Environment Comments Arboriculture 3.25 The Arboricultural Officer does not have any additional comments to make, as a result of the Targeted Consultation, but maintains its previous comments. 3.26 Should you have any queries with the above comments please contact:neti@norfolk.gov.uk	No	The Applicant thanks the Arboriculture Officer for their feedback to the targeted consultation and notes that no additional comments have been provided, but that the feedback provided to the statutory consultation is maintained.
	Biodiversity	Ecology 3.27 Advise that the new areas being proposed must be included as part of any Ecological assessment/s, including any Biodiversity Net Gain assessment. 3.28 Should you have any queries with the above comments please contact: @norfolk.gov.uk	No	The Applicant notes this comment and confirms that all land within the Order limits has been considered as part of the Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment Report [APP/7.4], which has been submitted with the DCO Application. The Applicant also notes this point of contact.
	Change 1 - Additional Land to Accommodate	Landscape 3.29 Landscape comments are set out below:	No	The Applicant notes this and confirms that ES Chapter 6: Landscape and Visual [APP/6.2] considers all land within the Order limits and parameters set out in ES Chapter 5: The Scheme [APP/5.1].

Respondent	Topic	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
	Skylark and Curlew Mitigation	Change 1 - Additional Land to Accommodate Skylark and Curlew Mitigation 3.30 From a landscape perspective the Landscape Officer is supportive of this inclusion providing that it is fully included within any Landscape and Visual assessments. While it is likely that any mitigation will be low lying and has the potential to be beneficial in both landscape and visual terms this should be included to ensure that there are no increased impacts.		
	Change 2 - Western extension to safely accommodate overhead line works	Change 2 - Western Extension to Safely Accommodate Overhead Line Works 3.31 The Landscape Officer advises that further details will need to be provided so that they can understand how this land will be utilised, changed and restored following the works being completed. Depending on the works and changes required this land may need more extensive assessment within the Landscape and Visual Assessments.	No	The Applicant notes this comment. The Scheme is described in Schedule 1 of the draft DCO [APP/3.1] , where the 'authorised development' is divided into Works Areas. Work No. 5 provides details regarding the Grid Connection Infrastructure, including a diversion and potential decommissioning of the existing 400kV overhead line, removal of old pylons (if required), installation of new pylons, and works to lay electrical cables, access, and temporary construction laydown areas for electrical cables. The Applicant welcomes further discussion regarding the proposed works with regard to landscape and visual impacts, if required.
	Change 3 - Provision for temporary alternative access to residential property	Change 3 – Additional land included to allow temporary alternative access to residential properties. 3.32 While these changes appears to be minimal it does still pose the risk of impacts, especially in relation to the closures of Public Rights of Way and the experience of those using them. It is considered that as long as these matters are scoped into the landscape and visual assessments and there is no long term changes the impacts should be minimal.	No	The Applicant notes this comment and confirms that ES Chapter 6 : Landscape and Visual [APP/6.2] assesses all phases of the Scheme, including works associated with construction, such as the provision of temporary alternative access. The Applicant also notes that the use of visual screening, such as hoardings, would be implemented for more sensitive visual receptors in proximity to the Site during construction, including PRoW receptors that have the greatest potential to be affected by the Scheme. Further details of this are set out in the oCEMP [APP/7.6]
	Change 4 - Addition of land for safe visibility and temporary alternative access to residential property	Change 4 – Additional land included to allow for potential hedgerow removal for visibility during temporary closures. 3.33 All I other options should be considered before further vegetation removal and further details will be required about the potential amount of hedgerow to be lost and proposals for replanting following the completion of works.	No	The Applicant notes this and confirms that hedgerow removal would only be undertaken if required to provide safe visibility splays at the junction between Washpit Drove and Low Road. The ocemp [APP/7.6] confirms that hedgerows would be reinstated as soon as possible through hedgerow and grassland replanting/translocation/re-seeding
	Update 1 – Refinement of BESS and Substation locations	3.34 Update 1 – Refinement of BESS and Substation locations; and Update 2Refinement of indicative alignment of the overhead lines – these changes will need to be scoped into the landscape and visual assessments.	No	The Applicant thanks the relevant Officer for their feedback on the updates provided. The Applicant confirms that these updates were shared as part of ongoing community engagement but were not subject to targeted consultation. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.

Respondent	Topic	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	
	Landscape and visual	Further Landscape Comments 3.35 It is understood that all changes will be included within the EIA that will be submitted as part of the DCO. The applicant should consider Landscape and Visual impacts that come with the increased land take and an increased area of working space which, may have impacts on the enjoyment of public space such as Public Rights of Way. 3.36 Should you have any queries with the above comments please contact: @norfolk.gov.uk	No	The Applicant notes this comment and confirms that the changes consulted on the targeted consultation have been fully considered as part of the ES [APP6.1 – 6.5]. The Applicant also confirms that ES Chapter 6: Landscape and Visual [APP/6.2] takes into account the impacts on users of PRoW. An Amenity and Recreation Assessment (ARA) is a separate assessment to the LVIA and is included in ES Appendix 6.8: Amenity and Recreation Assessment [APP/6.4]. It assesses the overall experience of the amenity and recreational resources and concludes that there are no significant effects upon PRoW users within the Site in the long term. The Applicant thanks the relevant Officer for their feedback to the targeted consultation and also notes the point of contact provided.
	No additional comments	 (g) Public Health Comments 3.37 The Public Health Team does not have any additional comments to make, as a result of the Targeted Consultation, but maintains its previous comments. 3.38 Should you have any queries with the above comments please contact: @norfolk.gov.uk 	No	The Applicant thanks the Public Health Team for its feedback to the targeted consultation and notes that no additional comments have been provided, but that the feedback provided to the statutory consultation is maintained. The Applicant also notes the point of contact provided.
	No additional comments	 (h) Mineral and Waste Planning Authority Comments 3.39 The Mineral and Waste Planning does not have any additional comments to make, as a result of the Targeted Consultation, but maintains its previous comments. 3.40 Should you have any queries with the above comments please contact: @norfolk.gov.uk 	No	The Applicant thanks the Mineral and Waste Planning for its feedback to the targeted consultation and notes that no additional comments have been provided, but that the feedback provided to the statutory consultation is maintained. The Applicant also notes the point of contact provided.
	Summary	 4.1 The County Council's previous comments made in response to the statutory consultation on the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) in July 2025 remain valid and as such the County Council's previous comments still stand; 4.2 The County Council has a number of detailed comments as Highway Authority and Lead Local Flood Authority as well comments on both the historic and natural environment relating to the proposed changes set out in the Targeted Consultation Information Leaflet. There are also concerns regarding the further potential loss of agricultural land as set out in Change 1. 	No	The Applicant notes this conclusion and thanks Norfolk County Council for its feedback to the targeted consultation and notes that no additional comments have been provided, but that the feedback provided to the statutory consultation is maintained.
Sporle with Palgrave Parish Council	Introduction	SPORLE WITH PALGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL RESPONSE TO THE DROVES SOLAR DEVELOPMENT TARGETED CONSULTATION EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	No	The Applicant notes this and thanks Sporle with Palgrave Parish Council for its response to the targeted consultation and engagement throughout the preapplication process. The Applicant also notes reference to the comments provided during the statutory consultation. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and

