Planning Inspectorate
Arolygiaeth Gynllunio

Hearing Transcript

Project:	EN0110013 - The Droves Solar Farm
Hearing:	Recording of Issue Specific Hearing 3 (ISH3) - Part 2
Date:	09 September 2026

Please note: This document is intended to assist Interested Parties.

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The video recording published on the Planning Inspectorate project page is the primary record of the hearing.

1
00:00:00,120 --> 00:00:03,580
Okay. Thank you. It's 10 past 12, so this hearing is now

2
00:00:03,640 --> 00:00:06,740
resumed. I'm going to move on to agenda item

3
00:00:08,160 --> 00:00:11,660
issue item two, which is flood risk hydrology and water

4
00:00:11,720 --> 00:00:12,420
resources.

5
00:00:13,760 --> 00:00:17,340
So the first question is, could the applicant provide an update on

6
00:00:17,380 --> 00:00:21,340
discussions with Norfolk County Council's lead local flood authority

7
00:00:21,780 --> 00:00:24,020
on its outstanding concerns and disagreements,

8
00:00:24,960 --> 00:00:28,440
particularly in relation to the completeness of the flood risk

9
00:00:28,500 --> 00:00:32,341
assessment and evidence base, sequential test and site

10
00:00:32,381 --> 00:00:34,920
layout, surface water flood risk,

11
00:00:36,000 --> 00:00:37,240
hydraulic modeling,

12
00:00:39,120 --> 00:00:41,100
infiltration and ground conditions,

13
00:00:42,140 --> 00:00:43,880
ground levels and decommissioning,

14
00:00:45,140 --> 00:00:47,380

ecology mitigation areas?

15
00:00:48,860 --> 00:00:51,540
Thank you, sir. Alex Treseden on behalf of the applicant.

16
00:00:51,720 --> 00:00:55,360
I'm joined to my right by my colleague, Liam Nevins, who's a director at

17
00:00:55,420 --> 00:00:58,860
Raincloud, acting on behalf of the applicant, and he'll address these

18
00:00:58,940 --> 00:01:00,180
items one by one.

19
00:01:01,600 --> 00:01:01,980
Thank you.

20
00:01:03,720 --> 00:01:06,580
Thank you. Liam Nevins on behalf of the applicant.

21
00:01:07,060 --> 00:01:10,960
Regarding an update between the applicant and the LLFA,

22
00:01:11,160 --> 00:01:14,800
there's been a recent meeting a couple of weeks ago between the parties to

23
00:01:14,840 --> 00:01:18,320
discuss the outstanding matters that the LLFA

24
00:01:18,540 --> 00:01:20,970
require clarification on or further information.

25
00:01:21,520 --> 00:01:25,320
I think we both have a good understanding of what is required to be

26
00:01:25,360 --> 00:01:25,850
submitted,

27

00:01:26,820 --> 00:01:30,200
or at least point the LLFA to where that has already been

28
00:01:30,240 --> 00:01:33,880
undertaken to update the statement of common ground with.

29
00:01:34,440 --> 00:01:38,340
I think the principal concern that was outstanding was in relation

30
00:01:38,420 --> 00:01:41,780
to conversion units or inverter units and their

31
00:01:41,820 --> 00:01:45,700
ability to infiltrate to ground. In

32
00:01:45,740 --> 00:01:47,120
terms of the surface water management,

33
00:01:47,960 --> 00:01:51,920
we will be updating the design parameters document at

34
00:01:52,060 --> 00:01:55,900
deadline five to ensure that

35
00:01:55,960 --> 00:01:59,940
those aspects of the scheme can be located

36
00:01:59,980 --> 00:02:03,240
within areas that do infiltrate, subject to infiltration

37
00:02:03,280 --> 00:02:06,340
testing. Should infiltration testing at a specific

38
00:02:06,400 --> 00:02:10,259
location for that unit prove unsuccessful, that

39
00:02:10,320 --> 00:02:13,930
unit will be microsited to an area which does infiltrate, ensuring
that

40
00:02:13,940 --> 00:02:17,310

the development can be managed in terms of its surface water,

41
00:02:18,140 --> 00:02:20,100
and not increase flood risk elsewhere.

42
00:02:24,720 --> 00:02:28,640
Okay, thank you. Are you able to provide a bit more detail on the individual items

43
00:02:28,680 --> 00:02:28,980
then?

44
00:02:30,500 --> 00:02:34,280
So the last

45
00:02:34,920 --> 00:02:36,120
statement of common ground,

46
00:02:38,100 --> 00:02:39,880
can you just remind me which deadline that was?

47
00:02:50,020 --> 00:02:51,700
Confirm that that was at deadline three, sir.

48
00:02:52,140 --> 00:02:52,460
Okay.

49
00:02:55,000 --> 00:02:57,600
So, Sarah Luff, would you like

50
00:02:57,680 --> 00:03:01,040
to come in on any remaining

51
00:03:01,080 --> 00:03:01,700
concerns?

52
00:03:03,620 --> 00:03:07,380
Hello. Sarah Luff, the Norfolk County Council lead local flood authority.

53
00:03:08,580 --> 00:03:12,320

Norfolk County Council, the lead local flood authority, has been working with Liam

54
00:03:12,360 --> 00:03:15,900
Nevins on addressing and resolving some of our

55
00:03:15,940 --> 00:03:16,680
concerns.

56
00:03:18,960 --> 00:03:22,880
There are difficulties still within the information that is provided

57
00:03:22,940 --> 00:03:26,740
due to inconsistencies in the report, which will need to

58
00:03:26,820 --> 00:03:27,920
be resolved.

59
00:03:29,440 --> 00:03:30,460
Liam is aware of this.

60
00:03:31,840 --> 00:03:35,520
And there are wider issues around the actual

61
00:03:35,620 --> 00:03:38,140
design, which is why the

62
00:03:38,580 --> 00:03:39,740
design,

63
00:03:41,140 --> 00:03:42,020
oh gosh, what's it called?

64
00:03:44,940 --> 00:03:48,560
Parameters document is in need of being updated.

65
00:03:48,680 --> 00:03:52,500
As you have already witnessed, there have been a number of occasions, even

66
00:03:52,540 --> 00:03:56,500

within other disciplines, where there are inconsistencies, lack of information,

67
00:03:56,560 --> 00:04:00,420
lack of design development that enables an evidence base that

68
00:04:00,440 --> 00:04:04,360
is adequate to be presented to demonstrate

69
00:04:05,020 --> 00:04:08,480
that these concerns can be resolved at this stage.

70
00:04:09,360 --> 00:04:13,120
Mitigation does need to be included for flood risk

71
00:04:13,240 --> 00:04:16,899
in terms of surface water and with the inclusion of bunds

72
00:04:17,240 --> 00:04:19,820
or fences, which is yet to be determined.

73
00:04:21,140 --> 00:04:24,540
This would significantly change a large area of a proposed

74
00:04:24,600 --> 00:04:26,979
development and could influence the drainage.

75
00:04:27,780 --> 00:04:31,280
So there's still a fair bit of work to be done, and I do

76
00:04:31,320 --> 00:04:35,300
acknowledge that Liam has been very open and willing to

77
00:04:35,320 --> 00:04:37,580
engage in discussions.

78
00:04:39,200 --> 00:04:42,380
Although on occasions, I felt that

79
00:04:44,440 --> 00:04:47,780
while he is willing to engage and work upon it,

80
00:04:48,220 --> 00:04:51,980
he struggles or has

81
00:04:52,580 --> 00:04:56,520
limitations put on him with the design development

82
00:04:57,100 --> 00:05:00,080
that's being presented to him to work with.

83
00:05:03,200 --> 00:05:04,740
So yeah, there's still a fair bit to do.

84
00:05:05,420 --> 00:05:09,400
Okay. I think before I ask the applicant to come back on you, it

85
00:05:09,420 --> 00:05:11,420
would just help me to understand

86
00:05:12,320 --> 00:05:15,740
the current position on each of the items that I've outlined in the

87
00:05:15,820 --> 00:05:16,360
question.

88
00:05:17,520 --> 00:05:18,180
So if we could get-

89
00:05:18,320 --> 00:05:18,330
Okay

90
00:05:18,330 --> 00:05:22,180
... into a bit more detail on the applicant's response in terms of the status,

91
00:05:22,920 --> 00:05:26,670
for example, of the first point, the completeness of the flood risk assessment, and

92
00:05:26,680 --> 00:05:29,810
then move on to each of the sub-points below that.

93
00:05:30,100 --> 00:05:31,240
Thank you.

94
00:05:31,360 --> 00:05:35,280
So the completeness is really referring to quite a lot of the inconsistencies

95
00:05:35,520 --> 00:05:38,540
and the evidence base where there are gaps.

96
00:05:39,000 --> 00:05:42,890
For example, if I skip ahead to the infiltration and ground conditions

97
00:05:42,900 --> 00:05:43,360
section,

98
00:05:44,800 --> 00:05:48,500
at the moment, they've only done infiltration testing on the

99
00:05:48,540 --> 00:05:51,870
platform area associated with the BESS and

100
00:05:51,960 --> 00:05:55,900
with the substations. They haven't done anything in

101
00:05:55,910 --> 00:05:56,960
a wider area,

102
00:05:57,780 --> 00:06:01,720
so they're not able to actually evidence

103
00:06:02,200 --> 00:06:03,840
that infiltration is possible

104
00:06:04,672 --> 00:06:08,472
They're also not able to evidence that they've got a plan B for where the

105
00:06:08,492 --> 00:06:11,832

surface water could go to. So I've got an

106
00:06:11,892 --> 00:06:15,872
unconfirmed plan A approach for discharging surface water

107
00:06:16,492 --> 00:06:20,352
and an unknown plan B for discharging surface

108
00:06:20,432 --> 00:06:23,192
water. Effectively, at this point in time,

109
00:06:24,252 --> 00:06:27,952
in some areas of the site, I do not have a viable drainage strategy as

110
00:06:28,012 --> 00:06:28,292
yet.