Respondent	Topic	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		The Parish Council of Sporle with Palgrave (PC) have been invited to respond in a targeted consultation under Section 42 of the Planning Act 2008. This response should be read in connection with the response made by the PC to the Statutory consultation where we made clear: 1. Our opposition to the development giving our reasons. 2. Notwithstanding our opposition we stated our keenness to work with the Applicant to obtain the best outcome for the parish, the area and minimise and mitigate the effects of the development. 3. To that end we gave detailed and general responses to the consultation. We note that the Targeted Consultation Information Leaflet details four changes and three updates.		Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant welcomes further engagement.
	Change 1 - Additional land to accommodate Skylark and Curlew mitigation	Our responses to these are: Change 1: We welcome the additional land taken into the development for Skylark and Curlew mitigation.	No	The Applicant welcomes this comment.
	Change 2 - Western extension to safely accommodate overhead line works	Change 2: We accept that this extension is needed for works on the overhead line.	No	The Applicant notes this comment.
	Change 3 - Provision for temporary alternative access to residential property	Change 3: We accept that this alternative access will be needed.	No	The Applicant notes this comment.
	Change 4 - Addition of land for safe visibility and temporary alternative access to residential property	Change 4: We note that this addition of land is for safe visibility and temporary alternative access. However, we would want to see existing hedgerows replanted following construction.	No	The oCEMP [APP/7.6] confirms that hedgerows would be reinstated as soon as possible through hedgerow and grassland replanting/translocation/re-seeding, if cutting back or removal is required to facilitate construction.
	Update 1 - Refinement of BESS and	Update 1: Our response to the refinement of BESS and substation locations is detailed below.	No	The Applicant thanks Sporle with Palgrave Parish Council for its feedback on the updates provided. The Applicant confirms that these updates were shared as part of

Respondent	Topic	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	
	substation locations			ongoing community engagement but were not subject to targeted consultation. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
		Update 2: We welcome the removal of Field 32 from the Site noting from Fig 11.3 from the consultation documents that it contains both Grades 1 and 2 land.	No	The Applicant thanks Sporle with Palgrave Parish Council for its feedback on the updates provided. The Applicant confirms that these updates were shared as part of ongoing community engagement but were not subject to targeted consultation. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
	Update 3 - Refinement of indicative alignment of overhead line	Update 3: Our response to the refinement of the indicative alignment of overhead line is detailed below.	No	The Applicant thanks Sporle with Palgrave Parish Council for its feedback on the updates provided. The Applicant confirms that these updates were shared as part of ongoing community engagement but were not subject to targeted consultation. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
	Update 1 - Refinement of BESS and substation locations	Update 1: - Response to refinement of BESS and Substation locations Please note our Statutory Consultation response (SCr) points 3, 5, 6 and 14: 1. We are in general agreement that field 27 should be used for the substations. We note that the field slopes down to the north end near the tree lined byway from the A1065along the south of the Bartholomew Hills Plantation to Fincham Drove, as shown in photographs in the above-mentioned statutory consultation response SCr point 3. It is also noted that this area along the tree lined track is now to be used for mitigation.		The Applicant thanks Sporle with Palgrave Parish Council for its feedback on the updates provided. The Applicant confirms that these updates were shared as part of ongoing community engagement but were not subject to targeted consultation. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
		2. We were looking for the siting of the substations in the lowest part of the field to hide the substations as far as possible. This would be possible if the substations were sited towards the western edge of the field alongside Fincham Drove as the field	No	The Applicant thanks Sporle with Palgrave Parish Council for its feedback on the updates provided. The Applicant confirms that these updates were shared as part of ongoing community engagement but were not subject to targeted consultation. As such, a detailed response has not been provided.

Respondent	Topic	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	
		slopes down to that side, thereby reducing the substation base level as it is cut into the slope.		Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
	Update 1 - Refinement of BESS and substation locations	3. In addition, we would request that a 20m wooded shelter belt be planted on the existing line of the hedge line between fields 27 and 26 to further hide the substations.	No	The Applicant thanks Sporle with Palgrave Parish Council for its feedback on the updates provided. The Applicant confirms that these updates were shared as part of ongoing community engagement but were not subject to targeted consultation. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
		4. We have presumed the BESS's will be sited in field 24, with which we are in general agreement. Again, the field slopes down to the western edge and we would request that the BESS are situated to that site of the field to hide them and reduce the impact on the landscape.	No	The Applicant thanks Sporle with Palgrave Parish Council for its feedback on the updates provided. The Applicant confirms that these updates were shared as part of ongoing community engagement but were not subject to targeted consultation. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
	Update 1 - Refinement of BESS and substation locations	5. In relation to SCr point 5, we would still request that the colouring of the units to blend with the landscape and surrounding vegetation be undertaken.	No	The Applicant thanks Sporle with Palgrave Parish Council for its feedback on the updates provided. The Applicant confirms that these updates were shared as part of ongoing community engagement but were not subject to targeted consultation. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
	Update 1 - Refinement of BESS and substation locations	6. Our concerns about fire and battery safety as outlined in SCr point 14 still stand and we would request there be a complete outline Battery Safety Management Plan (oBSMP) made available as soon as possible. We are particularly concerned that: There will be adequate water supplies available on site to counter any fire outbreak, noting that the water is for cooling surrounding areas rather than putting out any battery container that might catch fire	No	The Applicant thanks Sporle with Palgrave Parish Council for its feedback on the updates provided. The Applicant confirms that these updates were shared as part of ongoing community engagement but were not subject to targeted consultation. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The

Respondent	Topic	Comment There will be sufficient management of surrounding vegetation to	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	
		 ensure any fire does not spread to surrounding panel areas The local fire services will have adequate resources to be able to contain battery fires with the large number of proposed developments Sufficient access for fire fighting from the A1065 to the BESS location. 		through those responses.
	Update 1 - Refinement of BESS and substation locations	7. In relation to SCr point 6 above, we would still request a 20m wooded shelter belt along the eastern edge of field 24.	No	The Applicant thanks Sporle with Palgrave Parish Council for its feedback on the updates provided. The Applicant confirms that these updates were shared as part of ongoing community engagement but were not subject to targeted consultation. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
	Update 3 - Refinement of indicative alignment of overhead line	Update 3: - Response to refinement of indicative alignment of overhead line Please note our Statutory Consultation response (SCr) point 4: 1. We recognise the need for the refinement of the area to be used to realign the overhead line. 2. We would reiterate our concerns and request that we would request that there is not a doubling up or increase in the overall number of pylons as per our SCr point 4, thereby adversely impacting the landscape. (Stage 1 works described in the Targeted Consultation Information Leaflet).		The Applicant thanks Sporle with Palgrave Parish Council for its feedback on the updates provided. The Applicant confirms that these updates were shared as part of ongoing community engagement but were not subject to targeted consultation. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
Swaffham Town Council	Formal objection	Good Afternoon, Please find the below response to the Droves Solar Farm localised changes consultation from Swaffham Town Council: The proposed changes do not alter our original general objection to the scheme.	No	The Applicant notes this comment and thanks Swaffham Town Council for its response and engagement throughout the pre-application process.
	Environment	There should be no loss of hedgerows and trees under any circumstances.	No	The Applicant thanks Swaffham Town Council for its feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.

Respondent	Topic	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	
	Landscape and visual impact	All the mitigation measures are to the north and do not address the visual impact from Swaffham and the A1065.	No	The Applicant thanks Swaffham Town Council for its feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
	Update 1 - Refinement of BESS and substation locations	The proposed update 1 will place substation and BESS facilities in a sensitive location alongside Public Right of Ways and in view of A1065.	No	The Applicant thanks Swaffham Town Council for its feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
West Suffolk Council	No comments	I can confirm that West Suffolk Council raise no objection given the location and wish to be removed from the consultation list please.	No	The Applicant notes this comment and has removed West Suffolk Council from its distribution list.



1 Section 47 Applicant Response Tables

Note Topic	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Aerodromes and aviation	Hang Gliding and Paragliding	Hi, Thank you for the information and the opportunity to respond to your targeted consultation. On reviewing the location for the solar farm, from an air user perspective this falls within the Military Aerodrome Traffic Zone of RAF Marham which is restricted airspace that our paraglider pilots are required to avoid between certain altitude parameters. Therefore the proposed solar site would have little or no impact on our flying operations as it is already within restricted airspace. We appreciate the opportunity to comment and I have forwarded the Consultation information onto our 68 members or Norfolk Hang Gliding and Paragliding Club should any individual members wish to respond. Kind regards Simon Hamilton Membership Secretary on behalf of Norfolk Hang Gliding and Paragliding Club	No	The Applicant welcomes this comment and thanks the respondent for their feedback.
Archaeology and heritage	Archaeology	This is an area that has repeatedly been described as one of the richest locations for archaeology anywhere in the UK, with vast numbers of finds dating from neolithic times (chalk landscapes being where flint is most found), through Roman, Viking, Anglo-Saxon, Norman and medieval eras within the boundaries of the proposed solar power plant. Two Roman roads meet at the proposed site, and Historic England calls Breckland more widely an 'archaeological hot spot' thanks to the density of multi-period remains. This is not somewhere to build a 2,000 acre power plant. Oh, I nearly forgot the one that is equally large on the other side of the road.	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback on the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. An assessment of the potential effects on cultural heritage and archaeology as a result of the Scheme is provided in ES Chapter 8: Cultural Heritage and Archaeology [APP/6.2]. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.