111
00:06:30,252 --> 00:06:34,232
That's one example of completeness and evidence base not always

112
00:06:34,272 --> 00:06:38,212
being available. There are other parts where inconsistencies in the

113
00:06:38,232 --> 00:06:41,972
information have been provided. For example, in the

114
00:06:41,992 --> 00:06:43,492
design parameters report,

115
00:06:44,552 --> 00:06:48,172
they have now included some statements saying that

116
00:06:48,332 --> 00:06:51,432
drainage ditches will be incorporated along the access

117
00:06:51,512 --> 00:06:54,332
roads, both the permanent and the temporary ones.

118
00:06:54,892 --> 00:06:58,752
Only one of them actually confirms what the design standard

119
00:06:58,772 --> 00:07:00,412
will be for that drainage

120
00:07:01,332 --> 00:07:04,532
ditch. The rest of them haven't confirmed that.

121
00:07:05,252 --> 00:07:08,731
And when you go through other details about the design

122
00:07:08,792 --> 00:07:12,752
parameters, both in the design parameters document and within the

123
00:07:12,852 --> 00:07:16,372
FRA and the information that is then given in

124
00:07:16,472 --> 00:07:20,452
the ES chapter, there are multiple inconsistencies

125
00:07:20,512 --> 00:07:23,862
all the way through. So it's really difficult to actually

126
00:07:24,692 --> 00:07:27,152
determine what they're presenting

127
00:07:28,112 --> 00:07:31,512
on occasions as their proposed solution for the scheme,

128
00:07:32,412 --> 00:07:36,372
and therefore, it leads to a lack of confidence because the picture
is

129
00:07:36,432 --> 00:07:38,452
incomplete because it's variable.

130
00:07:41,352 --> 00:07:42,132
Does that help, sir?

131
00:07:42,352 --> 00:07:46,092
Okay. Thank you. Yeah. I'll just ask the applicant to respond, Alex

132
00:07:46,372 --> 00:07:48,232
Tustin or Liam Nevins.

133
00:07:49,432 --> 00:07:51,552
Liam Nevins on behalf of the applicant.

134
00:07:51,732 --> 00:07:54,612
There are two parts to that particular answer, sir.

135
00:07:54,632 --> 00:07:56,372
First, the infiltration testing.

136
00:07:57,532 --> 00:08:00,482
Infiltration testing was undertaken at nine locations,

137
00:08:00,912 --> 00:08:04,452
principally at works numbers, which are requiring

138
00:08:04,872 --> 00:08:06,672
formal drainage to be undertaken.

139
00:08:07,192 --> 00:08:08,812
Principally, the battery storage

140
00:08:09,792 --> 00:08:13,612
site, works number two, and the customer and national grid associations

141
00:08:13,652 --> 00:08:17,412
works three and four. So the infiltration testing was focused on that

142
00:08:17,432 --> 00:08:20,732
particular area as they will require formal drainage to drain

143
00:08:20,772 --> 00:08:22,372
those aspects of the scheme.

144
00:08:23,332 --> 00:08:26,792
Eight out of the nine infiltration tests undertaken

145
00:08:27,052 --> 00:08:31,032
within those works areas showed good drainage characteristics and

146
00:08:31,092 --> 00:08:34,452
confirmed the viability of infiltration that is

147
00:08:34,462 --> 00:08:37,293
possible in those particular areas.

148
00:08:37,352 --> 00:08:40,832
One test failed, and that test was located along the

149
00:08:40,852 --> 00:08:44,692
pluvial pathway, for surface water, which is

150
00:08:44,712 --> 00:08:48,412
likely to indicate that that particular pocket of the site was slightly wetter

151
00:08:48,452 --> 00:08:49,732
compared to the rest of the site.

152
00:08:51,292 --> 00:08:54,812
Visual observations from site walkovers confirm that the soils are

153
00:08:54,892 --> 00:08:58,832
largely the same across the site, as does the archaeological

154
00:08:58,992 --> 00:09:00,382
trial trenching that was undertaken.

155
00:09:01,032 --> 00:09:03,892
The records from that particular document, which I don't have the reference to

156
00:09:03,932 --> 00:09:05,512
right now, but I'm sure it can be

157
00:09:06,352 --> 00:09:09,852
obtained, show very similar lithologies across the scheme.

158
00:09:10,072 --> 00:09:13,622
As such, we have confidence that infiltration is possible

159
00:09:14,092 --> 00:09:15,692
across the entire order limits.

160
00:09:16,772 --> 00:09:19,952
Again, I'll revert back to my previous statement on the design

161
00:09:20,292 --> 00:09:23,812
parameters being updated for inverter

162
00:09:23,872 --> 00:09:27,832
stations, customer units, and the infiltration testing will be

163
00:09:27,872 --> 00:09:30,532
undertaken once the detailed design of the scheme is

164
00:09:30,592 --> 00:09:34,212
known. In terms of drainage

165
00:09:34,292 --> 00:09:37,532
for works number one, the solar PV area,

166
00:09:38,352 --> 00:09:41,972
grassland is proposed underneath the solar panels, which is a very, very

167
00:09:42,172 --> 00:09:45,772
standard approach to managing surface water from this particular

168
00:09:45,872 --> 00:09:46,932
aspect of the scheme.

169
00:09:47,992 --> 00:09:50,192
It's evidenced across several

170
00:09:51,012 --> 00:09:54,852
academic research papers from 2013 right through to the

171

00:09:54,872 --> 00:09:56,352
present day, and that

172
00:09:57,732 --> 00:10:00,892
has been explained in the response to the relevant representations for

173
00:10:01,012 --> 00:10:02,672
NCC115.

174
00:10:06,472 --> 00:10:09,772
And sir, the archaeological trial trenching report, appendix

175
00:10:10,052 --> 00:10:12,332
8.6 of the environmental statement is reference

176
00:10:12,472 --> 00:10:14,292
APP-160.

177
00:10:17,352 --> 00:10:18,112
Okay, thank you.

178
00:10:19,172 --> 00:10:19,332
Sorry.

179
00:10:20,432 --> 00:10:23,192
Liam Nevins for the applicant. I just need to come on the second point-

180
00:10:23,232 --> 00:10:23,242
Yes

181
00:10:23,242 --> 00:10:26,511
... which was the design of the access track drainage.

182
00:10:27,672 --> 00:10:31,352
The flood risk assessment has been consistently clear that track-side

183
00:10:31,392 --> 00:10:34,762
drainage would be provided and that the standard would be to the one in 100

184
00:10:35,192 --> 00:10:38,852
plus 40% climate change allowance, for the detailed

185
00:10:38,872 --> 00:10:42,212
design when the scheme has been finalized.

186
00:10:42,252 --> 00:10:45,512
That is reflected in the design parameters

187
00:10:46,092 --> 00:10:46,632
document.

188
00:10:52,452 --> 00:10:54,972
Okay. Sarah Luff, you've got your hand up.

189
00:10:57,892 --> 00:11:01,232
Hello. Sarah Luff, lead local flood authority, Norfolk County Council.

190
00:11:02,672 --> 00:11:06,072
In response to Liam's statement, thank you for

191
00:11:06,112 --> 00:11:09,152
acknowledging that you haven't undertaken

192
00:11:09,612 --> 00:11:12,412
infiltration testing in the wider area of the design.

193
00:11:13,572 --> 00:11:17,162
Yes, I acknowledge that you have undertaken some infiltration

194
00:11:17,252 --> 00:11:17,742
testing,

195
00:11:18,672 --> 00:11:22,522
although I find it intriguing that you seem to think that eight of the tests

196
00:11:22,552 --> 00:11:26,452
were successful when two of those tests weren't

197
00:11:26,512 --> 00:11:30,482
completed because you're meant to complete the test three times, and

198
00:11:30,492 --> 00:11:34,422
they were only completed twice. The reason that has been given was they ran out of

199
00:11:34,492 --> 00:11:34,912
time,

200
00:11:35,792 --> 00:11:39,752
which leaves me a little bit concerned because you ran out of time either because

201
00:11:39,852 --> 00:11:43,552
the contractors are unable to complete it within the scope of all works

202
00:11:44,252 --> 00:11:47,762
and the allocated time, or because the ground was

203
00:11:47,832 --> 00:11:51,712
taking longer than anticipated for the water to drain and therefore

204
00:11:51,772 --> 00:11:54,092
you ran out of time to do the final tests.

205
00:11:55,232 --> 00:11:58,352
So with respect, at the moment, only

206
00:11:58,472 --> 00:12:02,432
six of the nine tests are

207
00:12:02,492 --> 00:12:04,052
fully complete in that area.

208
00:12:05,644 --> 00:12:09,404
But what hasn't also been discussed is that of the test that

209
00:12:09,524 --> 00:12:13,264

failed, it was very close in

210
00:12:13,304 --> 00:12:15,764
proximity to one of the tests that succeeded.

211
00:12:16,344 --> 00:12:19,904
This leaves us with concern. The LLFA is very

212
00:12:19,924 --> 00:12:23,724
experienced in infiltration testing and the results that

213
00:12:23,744 --> 00:12:27,664
we see across the county, and there is a great variability in

214
00:12:27,724 --> 00:12:27,964
that.