Note Topic	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
	Archaeology	2/ Important ARCHEOLOGICAL REMAINS have been found in the area of your planned solar farm. This section of The Nar Valley is, as you know, an area of great historic value/use & conservation requirement. For one example there is the site of a medieval Leprosy Hospital on the very edge of your currently planned solar farm. As I am sure you will be aware, ploughing only disturbs the top circa 12 inches of farmland whereas your solar panel support struts go down 4 to 5 feet & would therefore permanently damage/disrupt underlying archaeological remains. This situation must also be addressed before any further solar farm planning is pursued.	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
	Archaeology	Further point When will the Archaeological Reports be available from investigations carried out this year, I can only assume they will be published on your site, there is clearly local interest in what might have been found. Thank you again for considering previous comments, any queries on points made please do not hesitate to contact me.	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
	Heritage	Of course, the environmental impact remains key, and its link to understanding, the opportunity to record, access and to enable local enjoyment of this historic landscape and its heritage assets.	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
Proposed localised changes	Change 1 - Additional land to accommodate Skylark and	The proposed site of the Droves Solar Farm is in an area which could hold nesting Stone-curlews. Stone-curlews are listed on Annex I of the Birds Directive, as a species requiring special conservation measures concerning their habitat to ensure their survival and reproduction in their area of distribution. It is also listed on Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), giving it special protection at all times: the Act	No	The Applicant notes this advice and thanks the respondent for their feedback. The Applicant recognises the protections afforded to Stone-curlew under Section 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

Note Topic	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
	Curlew mitigation	makes it is an offence to intentionally or recklessly disturb any bird so listed whilst it is nest building or at (or near) a nest with eggs or young, or to disturb the dependant young of such a bird. Reckless damage, destruction or obstruction to a place used by species listed in Schedule 1 are also offences. We note from the Preliminary Environmental Information Report, Chapter 7 Ecology and Biodiversity section 7.6.4, that no Stone-curlews were recorded during any of the specific breeding bird surveys conducted across the Study Area in 2024. Our understanding is that the breeding bird surveys did not extend beyond the footprint of the proposed solar farm, however Stone-curlew are highly susceptible to human disturbance up to a distance of 500m so we would recommend that surveys for Stone-curlews should include the surrounding area within 500m of the site, wherever there is suitable habitat. As Stone-curlews often nest in arable farmland the suitability of habitat changes depending on crop types (they prefer spring sown crops) so we would recommend that surveys should ideally take place over three consecutive breeding seasons to allow for the influence of crop rotations on nesting. We welcome the proposed provision of a mitigation area for Eurasian Curlews and Skylarks. However, we do not think the area proposed is very suitable for Eurasian Curlews as it appears to be quite fragmented or enclosed by roads, buildings, a public footpath (all sources of disturbance) and areas of woodland (potential source of predators). The area is also crossed by an overhead powerline which could be a strike hazard. We would therefore recommend that a more suitable location for the mitigation area is sought. I hope this information is of assistance.		A comprehensive programme of ecological survey work has been undertaken, including detailed breeding bird surveys across the proposed Solar PV Site during April to July 2024. During the survey work undertaken, a total of 121 Skylark breeding territories were recorded across the surveyed area, along with breeding activity by a single pair of Lapwing and two pairs of Curlew. Regarding Sone-curlew, the Site is located approximately 2.4 km from the Breckland SPA designation at its closest point (whilst the closest components reckland Forest SSSI), which is not understood to provide suitable relate to B habitat for Stone-curlew in particular. Further, the Site is located entirely outside the 1.5 km constraint zone identified by Natural England using the Stone-curlew Planning Tool. None of the qualifying species was recorded during any of the specific breeding bird surveys conducted at the Site in 2024, and therefore, the Site does not appear to represent functionally linked land used by qualifying species. Given the information and considerations set out in Appendix 7.3: Proposed Mitigation Strategy for Ground Nesting Birds Requiring Open Habitats [APP/6.4], the proposed mitigation and compensation package in relation to ground-nesting bird species is appropriate and proportionate in regard to legislative and planning policy requirements relating to the proposed Scheme.
	Change 1 - Additional land to accommodate Skylark and Curlew mitigation	I am writing to formerly raise several concerns regarding the proposed Droves Solar Farm, particularly relating to the lack of sufficient ecological mitigation, the loss of public access, and the potential noise impacts from the BESS(Battery Energy Storage System) and associated substation infrastructure. 1. Ecological Mitigation - Ground Nesting Birds The area designated is known to support several ground-nesting bird species, including: • Skylark (Alauda arvensis) • Common Curlew (Numenius arquata) • Stone Curlew (Burhinus oedicnemus) These are species of significant conservation concern, and yet there appears to be no clearly defined or appropriately positioned mitigation strategy within your public plans to protect their breeding and foraging habitat. Simply leaving isolated strips of land or peripheral zones without active habitat management is unlikely to provide the undisturbed conditions these birds require.	No	The Applicant notes but disagrees. A comprehensive programme of ecological survey work has been undertaken, including detailed breeding bird surveys across the proposed Solar PV Site during April to July 2024. During the survey work undertaken, a total of 121 Skylark breeding territories were recorded across the surveyed area, along with breeding activity by a single pair of Lapwing and two pairs of Curlew. Appendix 7.3: Proposed Mitigation Strategy for Ground Nesting Birds Requiring Open Habitats [APP/6.4] sets out the proposed mitigation and compensation package in relation to ground-nesting bird species. The proposed mitigation and compensation strategy will incorporate a package of measures in order to provide continuous opportunities for the relevant species in combination with a range of other bird and wildlife species across the site. Measures will include the following: • Provision of new managed open grassland areas providing specific opportunities for ground nesting species • Favourable management of grassland margins and associated habitats, which will provide increased foraging value and therefore raise carrying capacity across the site as a whole for these species; and

Note Topic	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		We strongly urge IGP to engage with local ecological stakeholders and ensure a well-evidenced mitigation and monitoring plan is implemented, including: Retention and enhancement of core nesting habitats Buffer zones free from human or machinery disturbance during breeding seasons Ongoing ecological monitoring with transparent reporting		Incorporation of Skylark plots within arable land located outside of the solar development areas. The Applicant notes that it considers the proposed mitigation and compensation package is appropriate and proportionate in regard to legislative and planning policy requirements relating to the proposed Solar Scheme.
	Change 1 - Additional land to accommodate Skylark and Curlew mitigation	Change 1: Area set aside for skylarks and curlews. This is welcomed as these species are known to threatened in the UK and their birdsong and sightings are valued. Any efforts to stabilise or increase their populations by providing suitable biodiversity and space must be considered worthwhile.	No	The Applicant welcomes this comment.
	Change 1 - Additional land to accommodate Skylark and Curlew mitigation	September 2025 Targeted consultation for The Droves Solar Farm Thank you for inviting us to comment on this targeted consultation. Please find our comments below. Change 1 - Additional land to accommodate Skylark and Curlew mitigation We welcome the addition of this new land for skylark and curlew mitigation. We look forward to reading the Environmental Management Plan with further details of how these areas will be managed, as this will be critical to achieving success for these two species. We note that the Consultation Leaflet states that you will be working with us to develop this management plan. Consideration of habitat management, including the timing of harvesting and hedgerow management, should be included in the plan.	No	The Applicant welcome this comment and notes that Appendix 7.3: Proposed Mitigation Strategy for Ground Nesting Birds Requiring Open Habitats [APP/6.4] sets out the proposed mitigation and compensation package in relation to ground-nesting bird species. An area of -approximately 81 ha of arable land incorporating Skylark plots is proposed, which would be managed within the wider landholding in order to reflect appropriate cropping rotations. The Applicant welcomes further engagement regarding the matter. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
	Change 1 - Additional land to accommodate Skylark and Curlew mitigation	my first observation is about the 'additional' curlew and skylark habitat. This land was not included as part of the scheme in the first place and was all proposed as mitigation land. It is disingenuous, deceitful and - frankly - disrespectful of residents to claim that you've listened to concerns and that this is in some way a positive and magnanimous development and that you are sacrificing land that had been earmarked for solar panels. None of that land you've pointed out was meant to be solar panels anyway - if the original application is to be believed - and no-one would have to worry about the poor skylarks and curlews in the first place if the project wasn't happening. Stop insulting our intelligence.	No	The Applicant notes this comment but does not agree with the suggestion that the information presented implied the land was originally proposed for solar development. The targeted consultation related specifically to additional land. The information and considerations set out in Appendix 7.3: Proposed Mitigation Strategy for Ground-Nesting Birds Requiring Open Habitats [APP/6.4] provide the justification for the proposed mitigation and compensation package. The Applicant considers this package to be appropriate and proportionate in regard to legislative and planning policy requirements relevant to the Scheme.

Note Topic	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
	Change 1 - Additional land to accommodate Skylark and Curlew mitigation	We have a query relating to change 1 - additional 90 ha of land for Skylark/curlews. Can you please provide/point us to the report which led to this addition to your application. You say it is not viewed as 'significant' for the PEIR. Please could you explain this reasoning - is it based on unforeseen/unidentified disruption of Skylark/curlew habitat from the original application or a wish to boost the populations of these species? Has the change and reasoning been notified and accepted by the Planning inspectorate please? I recognize that this consultation ends on 1 October and hope we can get a response to the above shortly.		A comprehensive programme of ecological survey work has been undertaken, including detailed breeding bird surveys across the proposed Solar PV Site during April to July 2024. During the survey work undertaken, a total of 121 Skylark breeding territories were recorded across the surveyed area, along with breeding activity by a single pair of Lapwing and two pairs of Curlew. At the time of publication of the PEIR, the specific details and extent of the proposed mitigation measures were still under consideration and assessment, and our ecology team were continuing to work closely with the relevant landowners to confirm a suitable approach. The information and considerations set out in Appendix 7.3: Proposed Mitigation Strategy for Ground-Nesting Birds Requiring Open Habitats [APP/6.4] provide the justification for the proposed mitigation and compensation package. The Applicant considers this package to be appropriate and proportionate in regard to legislative and planning policy requirements relevant to the Scheme.
	Change 1 - Additional land to accommodate Skylark and Curlew mitigation	Change 1 We would like to express our concern about the way the IPG Design Principles have been managed since the beginning of the consultations. These principles are intended to guide decision-making across all projects. In particular, we are concerned about the Commitment to Mitigation principle, as stated on page 13 of the Consultation Information Booklet for the Statutory Consultation in summer 2025.	No	The Design Principles, Parameters and Commitments [APP/5.8] document submitted as part of the DCO Application sets out the parameters and commitments by which the EIA has been undertaken, along with the design principles which are to inform the detailed design, should the Scheme receive consent. This is supported by the Design Approach Document [APP/5.7], which sets out how good design has been embedded in the Scheme from the outset of the project and will continue to be achieved through to detailed design, ensuring the Scheme delivers well-designed project outcomes and mitigates adverse effects.
	Change 1 - Additional land to accommodate Skylark and Curlew mitigation	According to drawing DWG.NO.9485_0211, the mitigation area for this project, marked in light green, originally comprised Greengrass Belt, Fingerhill Plantation, Washpit Drove & Plantation, Peticot Drove, and Three-Cocker-Hat Plantation. All these hectares of mitigation land have now been reduced to hedgerows and the new field marked as Change 1. Our concern arises from this reduction of mitigation land during the design decision-making phase, which does not create trust in the principle itself. This brings us to the next change.	No	A comprehensive programme of ecological survey work has been undertaken, including detailed breeding bird surveys across the proposed Solar PV Site during April to July 2024. During the survey work undertaken, a total of 121 Skylark breeding territories were recorded across the surveyed area, along with breeding activity by a single pair of Lapwing and two pairs of Curlew. The information and considerations set out in Appendix 7.3: Proposed Mitigation Strategy for Ground-Nesting Birds Requiring Open Habitats [APP/6.4] provide the justification for the proposed mitigation and compensation package. The Applicant considers this package to be appropriate and proportionate in regard to legislative and planning policy requirements relevant to the Scheme.
	Change 1 - Additional land to accommodate Skylark and	1/ STONE CURLEWS (a Schedule 1. Protected bird species) are BREEDING on the site of your planned solar farm - their breeding site must not be disturbed or blocked, and you cannot mitigate for Stone Curlews. To avoid any doubt, they have been photographed; a pair were seen in the Spring in the SW section of your planned solar farm map & a successfully	No	The Site is located approximately 2.4 km from the Breckland SPA designation at its closest point (whilst the closest components relate to Breckland Forest SSSI), which is not understood to provide suitable habitat for Stone-curlew in particular. Further, the Site is located entirely outside the 1.5 km constraint zone identified by Natural England using the Stone-curlew Planning Tool. None of the qualifying species was recorded during any of the specific

Note Topic	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
	Curlew mitigation	bred family party of 5 Stone Curlews were subsequently seen more recently in the SE section of your planned solar farm. The Stone Curlews would clearly be using the whole area of the planned solar farm as a breeding & feeding site. The Brecks (which includes the area of your planned solar farm) is of course a nationally important area for Stone Curlew conservation.		breeding bird surveys conducted at the Site in 2024, and therefore, the Site does not appear to represent functionally linked land used by qualifying species. Given the information and considerations set out in Appendix 7.3: Proposed Mitigation Strategy for Ground Nesting Birds Requiring Open Habitats [APP/6.4, the proposed mitigation and compensation package in relation to ground-nesting bird species is appropriate and proportionate in regard to legislative and planning policy requirements relating to the proposed Scheme.
	Change 1 - Additional land to accommodate Skylark and Curlew mitigation	I am writing as the Member of Parliament for North West Norfolk, on behalf of my constituents, in response to the Droves Solar Farm targeted consultation. Thank you for engaging with me on this consultation and for the changes made following earlier feedback. I particularly welcome Change 1, providing additional land for Skylark and Curlew mitigation.	No	The Applicant welcomes this comment.
	Change 1 - Additional land to accommodate Skylark and Curlew mitigation	However, I would like to raise a concern regarding the apparent reduction in the proposed biodiversity mitigation areas. The original provision of approximately 250 hectares has been significantly reduced to around 85 hectares, and it appears that the remaining land is less suitable for supporting rare and endangered ground-nesting bird species such as Skylarks and Curlews. This is particularly concerning given the presence of infrastructure such as high-power overhead cables, substations, and the BESS, which may further impact the ecological quality and suitability of these habitats. These species are especially vulnerable to disturbance and habitat degradation, and the revised mitigation area may fall short in compensating for the potential ecological impacts of the development. I would appreciate clarification on why the mitigation has been so substantially reduced. In light of the project's broader environmental goals, I respectfully suggest that the original scale and quality of the biodiversity mitigation be reconsidered, or that more ecologically appropriate alternatives be explored. Additionally, there may be scope to integrate some level of public access such as permissive paths or designated viewing areas into parts of the mitigation zones. This would allow local communities to engage with and appreciate the biodiversity benefits the project aims to deliver, adding a valuable social and educational dimension to the environmental objectives.		A comprehensive programme of ecological survey work has been undertaken, including detailed breeding bird surveys across the proposed Solar PV Site during April to July 2024. During the survey work undertaken, a total of 121 Skylark breeding territories were recorded across the surveyed area, along with breeding activity by a single pair of Lapwing and two pairs of Curlew. The information and considerations set out in Appendix 7.3: Proposed Mitigation Strategy for Ground-Nesting Birds Requiring Open Habitats [APP/6.4] provide the justification for the proposed mitigation and compensation package. The Applicant considers this package to be appropriate and proportionate in regard to legislative and planning policy requirements relevant to the Scheme. The Applicant further notes that Permissive Paths, totalling approximately 3.5km, have been incorporated within the Scheme. Further details can be found within the outline Public Rights of Way and Permissive Path Management Plan [APP/7.12]. A new publicly accessible amenity space has been incorporated into the Scheme at the north west corner of Field 4, as shown on the Works Plan [APP/2.3]. Interpretation boards would also be provided as part of the Scheme.
	Change 1 - Additional land to accommodate Skylark and Curlew mitigation	The figures are stark: In the UK, curlews are on the Red List (the highest priority list) under the Birds of Conservation Concern scheme. Over the decades, their UK population has suffered dramatic declines: Since 1970, about 65% of UK curlews have been lost.	No	The Applicant notes this comment and notes the breeding bird survey work undertaken identified the use of the Solar PV Site by ground nesting bird species requiring open habitats, which are also Priority Species (Skylark Alauda arvensis, Lapwing Vanellus vanellus and Curlew Numenius arquata), for which mitigation and compensation measures are therefore required.