215
00:12:28,804 --> 00:12:32,544
And that even comes with material that is

216
00:12:32,624 --> 00:12:36,064
all determined by BGS maps to be the same

217
00:12:36,084 --> 00:12:36,664
material.

218
00:12:37,484 --> 00:12:41,164
But when that material is marked as diamictum, that means it's a
giant

219
00:12:41,204 --> 00:12:42,934
mixture of everything altogether.

220
00:12:44,144 --> 00:12:48,014
And that mixture will vary in its infiltration potential.

221
00:12:48,664 --> 00:12:52,374
Therefore, we are asking for a little bit more

222
00:12:52,404 --> 00:12:56,384
work to be done to be sure that infiltration can occur where it's

223
00:12:56,404 --> 00:13:00,264
expected to be needed. And one of those locations

224
00:13:01,064 --> 00:13:04,504
is in the wider area for where they're looking to put the

225
00:13:04,584 --> 00:13:08,164
inverter unit. The inverter units are impermeable and will

226
00:13:08,224 --> 00:13:12,214
require formal drainage, which, as Liam outlined earlier, was one of

227
00:13:12,244 --> 00:13:15,864
the requirements of where they thought they were going to be putting
the

228
00:13:15,884 --> 00:13:19,564
infiltration testing. That infiltration testing hasn't happened.

229
00:13:20,404 --> 00:13:23,644
So on that aspect, we would like more information.

230
00:13:23,664 --> 00:13:26,684
They haven't been able to evidence that the water will drain.

231
00:13:27,204 --> 00:13:30,574
And with ground variability being so great in this material,

232
00:13:31,764 --> 00:13:35,504
we need tests. We need the results to indicate that they have a

233
00:13:35,544 --> 00:13:37,604
viable drainage option.

234
00:13:38,884 --> 00:13:42,304
They haven't been able to demonstrate that there is an alternative

235
00:13:42,604 --> 00:13:46,084
discharge opportunity for those drainage

236
00:13:46,124 --> 00:13:49,644
locations. And we're not even really sure where they're going to put these

237
00:13:49,684 --> 00:13:53,304
inverter units, because at the moment, the design

238
00:13:53,404 --> 00:13:57,284
is at a master plan stage, and therefore all they've

239
00:13:57,324 --> 00:14:01,004
done is color in fields and say, "We'll probably put this type of apparatus in that

240
00:14:01,044 --> 00:14:01,584
location."

241
00:14:02,724 --> 00:14:06,684
Which is quite a limited amount of information when you're basing

242
00:14:06,804 --> 00:14:09,704
a multimillion-pound design on it, with respect.

243
00:14:11,364 --> 00:14:14,984
So yeah. They still have more information that is needed

244
00:14:15,344 --> 00:14:19,044
before they can actually undertake a flood risk

245
00:14:19,084 --> 00:14:19,824
assessment

246
00:14:20,864 --> 00:14:24,764
and be able to say with confidence that they're not going to increase

247
00:14:24,824 --> 00:14:25,404
flood risk.

248
00:14:27,724 --> 00:14:28,024
Thank you.

249
00:14:29,264 --> 00:14:30,664
Thank you, Sarah Luff.

250
00:14:31,584 --> 00:14:32,264
Liam Nevins.

251
00:14:33,084 --> 00:14:34,864
Liam Nevins on behalf of the applicant.

252
00:14:34,944 --> 00:14:38,624
I think there's a difference between deferred assessment and
deferred detailed

253
00:14:38,634 --> 00:14:41,774
design. The flood risk assessment does

254
00:14:41,904 --> 00:14:45,324
undertake a assessment of flood risk across the

255
00:14:45,384 --> 00:14:48,344
scheme, is informed by the information that we have to date.

256
00:14:49,504 --> 00:14:53,464
And again, the detailed design will be provided following the
granting of

257
00:14:53,504 --> 00:14:57,384
the DCO, and the design parameters will be undertaken as per

258
00:14:57,444 --> 00:14:58,744
the design parameters document.

259
00:15:00,604 --> 00:15:04,104
The detailed design of the drainage is secured through a requirement
of the DCO,

260
00:15:04,164 --> 00:15:07,964
and therefore the LLFA have the ability to sign that off or

261
00:15:08,024 --> 00:15:09,624

request changes at that point.

262
00:15:10,684 --> 00:15:12,703
If I could come back to the testing point.

263
00:15:13,804 --> 00:15:17,664
It's acknowledged that a limited number of tests weren't undertaken for

264
00:15:17,684 --> 00:15:20,724
three, but only two fills of the test pit.

265
00:15:20,784 --> 00:15:21,054
This was

266
00:15:22,544 --> 00:15:25,324
due to a time constraint, not due to the test failing.

267
00:15:25,424 --> 00:15:29,244
If you look at the infiltration rates within Appendix B of the flood

268
00:15:29,284 --> 00:15:33,194
risk assessment, they provide good drainage rates,

269
00:15:33,284 --> 00:15:36,344
and as such, you would expect the third one to drain in a similar fashion.

270
00:15:36,764 --> 00:15:37,144
As such,

271
00:15:38,184 --> 00:15:39,544
the principles of which the

272
00:15:40,644 --> 00:15:44,494
flood risk assessment and the drainage strategy that it's based

273
00:15:44,524 --> 00:15:45,724
on is sound.

274
00:15:55,084 --> 00:15:55,604

Sarah Luff.

275
00:15:59,434 --> 00:16:02,964
Thank you, sir. Sarah Luff for Norfolk County Council, Lead Local Flood Authority.

276
00:16:03,644 --> 00:16:07,364
With regard to the design principles, parameters, and commitment report,

277
00:16:08,064 --> 00:16:10,884
there are inconsistencies even within that.

278
00:16:11,444 --> 00:16:14,564
At the moment, some of the works numbers

279
00:16:15,264 --> 00:16:18,644
list a design standard for the

280
00:16:18,744 --> 00:16:19,284
drainage.

281
00:16:20,164 --> 00:16:22,604
Others just list that drainage will be included.

282
00:16:23,564 --> 00:16:27,134
As it's a design principles, parameters, and commitments

283
00:16:27,184 --> 00:16:31,124
document, it would demonstrate that there is an inconsistency in

284
00:16:31,204 --> 00:16:33,964
their design parameters and commitments.

285
00:16:34,564 --> 00:16:38,044
It would be reasonable to ask that they put in a consistent commitment

286
00:16:38,204 --> 00:16:41,984
across these designs and that further design parameters

287

00:16:42,124 --> 00:16:44,044
relating to drainage are also included.

288
00:16:44,844 --> 00:16:48,524
At the moment, that design parameters document has

289
00:16:48,804 --> 00:16:52,784
very limited commitments and doesn't really denote

290
00:16:52,944 --> 00:16:56,824
what they're being proposed in terms of drainage, other than them saying,

291
00:16:56,874 --> 00:16:59,404
"We're going to put some drainage in." It doesn't

292
00:17:00,224 --> 00:17:01,044
acknowledge

293
00:17:01,864 --> 00:17:05,805
the limited amount of information, merely reflect that they don't know enough yet

294
00:17:05,864 --> 00:17:07,404
to actually commit to anything.

295
00:17:08,565 --> 00:17:12,344
In regard to the FRA, the FRA does have more information within

296
00:17:12,404 --> 00:17:15,504
it than the wider documents,

297
00:17:16,305 --> 00:17:19,524
such as the environmental statement and

298
00:17:19,785 --> 00:17:20,664
the

299
00:17:21,585 --> 00:17:23,344
design parameters report.

300

00:17:24,825 --> 00:17:25,104
But

301
00:17:27,305 --> 00:17:31,114
because we've got one document that says it, doesn't mean that it's

302
00:17:31,124 --> 00:17:32,544
reflected through all the others.

303
00:17:32,604 --> 00:17:34,944
And one document saying it means

304
00:17:35,004 --> 00:17:38,844
inconsistency that's put through the rest of the assessments.

305
00:17:39,344 --> 00:17:42,644
So for example, when it comes to assessing the

306
00:17:42,824 --> 00:17:46,664
environmental aspects in the environmental statement, because

307
00:17:46,684 --> 00:17:50,324
they've started making changes to the flood risk assessment,

308
00:17:50,804 --> 00:17:54,183
some of the changes in there have not necessarily been reflected
into the

309
00:17:54,204 --> 00:17:55,304
environmental statement.

310
00:17:56,404 --> 00:18:00,324
Likewise, some of the changes in the design parameters report, of
which there

311
00:18:00,344 --> 00:18:00,824
are minimal,

312
00:18:01,964 --> 00:18:05,874
are not always reflected, again, in the environmental

313

00:18:05,984 --> 00:18:06,933
statement section.

314
00:18:07,980 --> 00:18:11,920
And then you end up with these documents twisting slightly out of shape, and it

315
00:18:11,960 --> 00:18:15,940
would be very awkward and difficult at a later date to come

316
00:18:16,000 --> 00:18:17,260
back and understand

317
00:18:18,120 --> 00:18:21,860
what needs to be worked towards when you have so many

318
00:18:21,920 --> 00:18:25,760
inconsistencies peppered throughout all of these different documents that are

319
00:18:25,800 --> 00:18:27,360
meant to be a point of reference.

320
00:18:28,340 --> 00:18:31,340
We're asking for consistency. We're asking for the design

321
00:18:31,400 --> 00:18:33,940
standards to be set in advance.

322
00:18:36,540 --> 00:18:36,960
Thank you.

323
00:18:41,040 --> 00:18:42,020
Thank you, Sarah Luff.

324
00:18:43,100 --> 00:18:44,619
Liam Nevins.