Note Topic	Theme	Comment Retuges 1004 and 2010, there was a 246% drap in British surlaw numbers	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		Between 1994 and 2010, there was a ~46% drop in British curlew numbers. BTO In certain regions, especially lowland and southern England, breeding populations are now extremely small - estimates suggest there are only 250-300 pairs south of Birmingham.		
	Change 1 - Additional land to accommodate Skylark and Curlew mitigation	The proposal to carpet 2,000 acres of rural Norfolk (and that's just on 'our' side of the A1065, with another even larger area on the other side) with solar panels must be weighed not just against energy needs, but against the irreplaceable ecological cost. These wide, open landscapes are among the last breeding grounds for the Eurasian curlew one of the UK's most threatened bird species, now red-listed due to catastrophic population declines. Curlews require expanses of quiet, damp grassland and arable margins where they can lay their eggs in shallow ground scrapes. The loss or fragmentation of such habitat through industrial development is a direct threat to their survival.	No	The information and considerations set out in Appendix 7.3: Proposed Mitigation Strategy for Ground-Nesting Birds Requiring Open Habitats [APP/6.4] provide the justification for the proposed mitigation and compensation package. The Applicant considers this package to be appropriate and proportionate in regard to legislative and planning policy requirements relevant to the Scheme.
	Change 1 - Additional land to accommodate Skylark and Curlew mitigation	Dear Sir/Madam - further to my e mail dated 29 September 2025 in relation to the Targeted consultation. I recognise that you may not have had time to respond to the questions relating to Change 1. Notwithstanding the above, this is the response from Swaffham Climate and Environment group. We only have comments as regards change 1. Given the information available we support the change as it, at least, appears to support biodiversity and may boost it. Again, given the information available (having not seen the ecological report) we would hope that it is simply not offset for disturbed habitat elsewhere in the scheme. If it is offsetting, we are not convinced that offsetting is always an appropriate or successful strategy for displaced species but again, having not seen the ecological report we are unable to make definite conclusions. In the case of the land set aside for curlew, we would encourage all possible measures to boost appropriate biodiversity with expert input. Given the above, we would ask that all possible measures are taken to preserve and enhance biodiversity during development and over the lifetime of the development. When you are able we would ask that our request of the 29 September is responded to. Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me.	No	The Applicant notes this comment and thanks Swaffham Climate and Environment Group. Appendix 7.3: Proposed Mitigation Strategy for Ground Nesting Birds Requiring Open Habitats [APP/6.4] sets out the proposed mitigation and compensation package in relation to ground-nesting bird species. Measures will include the following: • Provision of new managed open grassland areas providing specific opportunities for ground nesting species; • Favourable management of grassland margins and associated habitats, which will provide increased foraging value and therefore raise carrying capacity across the site as a whole for these species • Incorporation of Skylark plots within arable land located outside of the solar development areas. An assessment of the potential effects on ecology and biodiversity as a result of the Scheme is provided in Chapter 7: Ecology and Biodiversity [APP/6.2]. The Applicant also notes that mandatory Biodiversity Net Gain remains to be implemented (currently anticipated May 2026), albeit the Scheme will deliver over 10% BNG as calculated within the Statutory BNG metric. The Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment Report [APP/7.4] has been submitted with the DCO Application.
	Change 1 - Additional land to accommodate Skylark and Curlew mitigation	Change 1 and Update 2. I do not feel the area of land given to mitigation is any longer sufficient and should be expanded to give greater connectivity to and from the site. Block 32 should be returned to mitigation along with block 33 and 34. Further mitigation areas should also be sought either within or on the boundary of the 'proposed sites'. We discussed Curlew at our recent 'Teams' meeting, you confirmed the presence of Curlew (Red listed) but not Stone Curlew within the proposed area, I think you should be	No	The Applicant notes that a comprehensive programme of ecological survey work has been undertaken, including detailed breeding bird surveys across the proposed Solar PV Site during April to July 2024. During the survey work undertaken, a total of 121 Skylark breeding territories were recorded across the surveyed area, along with breeding activity by a single pair of Lapwing and two pairs of Curlew.

Note Topic	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		targeting further surveys next year specifically at Stone Curlew and where they might be present on site as they have been recorded in the past.		The Applicant further notes that the Site is located approximately 2.4 km from the Breckland SPA designation at its closest point (whilst the closest components relate to Breckland Forest SSSI), which is not understood to provide suitable habitat for Stone-curlew in particular. Further, the Site is located entirely outside the 1.5 km constraint zone identified by Natural England using the Stone-curlew Planning Tool. None of the qualifying species was recorded during any of the specific breeding bird surveys conducted at the Site in 2024, and therefore, the Site does not appear to represent functionally linked land used by qualifying species. Given the information and considerations set out in Appendix 7.3: Proposed Mitigation Strategy for Ground Nesting Birds Requiring Open Habitats [APP/6.4, the proposed mitigation and compensation package in relation to ground-nesting bird species is appropriate and proportionate in regard to legislative and planning policy requirements relating to the proposed Scheme.
	Change 2 - Western extension to safely accommodate overhead line works	We welcome Update 2 - Removal of Field 32 "Field 32 is no longer being considered for solar PV panels or mitigation and has been removed from the Site."	No	The Applicant notes and welcomes this comment.
Proposed localised changes	Change 2 - Western extension to safely accommodate overhead line works	Change 2 - Western extension to safely accommodate overhead line works We note that the additional land included to accommodate overhead line works is immediately adjacent to areas of deciduous woodland, a priority habitat. Appropriate mitigation must be in place to ensure that there are no negative impacts on these habitats or the species they support.	No	The Applicant notes this comment and confirms that replaceable habitats (ancient and veteran trees) are to be retained with appropriate buffers (of at least 15 times the tree's diameter) as set out in Table 5.2 of ES Chapter 5: Scheme Description [APP/6.1], and Table 7.11 ES Chapter 7: Ecology and Biodiversity [APP/6.2]. Similarly, appropriate buffer zones will be maintained to other hedgerows with trees, tree lines, individual trees and tree groups, including a minimum of 10m (unless specified by an Arboriculture Consultant) as set out in Table 7.11 ES Chapter 7: Ecology and Biodiversity [APP/6.2] which will therefore ensure that the Root Protection Zones (as specified in British Standard 5837) remain adequately protected
	Change 2 - Western extension to safely accommodate overhead line works	Changes 2 & 4 These changes increase the land committed to the development area in order to accommodate overhead line works. The information provided to the community does not make clear whether this change is temporary or permanent. Will the overhead line remain in this place permanently?	No	The Applicant notes that the additional land required for Change 2 has been included to accommodate works to the existing overhead line. The overhead line would remain in its current alignment in this location.
Proposed localised changes	Change 3 - Provision for temporary alternative	Change 3 Again, we are faced with a lack of information for lay community members. These droves are currently not paved. Will this change require them to be	No	The Applicant has developed the design of the Scheme to retain all existing PRoW within the Order limits in their existing alignment during operation and secured a minimum 15m offset from the PRoW to the fencing as set out on

Note Topic	Theme access to residential property	Comment tarmacked? If so, what will be their final condition once the works are completed?	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	
Proposed localised changes	Change 4 - Addition of land for safe visibility and temporary alternative access to residential property	Change 4 Addition of land for safe visibility and temporary alternative access to residential property It is stated that additional land has been included either side of the junction between Washpit Drove and Low Road to accommodate potential hedgerow removal. It should be noted that the land immediately to the north of Low Road is Lowland dry acid grassland, a priority habitat. Appropriate mitigation must be in place to ensure that there are no negative impacts on these habitats or the species they support. We welcome the statement that any affected hedgerows will be replanted.	No	The Applicant notes that this area lies outside the Scheme's Order limits. However, efforts have been made throughout the Scheme to retain, buffer and enhance the existing on-site green infrastructure where practicable. The minimum buffers to existing onsite features are set out within the Design Principles, Parameters and Commitments document [APP/5.8]. The strategy for existing and proposed green infrastructure throughout the Site is detailed within Appendix 1: Green Infrastructure Strategy Plans to the oLEMP [APP/7.11]. New planting and maintenance regimes outlined within the oLEMP [APP/7.11].
	Change 4 - Addition of land for safe visibility and temporary alternative access to residential property	Change 2, 3 and 4. Noted and understandable, however I cannot see there will be a need for hedgerow removal at (4). I think sensitive cutting back of the hedges will be sufficient especially as you say no development traffic will be using the access point.	No	The Applicant notes this. The cutting back of hedgerows will only be done where required, and any affected hedgerows will be replanted once construction is complete.
Connectivity	Public Rights of Way (PRoW)	 2. Public Access and Footpaths The current layout of the solar farm appears to encompass existing public footpaths and informal walking routes. These paths provide important access to open countryside for local residents and visitors. We are concerned that no meaningful provision has been made to retain public enjoyment of open, undeveloped space, nor to reroute or buffer existing paths in a way that respects their current recreational value. We request that IGP: Retain or reroute footpaths with adequate open space to preserve the character and use of the landscape Designate non-panel areas for continued public use and enjoyment Provide clear, accessible plans for how rights of way will be maintained throughout construction and operation 	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
	Public access	it disrupts public access and enjoyment of the nar valley countryside and its views.	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided.

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				Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. Details of the Applicant's approach to PRoW and permissive routes can be found in the Public Rights of Way and Permissive Path Management Plan [APP/7.12]. ES Chapter 6: Landscape and Visual [APP/6.2] has assessed effects with relation to visual amenity.
	Reference to Statutory consultation	Thank you for your work in amending the scheme in light of responses to the first main consultation. I attended an in-person consultation session earlier in the summer and with my wife spoke to the developer's representatives. I'm a Castle Acre resident.	No	The Applicant welcomes this comment and thanks the respondent for their feedback.
Consultation and engagement	Reference to Statutory consultation	The concerns I set out in my response to the statutory consultation (attached) remain.		The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
	Reference to Statutory consultation	Good evening - further to your email of 2 September 2025 concerning the variations to the application. I am writing on behalf of the Swaffham Climate and Environment group. The group has previously indicated support for your application but with reservations.	No	The Applicant welcomes this comment and thanks the respondent for their feedback.
	Consultation process (general)	Conclusion We are left with the impression that, as the project progresses, the guiding principles are being relaxed, and the consultation risks becoming a tick-box exercise. This undermines community trust moving forward.	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.

Note Topic	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	
				The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
	Consultation process (general)	I look forward to hearing further about the planning application proposal and progression to submission.	No	The Applicant welcomes this comment and thanks the respondent for their feedback.
	Consultation process (general)	While we support the transition to renewable energy, this must be delivered in balance with ecological protection, community wellbeing, and environmental integrity. We would appreciate a response detailing how IGP intends to address these issues within the project's design, planning submissions, and long-term management plans	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
	Reference to other Targeted Consultation feedback	I have also reviewed the Castle Acre Parish Council's submission which I endorse, including the request for a site visit/meeting.	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
	Consultation process (Targeted Consultation)	Thank you for the opportunity to comment.	No	The Applicant welcomes this comment and thanks the respondent for their feedback.
	Consultation process (Targeted Consultation)	I note my response is out of the timing for consultation. Essentially, there is little I can add to your changes to the consultation document.	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided.

Note Topic	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
				Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
				The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
	Consultation process (Targeted Consultation)	Thank you very much for giving me some flexibility in terms of a personal response to your 'Targeted Consultation', it is much appreciated.	No	The Applicant welcomes this comment and thanks the respondent for their feedback.
	Consultation process (Targeted Consultation)	call me a cynic, but any changes to the areas of mitigation around South Acre that are introduced (and which are, of course welcome, when they actually are improvements rather than actually are improvements rather than actually down to the fact that the younger brother of the landowner you are in with is moving into South Acre Hall, and doesn't - unsurprisingly - want to be surrounded by fields of solar panels.	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
	Heritage	There will be a far-reaching impact on all the wonderful, unique ancient monuments, which may well affect local tourism, and certainly the feeling of villagers who seem to have been railroaded by even the idea of this. Is this just lip service to democracy, and decisions have already been made that protect investors and not the locals?	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
	Intra-project cumulative impacts	Furthermore, it threatens the livelihood of tenant farmers	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific

Note Topic	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
				change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
Cumulative impacts	Inter-project cumulative impact	I have personally walked into, and within the proposed development site several times in the last couple of months to gain a greater understanding of the impact it will potentially have on the local landscape and communities. Along with the proposed High Grove Development to the south and east of the Droves Site it is increasingly clear to me that the scale of industrialisation is huge and to be honest I am becoming quite concerned about the overall scale of the combined sites in one location. I would like to think that if this development is imposed on us that it is done with the greatest sensitivity, understanding and appreciation of local communities and the landscape. I personally think the two sites sitting side by side is too much.		The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
Environment	Biodiversity	I had a couple of queries on the plan to screen the panels and infrastructure along the edge of the area: 1. Are you to seek expert advice from bodies that focus on increasing biodiversity and the nature recovery? 2. Which organisations do you intend to ask for guidance over this aspect?		The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
	Biodiversity	Developers often argue that solar farms can coexist with biodiversity, but the scale of this proposal makes that unlikely. A patchwork of small wildflower strips cannot compensate for the wholesale loss of open land across several thousand acres. Norfolk is a county already under pressure from intensive agriculture, rising housing demand, and climate change. To sacrifice still more of its scarce breeding ground for ground-nesting birds is to push species like the curlew closer to local extinction.		The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report

Note Topic	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
				Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for
				stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
		Renewable energy is vital, but it must not come at the expense of equally	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Page 11 and 12. Responses Page 11 and 12.
	Biodiversity	urgent biodiversity goals. Norfolk's wide skies and open fields are more than scenery: they are lifelines for rare birds. Once lost, these habitats cannot simply be recreated		in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for
				stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
			No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided.
	Ecology	It will destroy the tranquillity of this historic landscape and remove habitats for wildlife especially farmland flora and fauna.		Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
				The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
		For many of us in villages such as South Acre, one of the most distinctive signs of spring and early summer has always been the soundscape: curlews bubbling overhead, oystercatchers peeping insistently as they	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided.
	Ecology	patrol the fields. These calls once defined the season, a reminder that life was returning to the land. Yet even within my own time here those voices have grown fewer and fainter, an unmistakable sign of how vulnerable these birds have become.		Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.

Note Topic	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
				The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
	Ecology	Curlews are not alone. Lapwings, skylarks, meadow pipits, and oystercatchers also rely on these fields and meadows to nest and rear their young. These birds evolved to thrive in open, low-disturbance landscapes. A vast solar installation with its infrastructure of fencing, cabling, access roads, and substations fundamentally alters the character of the countryside. Once installed, these panels create shade where none should exist, displace wet grassland, and attract higher densities of predators that exploit the altered habitat.	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
	Ecology	And finally, I've lost count of the number of developments across the UK that have been cancelled or refused due to the presence of newts and bats, and yet the fact that it always seems to be newts and bats makes me think they are far from endangered. And yet we are seriously supposed to believe that a critically endangered species of birds is not going to be impacted by the loss of several thousands of acres of critical habitat. Pull the other one. This project could prove the death knell for the species in Breckland and beyond.		The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
	Ecology	"cc'ing our local MP again, for reference I've been thinking more and more about the habitat protection element of my and others concerns.	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.