325
00:18:47,040 --> 00:18:48,940
Liam Nevins, on behalf of the applicant.

326

00:18:49,080 --> 00:18:52,840
If you look at the design parameters tables, there is a

327
00:18:52,880 --> 00:18:56,680
consistency across works numbers two to four in

328
00:18:56,740 --> 00:19:00,540
terms of the commitment to having the one in 100 plus 40% climate change

329
00:19:00,640 --> 00:19:03,740
allowance for the drainage design for works numbers two to four.

330
00:19:05,460 --> 00:19:09,340
Again, the access tracks within works number one, there is a commitment there

331
00:19:09,400 --> 00:19:13,260
for the same design standard. I think it's accepted that we will

332
00:19:13,320 --> 00:19:17,160
update the design parameters to make that consistent in

333
00:19:17,200 --> 00:19:21,039
terms of the access track commitment across all work areas, just to ensure

334
00:19:21,120 --> 00:19:25,060
that that is covered off and that point is completely robust.

335
00:19:26,240 --> 00:19:30,140
In terms of the surface water management for works

336
00:19:30,160 --> 00:19:33,490
number one, it's an incredibly standard practice to have

337
00:19:34,280 --> 00:19:38,060
grassland underneath the PV arrays to control surface water.

338
00:19:38,600 --> 00:19:42,360
And in many instances of the academic research, it shows not just a

339
00:19:44,160 --> 00:19:48,060
management of that in terms of baseline level, it shows a reduction in

340
00:19:48,320 --> 00:19:51,900
surface water runoff. So there is confidence that what is being

341
00:19:51,940 --> 00:19:55,360
proposed within works number one will work.

342
00:19:59,120 --> 00:20:00,490
Okay. Thank you. Sarah Luff.

343
00:20:03,580 --> 00:20:06,360
Hello, Sarah Luff for Norfolk Lee Lodge or Flood Authority.

344
00:20:07,550 --> 00:20:10,280
Thank you, Liam. I acknowledge that

345
00:20:11,140 --> 00:20:14,940
the grass is a standard approach underneath the PV units

346
00:20:15,440 --> 00:20:19,200
where the ground is unmodified. Obviously, the bunds would be a different issue

347
00:20:19,820 --> 00:20:23,740
or fencing would need to be looked at again because obviously there is a different

348
00:20:23,780 --> 00:20:27,540
scenario there. However, we haven't actually been discussing the

349
00:20:27,560 --> 00:20:31,160
PV units. The focus of our discussion to date have been on other

350
00:20:31,220 --> 00:20:35,020
elements within the proposed design, the areas that

351
00:20:35,080 --> 00:20:36,680
are impermeable, to be honest.

352
00:20:37,920 --> 00:20:38,180
So

353
00:20:39,000 --> 00:20:42,580
I understand why you're keen to emphasize the grass underneath the PV

354
00:20:42,860 --> 00:20:43,280
areas.

355
00:20:44,160 --> 00:20:46,700
However, that's not the point of what we've been discussing.

356
00:20:48,440 --> 00:20:51,800
In relation to other inconsistencies, there are many,

357
00:20:51,860 --> 00:20:55,500
including in the actual layout of the report.

358
00:20:56,200 --> 00:20:58,840
For example, while the FRA

359
00:20:59,660 --> 00:21:02,920
does in a fashion talk about a baseline for the embedded

360
00:21:02,980 --> 00:21:06,900
mitigation, the additional mitigation, and residual risks,

361
00:21:07,080 --> 00:21:08,820
these are all muddled in together.

362
00:21:09,600 --> 00:21:13,100
The baseline section seems to start referring to the post-development

363
00:21:13,180 --> 00:21:15,109
scenario and the embedded

364
00:21:15,960 --> 00:21:19,700
and additional mitigation. The residual risks

365
00:21:19,800 --> 00:21:23,600
are dotted all over the place. It makes it quite

366
00:21:23,640 --> 00:21:26,320
difficult to actually read as a document.

367
00:21:27,300 --> 00:21:29,660
And that's something that I have already conveyed to Liam.

368
00:21:29,960 --> 00:21:33,540
I am currently working through their

369
00:21:33,580 --> 00:21:34,640
latest response,

370
00:21:36,600 --> 00:21:39,340
which there's quite a lot of material to get through.

371
00:21:39,440 --> 00:21:41,420
I have not completed that yet, but I will.

372
00:21:42,940 --> 00:21:46,760
So that they have specific comments to specific

373
00:21:46,780 --> 00:21:49,840
responses to help them with resolving these issues.

374
00:21:51,320 --> 00:21:54,600
But there are numerous and wide-ranging

375
00:21:54,640 --> 00:21:58,400
inconsistencies, areas where there are gaps of evidence,

376
00:21:59,020 --> 00:22:01,840
and further information will be needed.

377
00:22:02,660 --> 00:22:06,540
And this in part stems from having such a high-level

378

00:22:06,740 --> 00:22:09,380
master plan approach to the proposed development.

379
00:22:10,080 --> 00:22:14,040
So I do appreciate that the team that

380
00:22:14,080 --> 00:22:17,950
has prepared the FRA, which is a much more detailed and

381
00:22:18,160 --> 00:22:22,040
technical document, have done a reasonable job

382
00:22:22,200 --> 00:22:24,820
with the very limited information that they have been given.

383
00:22:25,500 --> 00:22:29,309
However, there are notable gaps, such as when they

384
00:22:29,380 --> 00:22:31,440
start talking about the runoff rates.

385
00:22:32,520 --> 00:22:35,480
They don't actually talk about the runoff rates in there.

386
00:22:35,960 --> 00:22:39,940
The runoff rate gives you a discussion on the benefits of

387
00:22:39,980 --> 00:22:43,520
rural subs in terms of the

388
00:22:43,720 --> 00:22:46,800
pollution management and infiltration potential.

389
00:22:47,260 --> 00:22:51,100
But it doesn't actually give you the calculated runoff rates for

390
00:22:51,140 --> 00:22:52,540
the development area.

391
00:22:53,660 --> 00:22:57,540
So there's gaps. Even though the headings are

392
00:22:57,580 --> 00:23:00,400
correct and the discussions are sort of going in the right

393
00:23:01,240 --> 00:23:04,760
locations, when you actually deep dive into the text

394
00:23:04,940 --> 00:23:07,060
and the information that's within it,

395
00:23:08,120 --> 00:23:11,960
you start scratching the surface and realizing that there's gaps.

396
00:23:13,220 --> 00:23:15,050
So we'd like those gaps to be filled.

397
00:23:15,100 --> 00:23:17,920
It's what we ask of all developers within the county.

398
00:23:18,020 --> 00:23:21,980
So other developers for DCOs have been able to

399
00:23:22,020 --> 00:23:26,000
provide that information. I don't see why this developer

400
00:23:26,020 --> 00:23:26,840
wouldn't be able to.

401
00:23:29,200 --> 00:23:32,660
Okay. Thank you, Sarah Luff. I think when the applicant responds, could you

402
00:23:32,880 --> 00:23:33,800
concentrate on

403
00:23:35,060 --> 00:23:38,700
the request to fill these gaps of information?

404
00:23:38,760 --> 00:23:39,100
Thank you.

405
00:23:40,600 --> 00:23:42,060
Liam Nevins on behalf of the applicant.

406
00:23:42,780 --> 00:23:46,340
I think we'll maintain that the flood risk assessment follows a very standardized

407
00:23:46,420 --> 00:23:50,080
structure across many DCOs, including Cleave Hill, Manod

408
00:23:50,180 --> 00:23:53,660
Pass, and Great North Road Biodiversity and Solar Park.

409
00:23:54,140 --> 00:23:57,660
Again, it follows that very straightforward

410
00:23:57,740 --> 00:24:01,160
process of baseline establishment and then following on to

411
00:24:01,170 --> 00:24:01,740
assessment.

412
00:24:02,660 --> 00:24:05,980
In terms of focusing on information gaps, again,

413
00:24:07,000 --> 00:24:09,760
as the applicant, we have provided updates as to

414
00:24:10,980 --> 00:24:14,960
rationale as to why decisions have been made and that has

415
00:24:14,980 --> 00:24:18,540
been provided at the relevant representation stage and throughout the various

416
00:24:18,580 --> 00:24:22,450
deadlines. And we can point, again, if it would be helpful to where

417
00:24:23,368 --> 00:24:24,348
That information is

418
00:24:25,348 --> 00:24:29,168
within those documents rather than updating the

419
00:24:29,248 --> 00:24:31,468
FRA, which we don't feel is required at this stage.

420
00:24:32,408 --> 00:24:36,328
And Sir Alex Tressenden, on behalf of the applicant, I notice well that the

421
00:24:36,368 --> 00:24:40,028
representative referenced the fact that the review of our latest comments

422
00:24:40,088 --> 00:24:44,008
is ongoing. I would obviously encourage that to be completed, and also note

423
00:24:44,018 --> 00:24:47,918
that we will be updating the design principles, parameters, and commitments

424
00:24:47,988 --> 00:24:51,728
document at deadline four in relation to the various matters that have been

425
00:24:51,738 --> 00:24:55,488
discussed. So I suggest that is all reviewed at the same time, and then

426
00:24:55,508 --> 00:24:59,228
perhaps the statement of common ground can be updated at that point once

427
00:24:59,288 --> 00:25:01,388
matters have been considered and can be discussed further.

428
00:25:02,528 --> 00:25:04,268
Okay. Thank you. Sarah Luff.

429
00:25:06,768 --> 00:25:10,478
Hello. Sarah Luff, Norfolk County Council, lead local flood

430
00:25:10,508 --> 00:25:11,028
authority.

431
00:25:12,108 --> 00:25:15,528
I note the reference to other

432
00:25:16,068 --> 00:25:19,117
DCO schemes. However, these are all out of the county

433
00:25:19,848 --> 00:25:22,528
and actually substantially out of the county.

434
00:25:22,708 --> 00:25:26,548
Many of them are out of the area completely, and therefore the process is not

435
00:25:26,608 --> 00:25:30,308
something that is necessarily consistent with what we would

436
00:25:30,348 --> 00:25:33,008
expect in this county or even in this region.

437
00:25:33,728 --> 00:25:34,068
So

438
00:25:35,188 --> 00:25:38,568
it's not unreasonable, but they would look at other

439
00:25:38,708 --> 00:25:42,368
FRAs for approaches that have been undertaken, such

440
00:25:42,528 --> 00:25:46,408
as energy schemes in the county, include the

441
00:25:46,428 --> 00:25:48,908
Norwich to Tilbury scheme, the

442
00:25:51,248 --> 00:25:51,688
Step

443
00:25:53,028 --> 00:25:55,728
Sheringham Shoal and Dudgeon Wind Farm extension.

444
00:25:56,248 --> 00:26:00,008
They did a very well broken down where you really had it set out

445
00:26:00,688 --> 00:26:03,788
as each section and each phase of the development,

446
00:26:04,428 --> 00:26:08,288
because there are so many different risks and how they are managed.

447
00:26:08,748 --> 00:26:12,508
At the moment, with not having the baseline and

448
00:26:12,548 --> 00:26:14,588
the proposed development risks

449
00:26:16,048 --> 00:26:19,928
laid out in a very clear and consistent manner, it is very

450
00:26:19,968 --> 00:26:23,628
difficult for you to then go back and cross-reference

451
00:26:24,248 --> 00:26:27,148
what the starting situation is, what the

452
00:26:27,688 --> 00:26:31,568
post-development unmitigated situation is with the embedded

453
00:26:32,268 --> 00:26:35,488
mitigation in, and then the mitigated

454
00:26:35,808 --> 00:26:39,648
situation is where they've had to add additional

455
00:26:39,688 --> 00:26:41,128
mitigation on top of it.

456
00:26:42,108 --> 00:26:46,008

All of this is adding to a melee of confusion, which

457
00:26:46,068 --> 00:26:49,868
is not helping the locals in the area trying to

458
00:26:49,908 --> 00:26:53,848
understand what is going to actually happen and to

459
00:26:53,908 --> 00:26:57,608
the developers in presenting their case for their proposed development.

460
00:26:59,548 --> 00:26:59,768
Okay.

461
00:26:59,828 --> 00:27:00,148
Thank you.

462
00:27:00,508 --> 00:27:04,128
Thank you, Sarah Luff, for explaining your concerns.

463
00:27:05,468 --> 00:27:06,588
Alex Tressenden.

464
00:27:06,948 --> 00:27:09,028
Thank you, Sir Alex Tressenden on behalf of the applicant.

465
00:27:09,088 --> 00:27:12,948
I'm mindful of time and the fact that we're sort of going back and forth

466
00:27:13,028 --> 00:27:13,188
on

467
00:27:14,128 --> 00:27:17,368
the same if not similar issues in relation to this matter.

468
00:27:17,428 --> 00:27:21,048
I suggest that the parties continue to discuss

469
00:27:21,548 --> 00:27:25,528

and update the statement of common ground accordingly, including that review, as

470
00:27:25,588 --> 00:27:28,968
I referenced, of our deadline four information, which will be submitted

471
00:27:30,048 --> 00:27:33,868
a week today. And I also note that any points of disagreement

472
00:27:33,928 --> 00:27:37,788
at the end of the examination will need to be considered by yourself and the

473
00:27:37,808 --> 00:27:41,638
Secretary of State when weighing the scheme in the context of the planning

474
00:27:41,688 --> 00:27:42,027
balance.

475
00:27:43,348 --> 00:27:47,148
Okay, thank you. I'd like to move on to the next question

476
00:27:47,188 --> 00:27:47,488
now.

477
00:27:49,768 --> 00:27:53,328
Could the applicant provide an update regarding progress with resolving concerns

478
00:27:53,388 --> 00:27:56,618
from the Environment Agency relating to groundwater for

479
00:27:56,648 --> 00:27:59,208
underground contaminated water tanks,

480
00:28:00,188 --> 00:28:04,028
EA's reference EA36, and removal of buried

481
00:28:04,088 --> 00:28:06,548
cables, Environment Agency reference

482
00:28:06,668 --> 00:28:08,988
EA31?

483
00:28:10,408 --> 00:28:12,108
Liam Nevins on behalf of the applicant.

484
00:28:12,648 --> 00:28:16,188
I can confirm that the flood risk assessment will be updated at deadline

485
00:28:16,268 --> 00:28:19,808
four to have the flexibility of having aboveground

486
00:28:19,848 --> 00:28:23,608
structures for fire water containment, and that should address

487
00:28:24,128 --> 00:28:28,088
the outstanding concern on EA33. Regarding

488
00:28:28,148 --> 00:28:29,217
EA31,

489
00:28:30,808 --> 00:28:34,748
it's my understanding that the commitment and the decommissioning strategy

490
00:28:35,208 --> 00:28:38,888
has been mirrored in terms of the removal of cables, and as such, that should

491
00:28:40,088 --> 00:28:42,608
resolve the Environment Agency's outstanding concern.

492
00:28:43,747 --> 00:28:44,627
Did you mean 36?

493
00:28:44,768 --> 00:28:45,648
Yes, I did. Sorry.

494
00:28:45,808 --> 00:28:48,188

Thank you. Morgan Harrington.

495
00:28:48,748 --> 00:28:49,468
Yeah, sure. Sorry.

496
00:28:51,328 --> 00:28:54,188
Morgan Harrington on behalf of the Environment Agency.

497
00:28:54,868 --> 00:28:58,848
In regards to EA31 and the

498
00:28:58,928 --> 00:29:01,008
cabling removal commitment,

499
00:29:02,508 --> 00:29:05,988
we're still waiting on table seven to be updated, which

500
00:29:06,028 --> 00:29:09,328
relates to the solar PV site

501
00:29:10,008 --> 00:29:13,968
FAS and customer substation. We know that table 18 was updated-

502
00:29:14,208 --> 00:29:14,458
It is

503
00:29:14,648 --> 00:29:18,568
... to commit to removal or doing the best practice available

504
00:29:18,608 --> 00:29:22,428
at the time, but we still haven't seen that for table seven

505
00:29:22,788 --> 00:29:26,608
within the relevant document. So it's more of a case of us

506
00:29:26,648 --> 00:29:30,468
waiting for that to be updated. So hopefully we will see that at

507
00:29:30,528 --> 00:29:31,248
deadline four.

508
00:29:34,188 --> 00:29:35,668
Thank you. Alex Tressenden.

509
00:29:37,948 --> 00:29:38,208
Okay.

510
00:29:40,418 --> 00:29:44,188
Sorry. Best practice. This one. Best

511
00:29:44,208 --> 00:29:44,608
practice.

512
00:29:44,958 --> 00:29:46,488
But this is the tracked version. So when did we...

513
00:29:46,748 --> 00:29:49,028
I don't know. Let's go and see.

514
00:29:50,908 --> 00:29:52,228
Liam Nevins on behalf of the applicant.

515
00:29:52,258 --> 00:29:55,928
Again, we have updated table seven within the outline

516
00:29:55,948 --> 00:29:59,648
decommissioning strategy to confirm best practice at the time of

517
00:29:59,668 --> 00:30:00,288
removal.

518
00:30:01,328 --> 00:30:03,308
I hope that provides clarity to the EA.

519
00:30:03,408 --> 00:30:07,328
However, if that is not what the EA were looking for, we will update
at

520
00:30:07,348 --> 00:30:07,778
deadline four.

521

00:30:09,648 --> 00:30:12,868
Okay. So there was a previous update to the table.

522
00:30:13,128 --> 00:30:15,768
Do you recall what deadline that was?

523
00:30:16,208 --> 00:30:18,388
I do, sir. Thank you. Alex Tressenden on behalf of the applicant.

524
00:30:18,448 --> 00:30:21,728
So the table was updated at deadline one, which is Rep

525
00:30:22,028 --> 00:30:25,688
1-059. That's the tracked version of the outline

526
00:30:25,748 --> 00:30:29,538
decommissioning strategy. That's That document was

527
00:30:29,608 --> 00:30:33,018
also then updated at deadline three, but not in respect of this table, and

528
00:30:33,048 --> 00:30:36,518
therefore, that's why I'm referring to the deadline one tracked version for this

529
00:30:36,588 --> 00:30:36,968
update.

530
00:30:38,468 --> 00:30:41,928
Okay. Morgan Harrington, are you able to clarify which

531
00:30:42,868 --> 00:30:43,368
version

532
00:30:44,448 --> 00:30:45,048
you've seen?

533
00:31:03,068 --> 00:31:04,828
Sorry, Mr. Harrington, I think you're on mute.

534

00:31:08,028 --> 00:31:11,688
Oh, classic. My bad. Morgan Harrington on behalf of the Environment Agency.

535
00:31:11,828 --> 00:31:15,168
So I confirm that the outline decommissioning

536
00:31:15,268 --> 00:31:19,068
strategy tracked version that we saw was the deadline three

537
00:31:19,128 --> 00:31:22,868
submission Rep 3-068.