Note Topic	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
	Environmental mitigation and enhancement	The areas put aside for mitigation will in no way replace the hectares over to solar panels.	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
	Environmental mitigation and enhancement	We hope that the Environmental Impact Assessment reflects the reduction of mitigation land in all relevant aspects, and that it adequately assesses the impact on the community when the EIA is undertaken and subsequently communicated as part of a future consultation.	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
	Environmental mitigation and enhancement	Finally, and this is only relevant if this solar farm project were to proceed in the future, you seem to have dropped the rewilding buffer zone along the North side of the planned solar farm that you initially proposed. This would clearly need to be reinstated in view of the proximity to the current SSSI & the well known high biodiversity value of the Nar Valley (supporting such rare species as Harvest Mice, Quail & Purple Emperor butterflies). ""Curlew"" & Skylark mitigation to the NE of your current planned solar farm is clearly not sufficient. A complete wildlife/rewilding buffer corridor on the North side of any proposed solar farm would be the least ""mitigation"" one would expect. This would also be very important to allow the already present large mammals e.g. Red deer & Roe deer freedom to continue to safely move through this landscape.		The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
	Agricultural land use and food security	The agricultural land you are taking out of production has the capacity to feed approximately 25,000 individuals each year. Solar panels function at a maximum efficiency of 22%, which means that your technology is 78% inefficient. In comparison to offshore wind, solar farms are significantly inefficient. A 140-acre solar park is reported to be capable of supplying electricity to around 9,000 homes. In contrast, one wind turbine in the North		The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided.

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		Sea can power 16,000 homes. Regarding efficiency ratings, that is, the amount of power exported to the grid, solar's rating ranges between 11 and 15%, while offshore wind exceeds 50%. On one day last year, it was reported that 78% of the UK's electricity was generated from offshore wind. Your proposed solar farm on prime agricultural land could support food production for 25,000 people annually, amounting to 1.5 million individuals over a period of 60 years. The installation of these solar panels will require concrete piling operations within the farmland, which is detrimental to the environment and will cause irreversible damage to the land as well as to archaeological remains buried beneath the surface		Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
	Watercourses and flood risk	The water runoff from these solar panels will lead to hardened ground over time, resulting in significant runoff into the River Nar, as there will be no ground absorption compared to when the land is utilised for farming.	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
Formal objection	Site selection (scale and location)	It appears there are now only 34 fields left to remove from the scheme. This is Norfolk Farm land.	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
	Site selection (location)	I submit this latest feedback as a resident of South Acre, so someone who will be living next to this proposed new 2,000 acre power plant if it goes ahead. I have also copied the local MP, Terry Jermy.	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's

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				Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
	Site selection (location)	it continues to be incredibly depressing that this area is threatened with being carpeted over with solar panels and substations. I know the claim is always that they can leave no trace. That may be nearly possible with the solar panels themselves but the footprint of the substation will be massive, and presumably based on concrete.	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
	Site selection (location)	Hello, I wish to respond to the proposals within this scheme. I have read the information pack. I am a member of the public with family living in Castle Acre, a village I have known all of my 72 years. Frankly, I am appalled by this scheme and the impact on a unique landscape. I totally understand the need for alternative energy sources, but this is outrageous.	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
	Site selection (land use)	I am totally opposed to it because it takes agricultural land out of production, thereby impacting adversely on food security.	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.

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				The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
			No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided.
	Alternative generation technologies	NO, NO, NO! YOU HAVE GOT THIS ALL WRONG. SOLAR & WIND POWER ARE NOT THE WAY TO GO. WE SHOULD HAVE GONE TIDAL + NUCLEAR BACKUP. note :- I have a PhD degree in Electronic Engineering Systems so I Know what I am talking about.		Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
				The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
	Alternative generation technologies	I do hope that genuine consideration is given to considering another means of producing electricity, and as much effort given to alternative proposals, that favours the locals in these villages, rather than placating investors. I do hope that my response along with others will be genuinely respected.	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided.
				Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
				The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
			No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided.
	Sustained objection	The proposed changes do not mitigate or change my objection to this 'The Droves' solar farm.		Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
				The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.

Note Topic	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
	Sustained objection	Dear Sir/Madam, I would be grateful if you can reply to this email to confirm receipt & acknowledge the following TWO issues that would put your solar farm plans on hold.	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
	Sustained objection	Thanks for the further information on amendments. As per earlier feedback, it does not address fundamental concerns: • viability of technology used in five years' time; • modern slavery in contruction of panels; • food security and loss of farmland; • value to community impacted (in real terms such as reduced electricty costs); impact on flora and fauna (below two species mitigated)	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
Government and policy	Government and national policy	This whole project is the result of a flawed Net Xero policy now unfortunately enshrined in law. I realise the legal position is very difficult and will only be resolved when the country is "Reformed". Hopefully all factors considered a General Election will be called before this project gets beyond consultation.	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
	Government and national policy	There are two points to bear in mind 1 Energy security	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided.

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		We have plenty of North Sea Oil which is cost effective and enables The UK to remain competitive with other countries. 2 Food security This means the maintenance of important farmland for crops and grazing, and the removal of the family farms tax. The first responsibility of Government is to the protection of the people of the British Isles, not the Global Climate.		Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
	National policy Local policy	This proposal contradicts the aims of the Neighbourhood Plan, and is disrespectful to all the individuals and their time in creating such an endeavour. - It is inconsistent with the NPPF and other related issues.	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
	Government and national policy	Another big concern. The UK planning authorities normally grant solar farms for a fixed term (25-40 years) with a condition requiring decommissioning and restoration, but we all know that this project is pushing for 60 years, and that enforcement varies, and some infrastructure (grid connections especially) may be left in situ. Why the push for 60 years, and what sort of guaranteed/mechanisms are in place to force decommissioning if the landowner or site management try and pull a fast one and overstay the agreement, be that 25, 40 or 60 years?		The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
	Government and national policy	The government should legislate for solar panels on rooftops, not on our fields.	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's

Note Topic	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	
				Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
	National policy	You are planning to install infrastructure up to 13 metres in height; none of this information was available during the initial village hall consultation. Your solar farm is against all the policies in the National Planning Policy Framework and therefore should not be allowed to proceed. See the national planning policy framework definition below for reference.		The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
	National policy	The National Planning Policy Framework expects local authorities to protect and enhance valued landscapes and sites of biodiversity and recognise the character and beauty of the countryside and the benefits of the best and most versatile farmland in their policies and decisions. A number of proposals for solar farms in the countryside have been rejected as causing visual harm, harm to amenity or harm to openness. local authorities should protect all that we value in landscapes and natural capital, as indicated above. We place great importance upon our agriculture and food production, and this is reflected in the National Planning Policy Framework. The framework requires local planning authorities to take into account all the benefits of the best and most versatile agricultural land. Where significant development of agricultural land is shown to be necessary, planning authorities should seek to use poorer-quality land in preference to that of a higher quality. They should also consider the needs of the food production industry and any barriers to investment that planning can resolve. Local planning authorities are asked to encourage re-use of brownfield land provided that it is not of high environmental value, to recognise the character and beauty of the countryside.		The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
Landscape and visual	Landscape character	Castle Acre and surrounding villages sit within a unique historic landscape, which would be visually impacted and sullied by the construction of this scheme. This will be seen for miles.	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's