538
00:31:23,888 --> 00:31:27,468
But we couldn't see within that where table seven had been

539
00:31:27,528 --> 00:31:31,508
updated. It doesn't include the same commitment, therefore, we can't resolve

540
00:31:31,548 --> 00:31:32,268
this issue.

541
00:31:33,548 --> 00:31:35,548
We would need the same wording to be included.

542
00:31:35,708 --> 00:31:39,668
I note that Mr. Nevins is stating that it has been

543
00:31:39,708 --> 00:31:43,338
updated. We can take an action to review again and

544
00:31:43,348 --> 00:31:47,188
provide a written response, but as far as we

545
00:31:47,228 --> 00:31:51,188
know, we've reviewed the most up-to-date version of the decommissioning

546
00:31:51,268 --> 00:31:54,968
strategy, and it did not contain the

547
00:31:55,028 --> 00:31:57,108
required wording within table seven.

548
00:31:58,808 --> 00:32:01,928
Okay, thank you. Alex or Liam Nevins.

549
00:32:02,048 --> 00:32:03,508
Yeah, Liam Nevins on behalf of the applicant.

550
00:32:03,588 --> 00:32:07,448
Just to expedite matters for the XA, we will go away and ensure that there is

551
00:32:07,488 --> 00:32:09,188
consistency across that at deadline four.

552
00:32:10,588 --> 00:32:10,888
Okay.

553
00:32:11,728 --> 00:32:12,148
Thank you.

554
00:32:16,708 --> 00:32:20,588
Okay, I don't have any further questions on this topic.

555
00:32:20,648 --> 00:32:23,688
Are there any contributions from interested parties in the room?

556
00:32:23,948 --> 00:32:26,288
I've got a hand up at the back. Tony Morgan?

557
00:32:26,968 --> 00:32:29,908
Yeah. Tony Morgan, local Capital acre resident.

558
00:32:31,948 --> 00:32:35,648
I am trying to find some detail regarding the underground contaminated water

559
00:32:35,708 --> 00:32:36,168
tanks.

560
00:32:37,768 --> 00:32:39,938
Could you give me some size dimensions?

561
00:32:40,448 --> 00:32:44,008
Because we are talking about 228,000 liters of water

562
00:32:44,648 --> 00:32:48,128
with obviously a pen stock valve to release that water once it's been

563
00:32:48,208 --> 00:32:50,928
tested into the local area.

564
00:32:53,388 --> 00:32:54,868
Liam Nevins on behalf of the applicant.

565
00:32:55,188 --> 00:32:58,768
The flood risk assessment does confirm the sizing that would be required

566
00:32:59,208 --> 00:32:59,468
for

567
00:33:01,788 --> 00:33:05,328
the BEZ area in terms of a design commitment to the 1 in 100 plus

568
00:33:05,368 --> 00:33:09,128
40% climate change, plus an allowance then for firefighting

569
00:33:09,188 --> 00:33:12,748
water. There's no definitive size at this moment because the

570
00:33:12,758 --> 00:33:15,528
design of works number two is not fixed.

571
00:33:15,608 --> 00:33:19,258
Once it is fixed, we can provide that clarity, and that will be

572
00:33:19,268 --> 00:33:20,308
provided to the LLFA

573
00:33:22,348 --> 00:33:26,188
post-design commitment. In terms of your statement

574
00:33:26,248 --> 00:33:29,748
regarding release to the environment, that is not what is

575
00:33:29,768 --> 00:33:32,928
proposed as part of the capturing of fire water.

576
00:33:33,448 --> 00:33:37,148
It's proposed that the pen stock would be closed, fire water would be fully

577
00:33:37,188 --> 00:33:40,808
contained, and then tankered offsite, regardless of whether or

578
00:33:40,848 --> 00:33:44,668
not that particular captured fire suppressant is

579
00:33:44,708 --> 00:33:48,648
contaminated or not, and that has been updated within the flood risk assessment.

580
00:33:49,248 --> 00:33:53,088
Okay. So if I can just clarify, the

581
00:33:53,408 --> 00:33:57,068
amount of fire water that is stored on site, not actually to fight the

582
00:33:57,128 --> 00:33:58,728
fires, but to cool the battery

583
00:33:59,628 --> 00:34:02,648
system around the fire.

584
00:34:03,388 --> 00:34:07,118
The national chief, the fire officer chief's recommendation is

585
00:34:07,168 --> 00:34:10,928
that there's two hours of firefighting

586
00:34:11,008 --> 00:34:13,428
water at 1,900 liters a minute.

587
00:34:14,308 --> 00:34:17,048
Can you tell me what you're going to do after the two hours?

588
00:34:17,528 --> 00:34:20,528
Because obviously the contaminated water tanks will be completely
full,

589
00:34:22,208 --> 00:34:25,548
and if obviously they can't contain the fire just because there's a

590
00:34:26,208 --> 00:34:29,538
runaway effect or some other factor,

591
00:34:30,169 --> 00:34:31,348
maybe the fire

592
00:34:32,589 --> 00:34:36,248
is blocking the entrance for fire engines to get onto

593
00:34:36,288 --> 00:34:38,228
site. What is your plan B?

594
00:34:39,208 --> 00:34:39,848
Okay, thank you.

595
00:34:41,388 --> 00:34:42,748
Or Alex Tressiden.

596
00:34:48,508 --> 00:34:49,948
Liam Nevins on behalf of the applicant.

597
00:34:50,388 --> 00:34:54,169
The parameters that were designed to or at least committed

598
00:34:54,228 --> 00:34:58,208
to were the national chief's firefighting guidance, so 228 cubic

599
00:34:58,268 --> 00:34:58,628
meters

600
00:34:59,748 --> 00:35:03,268
allowance for containment. There is obviously the headroom for the 1 in 100 plus

601
00:35:03,368 --> 00:35:07,318
40% climate change allowance. So during a situation where there's not

602
00:35:07,348 --> 00:35:10,978
a complete extreme rainfall event occurring, there would be headroom within that

603
00:35:11,028 --> 00:35:13,128
tank to accept additional volume.

604
00:35:14,818 --> 00:35:17,008
And Alex Tressiden on behalf of the applicant.

605
00:35:17,028 --> 00:35:20,908
I'd also note that the flood risk assessment, the latest

606
00:35:20,948 --> 00:35:24,408
version of which is reference Rep 3-065,

607
00:35:24,868 --> 00:35:28,428
is quite clear and explicit throughout about how the

608
00:35:28,508 --> 00:35:32,048
assessment meets the requirements of the National Fire Chiefs Council.

609
00:35:32,358 --> 00:35:35,848
And so I'd encourage a full perusal of that document in this regard.

610
00:35:36,928 --> 00:35:37,688
Okay, thank you.

611
00:35:41,108 --> 00:35:44,808

Simon Wood, can I just check your hand isn't going up? It's just...
Okay.

612
00:35:44,948 --> 00:35:45,128
Right.

613
00:35:46,268 --> 00:35:46,828
Mike Bennett.

614
00:35:48,508 --> 00:35:51,307
Thank you, sir. Mike Bennett, Spore, Paul Crowde Parish Council.

615
00:35:51,868 --> 00:35:53,768
I was going to bring this up in the next

616
00:35:55,068 --> 00:35:57,848
section, but I think it's probably more relevant here.

617
00:36:00,508 --> 00:36:04,368
Considerable concern has been expressed with these large solar developments

618
00:36:04,468 --> 00:36:08,418
concerning battery safety and the dealing with potential battery fires, which we've

619
00:36:08,428 --> 00:36:09,308
been just talking about.

620
00:36:09,348 --> 00:36:12,608
Okay. Sorry to interrupt. If you don't mind, we will take that on the next

621
00:36:13,088 --> 00:36:13,328
questions.

622
00:36:13,408 --> 00:36:14,248
Okay, that's fine.

623
00:36:14,388 --> 00:36:14,868
That's fine.

624
00:36:15,088 --> 00:36:15,308
Okay.

625
00:36:15,368 --> 00:36:15,678
Are there any other-

626
00:36:15,708 --> 00:36:16,747
But it was about water storage.

627
00:36:16,788 --> 00:36:18,708
Yeah. I know there is a bit of overlap, but we'll-

628
00:36:18,768 --> 00:36:19,557
Okay. All right

629
00:36:19,608 --> 00:36:19,868
... take that-

630
00:36:19,928 --> 00:36:20,288
No problem

631
00:36:20,298 --> 00:36:23,108
... on the next question. Thank you. Any other questions in the room?

632
00:36:25,068 --> 00:36:28,268
No, I'm not seeing any. I've got a hand up. Morgan Harrington.

633
00:36:32,056 --> 00:36:35,496
To provide an update, Morgan Harriman on behalf of the Environment Agency.

634
00:36:35,636 --> 00:36:39,556
We have just looked through the relevant document, and we can see that

635
00:36:40,736 --> 00:36:43,496
there was indeed an update for table seven.

636
00:36:43,656 --> 00:36:46,736
Therefore, we will provide a written response to resolve

637
00:36:46,816 --> 00:36:49,836
our issue in relation to that matter.

638
00:36:50,256 --> 00:36:52,156
We apologize for that oversight.

639
00:36:53,196 --> 00:36:55,536
Okay. That's helpful. Thank you, Morgan Harriman.

640
00:36:58,196 --> 00:36:58,596
Okay.

641
00:36:59,736 --> 00:37:03,616
So I'm going to move on to the next section then, which

642
00:37:03,676 --> 00:37:07,296
is populate... Sorry, before I do that, I'll just

643
00:37:07,356 --> 00:37:10,676
recap on the actions that I've got down for this

644
00:37:10,736 --> 00:37:11,576
topic.