Note Topic	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
				Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
	Dark skies	The World Health Organisation recommends maintaining a 2 km exclusion zone around solar farms. Your solar farm infringes upon this zone. Castle Acre has a Dark Skies policy; however, you intend to install lighting, including 24-hour security and safety lighting, both around and within the solar farm, which also violates the national planning policy framework of the Dark Skies policy. A dark skies policy comprises regulations and planning guidelines designed to minimise light pollution, protect the natural night environment, and safeguard nocturnal wildlife as well as human health. Key components include the incorporation of dark sky-friendly lighting principles into planning laws and building regulations, the expansion of the planning process to manage outdoor lighting, the strengthening of legal measures against nuisance lighting, and the promotion of energy-efficient and dark sky-friendly lighting solutions.	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback to the targeted consultation, but notes that this comment does not relate to the specific change on which feedback was sought. As such, a detailed response has not been provided. Responses to the matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
Design refinements	Update 1 - Refinement of BESS and substation locations	 3. Noise Impact - BESS and Substation Another significant concern is the potential noise impact from the Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) and the associated electrical substation infrastructure. Residents and wildlife may be affected by: Constant or low-frequency hums generated by inverters, transformers, or cooling systems Intermittent operational noise, especially during battery charge/discharge cycles or cooling phases Cumulative noise from multiple on-site components over extended periods We would ask IGP to: Publish the noise impact assessment (NIA) for the site in full, including baseline data and predictive modellingat nearby residential receptors Clearly outline proposed mitigation measures (acoustic fencing, housing of equipment, setback distances etc) Commit to post-construction noise monitoring and a clear process for addressing any noise complaints or exceedances of agreed limits 	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback on the updates provided. The Applicant confirms that these updates were shared as part of ongoing community engagement but were not subject to targeted consultation. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
	Update 1 - Refinement of BESS and substation locations	Update 1: BESS National Grid Substation relocation to fields 24 and 27. This change is v much welcomed. The substation has the potential if visible for harm to views towards the solar from South Acre and Castle Acre (including from the Castle Acre Priory ruins and ruined castle) and would have really made the area seem part of an industrial landscape not a rural area that is seeking to conserve its rich heritage. Also, I assume there is a possibility of noise and light pollution once it is operational, and this would also harm amenity for anyone living close by, another strong reason for	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback on the updates provided. The Applicant confirms that these updates were shared as part of ongoing community engagement but were not subject to targeted consultation. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H:

Note Topic	Theme	Comment moving the substation away from residential dwellings. We consider this an	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses
		important improvement from the initial plans for siting the substation.		[APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
	Update 1 - Refinement of BESS and substation locations	I live on the edge of the site in Castle Acre. The battery boxes are not shown on your plans!! They are big, ugly & intolerable. Black despair time! nothing I do or say will alter the proposal. by the time all this gets built!	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback on the updates provided. The Applicant confirms that these updates were shared as part of ongoing community engagement, but were not subject to targeted consultation. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
	Update 1 - Refinement of BESS and substation locations	Update 1: Refinement of BESS and substation locations As stated in our previous response, we have concerns over the proposals for siting the sub-station and BESS in fields 24 and 27. These fields include or are very close to the locations where some of the highest amount of bat activity was recorded, as noted in appendix 7.2 (paragraph 5.3.9). New lighting will be required for these areas and there are likely to be increased levels of noise associated with the BESS. There is some evidence that elevated noise levels can negatively impact on some species of bats. As such, we recommend looking for alternative locations to minimise impact on bats and other nocturnal wildlife.		The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback on the updates provided. The Applicant confirms that these updates were shared as part of ongoing community engagement but were not subject to targeted consultation. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
	Update 1 - Refinement of BESS and substation locations	In the interests of balance I will give 'credit' where it is due, in the decision to guarantee that the substations are south of the belt of woodland at Bartholemew's Hills. Given the previous examples of moving the goalposts, what guarantees are there that this location is now confirmed? It was frankly absurd that it was even considered acceptable that the substations could be visible from Castle Acre and the - quote - 'finest ruins in England' (as described by the former head of English Heritage).		The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback on the updates provided. The Applicant confirms that these updates were shared as part of ongoing community engagement but were not subject to targeted consultation. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.

Note Topic	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	
				The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
	Update 1 - Refinement of BESS and substation locations	Project Update 1 We gratefully acknowledge that the Substation and BESS are now projected in fields 27 and 24, which are more concealed from public rights of way and away from fields 33 and 35 (as shown in Indicative Masterplan 2). However, we are still uncertain about the future of fields 33 and 35. We hope that woodland will be planted here, not for commercial purposes but to enhance biodiversity around the site perimeter.	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback on the updates provided. The Applicant confirms that these updates were shared as part of ongoing community engagement but were not subject to targeted consultation.
				Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses.
				The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
	Update 1 - Refinement of BESS and substation locations	I would like to begin by acknowledging some of the positive developments within the Droves Solar Farm project, particularly the decision to locate the substations and Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) away from the nearby rural villages. This is a thoughtful and commendable approach that helps preserve the character and amenity of those communities. I also appreciate the promising attempt to integrate footpath connections through to Swaffham, which could provide lasting benefits to local residents and encourage low-impact access to the surrounding countryside.	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback on the updates provided. The Applicant confirms that these updates were shared as part of ongoing community engagement but were not subject to targeted consultation. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
	Update 1 - Refinement of BESS and substation locations	·	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback on the updates provided. The Applicant confirms that these updates were shared as part of ongoing community engagement but were not subject to targeted consultation. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.

Note Topic	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Design refinements	Update 2 - Removal of Field 32	Update 2 We feel neutral about this update, as field 32 was already classified as agricultural land during the Statutory Consultation process. Please see Indicative Masterplan 2, where field 33 was marked as (Grade 1 & 2 arable land) and retained for mitigation and enhancement. This update therefore does not represent a significant change.	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback on the updates provided. The Applicant confirms that these updates were shared as part of ongoing community engagement but were not subject to targeted consultation. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
	Update 2 - Removal of Field 32	Change 1 and Update 2. I do not feel the area of land given to mitigation is any longer sufficient and should be expanded to give greater connectivity to and from the site. Block 32 should be returned to mitigation along with block 33 and 34. Further mitigation areas should also be sought either within or on the boundary of the 'proposed sites'. We discussed Curlew at our recent 'Teams' meeting, you confirmed the presence of Curlew (Red listed) but not Stone Curlew within the proposed area, I think you should be targeting further surveys next year specifically at Stone Curlew and where they might be present on site as they have been recorded in the past.	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback on the updates provided. The Applicant confirms that these updates were shared as part of ongoing community engagement but were not subject to targeted consultation. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
Design refinements	Update 3 - Refinement of indicative alignment of overhead line	Acre. This changed is welcomed and should mitigate some of the visual harm as well as the noise pollution.	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback on the updates provided. The Applicant confirms that these updates were shared as part of ongoing community engagement but were not subject to targeted consultation. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
	Update 3 - Refinement of indicative alignment of overhead line	Update 3: Refinement of indicative alignment of overhead line We note that this update states that new pylons will be installed along the proposed route. The map indicates that this pylon route will run straight through the new area proposed for skylark and curlew mitigation. Installing pylons in an area proposed for curlew mitigation could significantly undermine the success of the area by causing issues of collision for adult	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback on the updates provided. The Applicant confirms that these updates were shared as part of ongoing community engagement but were not subject to targeted consultation.

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		birds and by providing perches for predators. Guidance is that new infrastructure such as pylons should not be placed in sensitive areas. If you wish to discuss any of these comments in further detail, please don't hesitate to get in touch		Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
	Update 3 - Refinement of indicative alignment of overhead line	Update 3 Once again, the information provided is not very clear at this stage. It is uncertain what this "refinement of indicative alignment of the overhead line" will mean for South Acre, the closest community to the site. We would have never expected the project to represent a risk to our electricity supply.	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback on the updates provided. The Applicant confirms that these updates were shared as part of ongoing community engagement but were not subject to targeted consultation. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.
	Update 3 - Refinement of indicative alignment of overhead line	reconsidered. If not feasible, the removal of decommissioned pylons should	No	The Applicant thanks the respondent for their feedback on the updates provided. The Applicant confirms that these updates were shared as part of ongoing community engagement but were not subject to targeted consultation. Responses to matters raised during the statutory consultation are set out in Consultation Report Appendix G: Section 42 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2] and Consultation Report Appendix H: Section 47 – Responses Received and Applicant's Responses [APP/5.2]. The Applicant considers that feedback on the Scheme has been adequately addressed through those responses. The Applicant also notes that there will be further opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to provide their views during the Examination stage of the DCO process.