645
00:37:12,856 --> 00:37:16,496
So the design parameters document that was going to be updated at
deadline

646
00:37:16,616 --> 00:37:19,776
five for inverters and the access track standard.

647
00:37:21,016 --> 00:37:22,296
Applicant was to provide

648
00:37:23,756 --> 00:37:26,216
a note to point to where

649
00:37:27,556 --> 00:37:29,216
gaps in information could be found.

650
00:37:31,596 --> 00:37:35,176
There was an update on the statement of common ground and flood

651
00:37:35,236 --> 00:37:39,156
risk assessment update at deadline four to address

652
00:37:39,416 --> 00:37:42,936
environment agency's concerns, EA33.

653
00:37:45,896 --> 00:37:47,776
Thank you, sir. Alex Trezise on behalf of the applicant.

654
00:37:47,856 --> 00:37:50,216
I think just in relation to that final point, I believe Mr.

655
00:37:50,416 --> 00:37:53,856
Harriman's just confirmed that the Environment Agency is content.

656
00:37:56,336 --> 00:38:00,096
But we can reflect that in the statement of common ground to resolve
that

657
00:38:00,116 --> 00:38:03,436
matter as agreed, but I imagine it will be included in the deadline
four submission

658
00:38:03,456 --> 00:38:04,536
as he's just outlined.

659
00:38:06,916 --> 00:38:10,516
Thank you. Could you just clarify, Morgan Harriman, which EA

660
00:38:10,616 --> 00:38:13,076
reference number that was in relation to?

661
00:38:20,256 --> 00:38:23,816
Morgan Harriman on behalf of the Environment Agency.

662
00:38:23,956 --> 00:38:27,596
That was EA reference number EA31.

663
00:38:28,676 --> 00:38:32,656
Okay. But is there still an action to update the flood risk assessment at

664
00:38:32,676 --> 00:38:35,836
deadline four for EA36?

665
00:38:37,846 --> 00:38:40,495
We do still have an unresolved issue on that matter.

666
00:38:40,556 --> 00:38:44,496
We're awaiting the applicant's submission at deadline four to see that they

667
00:38:44,536 --> 00:38:48,276
will be committing to at least assessing

668
00:38:48,636 --> 00:38:50,936
whether the development design will

669
00:38:51,996 --> 00:38:52,856
include

670
00:38:54,356 --> 00:38:57,936
water storage tanks below ground or above

671
00:38:57,996 --> 00:38:58,416
ground.

672
00:38:59,736 --> 00:39:01,035
It's pending that matter.

673
00:39:02,156 --> 00:39:04,536
Alex Trezise on behalf of the applicant. Thanks for the clarification.

674
00:39:04,596 --> 00:39:05,856
We'll be doing that at deadline four.

675
00:39:06,016 --> 00:39:06,796
Okay. Thank you.

676
00:39:07,896 --> 00:39:10,216
So let's move on to population then.

677
00:39:10,756 --> 00:39:11,976
So the first question,

678
00:39:12,956 --> 00:39:16,296
I've got two questions, and then I'll take any other questions, including yours,

679
00:39:17,016 --> 00:39:17,596
Mr. Bennett.

680
00:39:18,916 --> 00:39:22,296
So the first question is, could the applicant comment on Norfolk County Council's

681
00:39:22,336 --> 00:39:26,156
concern that the change in landscape character may be more

682
00:39:26,196 --> 00:39:30,156
substantial than reflected in the applicant's conclusions, as the effect

683
00:39:30,196 --> 00:39:33,956
for recreational users is cumulative rather than experienced at

684
00:39:34,036 --> 00:39:35,116
individual viewpoints?

685
00:39:36,746 --> 00:39:40,596
Thank you. Ollie Wheeler for the applicant. So I'll address this in two parts.

686
00:39:41,956 --> 00:39:45,936
Because landscape character and recreational users address two

687
00:39:45,976 --> 00:39:49,636
parts of the assessment. So with regard to the first, a character we spoke

688
00:39:49,696 --> 00:39:52,116
about in a fair amount of detail in this session.

689
00:39:53,076 --> 00:39:54,096
But I'll reiterate,

690
00:39:55,016 --> 00:39:57,896
the findings of the chapter on the basis of the parameters that we've assessed to

691
00:39:57,956 --> 00:40:01,796
date, that's been AS016, and that's significant cumulative

692
00:40:01,836 --> 00:40:03,776
effects on LCA E6.

693
00:40:05,116 --> 00:40:07,706
Just to be absolutely clear, I do not agree that these have been underplayed or

694
00:40:07,736 --> 00:40:11,616
understated in any way. We've provided more information through

695
00:40:11,836 --> 00:40:12,876
terms of the technical note,

696
00:40:14,156 --> 00:40:15,316
numerous meetings with

697
00:40:16,136 --> 00:40:20,096
Breckland Council, Kings Lynn Council, Sporle and Prowgrave Parish Council.

698
00:40:20,156 --> 00:40:23,856
We've done site walkovers to completely understand the

699
00:40:23,916 --> 00:40:27,656
apprehensions. So I feel like we've delivered and provided as

700
00:40:27,756 --> 00:40:31,366
much quantitative and qualitative detail as we can within this

701
00:40:31,396 --> 00:40:33,386
assessment to give them that satisfaction.

702
00:40:34,586 --> 00:40:37,716
With the second point, and with regard to recreational users,

703
00:40:38,756 --> 00:40:41,936
the application includes two documents.

704
00:40:42,016 --> 00:40:45,796
One is the landscape and visual chapter, which addresses visual receptor

705
00:40:45,836 --> 00:40:47,755
groups and standalone routes

706
00:40:49,096 --> 00:40:51,396
with regards to landscape and visual perspective.

707
00:40:51,815 --> 00:40:54,776
There's also a larger document, which is the amenity and recreation document.

708
00:40:54,956 --> 00:40:58,366
This is APP085. Now, this document

709
00:40:59,096 --> 00:41:00,936
addresses the same routes and provides

710
00:41:02,996 --> 00:41:06,556
prose and narrative on sequential and route long

711
00:41:06,636 --> 00:41:10,356
impacts for rights of way, the Peddars Way, the Nar Valley Way, cycle

712
00:41:10,416 --> 00:41:13,496
routes, and also publicly accessible landscapes.

713
00:41:14,236 --> 00:41:17,736

The latter report, so APP085, the

714
00:41:17,816 --> 00:41:21,156
ARA report, concludes no long-term cumulative

715
00:41:21,216 --> 00:41:24,956
impacts on these routes. It is concluded that there are some

716
00:41:24,996 --> 00:41:28,856
short-term significant impacts on the Peddars Way, how these are mitigated as

717
00:41:28,916 --> 00:41:32,716
the time progresses and the maturation of mitigation proposals is

718
00:41:32,776 --> 00:41:34,996
undertaken. Thank you.

719
00:41:37,056 --> 00:41:40,816
Thank you. Norfolk County Council, Andrew Szurkowski.

720
00:41:41,476 --> 00:41:44,096
Thank you, sir. Andrew Szurkowski for Norfolk County Council.

721
00:41:44,136 --> 00:41:47,976
So because we haven't been able to have our landscape expert

722
00:41:48,016 --> 00:41:51,106
here today, we will provide you with a written response to the comments that have

723
00:41:51,176 --> 00:41:51,936
been made today.

724
00:42:01,556 --> 00:42:04,876
Okay, thank you. I'm going to move on to the next question then.

725
00:42:04,936 --> 00:42:08,316
Oh, Peter Richards, I can see you've got your hand up. Would you like to come in?

726

00:42:11,276 --> 00:42:14,696
Thank you, sir. Just to say, you won't be surprised to hear that we disagree with

727
00:42:14,776 --> 00:42:18,756
the applicant's position that's just been put to you by Oliver.

728
00:42:19,616 --> 00:42:22,666
This matter is covered in some depth in our statement of common

729
00:42:22,736 --> 00:42:26,216
ground. We do disagree

730
00:42:26,276 --> 00:42:30,176
fundamentally that the effects, the significant effects, end

731
00:42:30,296 --> 00:42:34,036
at the site boundary. We maintain that they would ripple out into the

732
00:42:34,076 --> 00:42:34,856
wider landscape

733
00:42:35,532 --> 00:42:39,512
And secondly, we disagree that the long-term effects on the

734
00:42:39,632 --> 00:42:43,592
users, the people using the Droves passing through the site would not be

735
00:42:43,632 --> 00:42:46,772
significant in the long term. I think that's also covered within the

736
00:42:47,432 --> 00:42:48,772
statement of common ground. Thank you.

737
00:42:52,012 --> 00:42:53,272
Thank you. Ollie Wheeler for the applicant.

738
00:42:53,352 --> 00:42:55,012
Can I just address the first point on that?

739
00:42:55,732 --> 00:42:59,552
With regard to effects finishing at the order limits, in cumulative terms,

740
00:42:59,692 --> 00:43:03,032
the cumulative effect is on the wider landscape character area E6.

741
00:43:03,832 --> 00:43:07,792
And that extends beyond the order limits because that addresses the LCA where it

742
00:43:07,852 --> 00:43:11,792
covers the Droves solar scheme, our scheme, plus

743
00:43:11,812 --> 00:43:15,712
Highgrove, where you have the combined effect of both developments within

744
00:43:15,752 --> 00:43:17,412
the wider LCA. Thank you.

745
00:43:21,592 --> 00:43:24,142
Okay. Peter Richards, your hand is still up.

746
00:43:24,752 --> 00:43:26,832
Have you got a further point to make?

747
00:43:28,432 --> 00:43:29,592
That's my error, sir. Apologies.

748
00:43:29,652 --> 00:43:29,832
Okay.

749
00:43:29,852 --> 00:43:31,322
I'll get my hand down a bit quicker next time. Sorry about that.

750
00:43:31,332 --> 00:43:32,832
All right. Thank you. That's fine.

751
00:43:33,892 --> 00:43:34,312
Okay.

752
00:43:36,192 --> 00:43:37,992
I'll move on to the next question then.

753
00:43:38,192 --> 00:43:42,112
Could the applicant provide an update, and I appreciate this overlap with

754
00:43:42,612 --> 00:43:46,312
the previous topic, could the applicant provide an update on the disagreement with

755
00:43:46,332 --> 00:43:49,312
Norfolk County Council's lead local flood

756
00:43:49,332 --> 00:43:53,302
authority regarding its concern that battery safety and

757
00:43:53,432 --> 00:43:57,232
fire water management have not been sufficiently assessed or

758
00:43:57,332 --> 00:43:59,952
integrated with flood risk considerations?

759
00:44:01,612 --> 00:44:03,832
Liam Nevins on behalf of the applicant.

760
00:44:04,312 --> 00:44:07,912
From the outset, the applicant wishes to note that the battery

761
00:44:07,972 --> 00:44:11,832
safety and fire water risks are appropriately assessed through

762
00:44:11,912 --> 00:44:15,532
the outline battery safety management plan, which is at

763
00:44:16,272 --> 00:44:19,892
7.14.1, and the OSMP, which is at

764
00:44:20,312 --> 00:44:23,812
7.6.3.

765
00:44:24,812 --> 00:44:28,472
Fire prevention, suppression, and containment measures will be

766
00:44:28,512 --> 00:44:32,252
implemented to ensure that fire water and runoff is managed and controlled.

767
00:44:33,612 --> 00:44:36,912
The applicant disagrees with the LFA that there's limited interaction between the

768
00:44:36,932 --> 00:44:40,292
battery safety management plan and the flood risk assessment, noting

769
00:44:40,352 --> 00:44:44,252
consistency in measures and procedures across both documents.

770
00:44:45,352 --> 00:44:48,452
For example, paragraph

771
00:44:48,472 --> 00:44:52,352
12.4.38 of the FRA states explicitly that in the rare event of a

772
00:44:52,372 --> 00:44:56,332
battery fire, the procedure will be outlined in the outline battery safety

773
00:44:56,392 --> 00:45:00,012
management plan. As such, the battery safety management plan outlines the

774
00:45:00,032 --> 00:45:03,752
procedure that will occur. The flood risk assessment outlines what volume is

775
00:45:03,792 --> 00:45:05,332
required and where that will be stored.

776
00:45:05,672 --> 00:45:09,492
As such, the two documents are talking to one another and are consistent.

777
00:45:11,952 --> 00:45:12,312
Thank you.

778
00:45:14,212 --> 00:45:17,252
Sarah Luff, do you want to respond on that point?

779
00:45:20,012 --> 00:45:23,632
Hello. Sarah Luff, lead local flood authority, Norfolk County Council.

780
00:45:24,161 --> 00:45:27,972
At the moment, I'm still working through that section of

781
00:45:28,232 --> 00:45:31,112
the comments. I am unable to respond.

782
00:45:31,472 --> 00:45:34,312
I will respond in writing in due course.

783
00:45:38,592 --> 00:45:42,032
Thank you. And I'll take Mike Bennett's question as

784
00:45:42,092 --> 00:45:43,912
well.

785
00:45:48,152 --> 00:45:50,012
Mike Bennett, Sporle Parish Council.

786
00:45:51,812 --> 00:45:52,372
Thank you, sir.

787
00:45:54,592 --> 00:45:58,432
This summer has shown obviously that wildfires and field fires have become

788
00:45:58,512 --> 00:46:02,362
significant hazards, and we've already referred to this in connection with the

789
00:46:02,452 --> 00:46:06,372

section on biodiversity yesterday, particularly with reference to mowing

790
00:46:06,412 --> 00:46:07,092
strategies.

791
00:46:08,332 --> 00:46:12,122
However, it's a subject of considerable concern to the residents of this area,

792
00:46:12,252 --> 00:46:16,172
not least Sporle, that had a straw stack fire right on the edge of the village

793
00:46:16,182 --> 00:46:17,232
a few weeks ago.

794
00:46:18,752 --> 00:46:22,632
It's noted that tanks are being included to provide for

795
00:46:22,672 --> 00:46:26,312
damping down areas around a BESS unit fire to stop it

796
00:46:26,352 --> 00:46:28,872
spreading, which we've just been talking about,

797
00:46:29,672 --> 00:46:31,112
hoping of course that the

798
00:46:32,052 --> 00:46:34,232
internal fire suppressant does its job.

799
00:46:35,312 --> 00:46:39,252
It's also apparent that water will be required to be brought onto site to clean the

800
00:46:39,332 --> 00:46:41,232
solar panels on a regular basis.

801
00:46:42,632 --> 00:46:46,432
And it's clear that the site does not have water available to fight any

802
00:46:46,472 --> 00:46:49,372
fire that might arise further across the site.

803
00:46:50,132 --> 00:46:54,002
I'm not just talking about the battery area, but I'm talking about generally across

804
00:46:54,032 --> 00:46:57,792
the site. But we do know that obviously there is

805
00:46:57,852 --> 00:46:58,572
irrigation

806
00:47:01,092 --> 00:47:01,892
water available.

807
00:47:04,032 --> 00:47:07,952
But it's also clear that Norfolk Fire Service were hard put

808
00:47:07,972 --> 00:47:10,972
at the height of the heatwaves this summer to be able to deal with the number of

809
00:47:11,032 --> 00:47:12,811
instances they were called to.

810
00:47:14,572 --> 00:47:18,332
In connection with this, what can the applicant do to strengthen its

811
00:47:18,392 --> 00:47:21,612
outline management plans and thereby be secured by the

812
00:47:21,652 --> 00:47:25,632
DCO to ensure the site and surrounding settlements are protected

813
00:47:26,312 --> 00:47:29,552
from what is likely to become an increasing problem in the coming years?

814
00:47:30,152 --> 00:47:33,612

Because I don't really think at the moment you're addressing this issue of

815
00:47:33,652 --> 00:47:36,032
wildfires, which I think I mentioned yesterday.

816
00:47:37,612 --> 00:47:41,072
And secondly, would the applicant consider, in

817
00:47:41,132 --> 00:47:45,072
partnership with landowners, to build further water storage

818
00:47:45,082 --> 00:47:48,402
that could provide a source for both cleaning panels and

819
00:47:48,472 --> 00:47:49,222
firefighting?

820
00:47:51,372 --> 00:47:55,242
There are other issues there with things like if we're

821
00:47:55,252 --> 00:47:58,872
going to have tankers coming onto site all the time, we've got a traffic issue

822
00:47:58,972 --> 00:48:00,972
again, and we discussed that yesterday.

823
00:48:02,292 --> 00:48:06,052
But there's a thought that comes to mind from some of the discussion this morning.

824
00:48:06,132 --> 00:48:08,642
If we've got surface water occurring,

825
00:48:11,332 --> 00:48:14,412
could that surface water not be collected for

826
00:48:14,452 --> 00:48:16,452
firefighting and cleaning panels?

827

00:48:18,032 --> 00:48:18,412
Thank you.

828
00:48:19,292 --> 00:48:19,672
Thank you.

829
00:48:20,632 --> 00:48:22,612
Liam Nevins.

830
00:48:23,552 --> 00:48:24,872
Liam Nevins, on behalf of the applicant.

831
00:48:24,912 --> 00:48:28,632
In terms of collection of water for cleaning panels, there's a

832
00:48:28,672 --> 00:48:32,551
specific composition. It's proposed that deionized water is

833
00:48:32,672 --> 00:48:36,432
used for cleaning the panels to ensure that there's no chemical
release

834
00:48:36,532 --> 00:48:40,272
to the environment. So I think to answer that last point,

835
00:48:40,872 --> 00:48:42,892
no, I don't think that that's a viable option.

836
00:48:43,432 --> 00:48:46,902
In terms of collection of surface water for other uses on site,

837
00:48:47,552 --> 00:48:51,132
again, given the drainage characteristics of the

838
00:48:51,152 --> 00:48:54,832
lithology, it would be very difficult to create something other than
lining

839
00:48:54,972 --> 00:48:55,712
a

840

00:48:56,840 --> 00:49:00,580
structure to capture that water. It's then a case of do you have enough

841
00:49:00,600 --> 00:49:03,660
water within that structure? Do you need to treat it? And so on and so forth.

842
00:49:03,760 --> 00:49:06,870
So it becomes quite a difficult procedure to undertake.

843
00:49:07,380 --> 00:49:11,120
You've quite rightly pointed out that the landowner does have access to an

844
00:49:11,160 --> 00:49:14,840
irrigation system and has a license to abstract

845
00:49:14,860 --> 00:49:18,710
groundwater for agricultural use, and there is a discussion as to

846
00:49:18,760 --> 00:49:22,000
whether or not that could be used or repurposed for

847
00:49:22,800 --> 00:49:24,420
other aspects of the solar scheme.

848
00:49:26,200 --> 00:49:30,060
Okay, thank you. Any other-- I'm conscious Sarah Luff's got her hand up, but

849
00:49:30,070 --> 00:49:31,100
I'll come to you in a minute,

850
00:49:31,960 --> 00:49:35,120
Sarah Luff. Any other comments in the room?

851
00:49:36,860 --> 00:49:37,500
Tony Morgan.

852
00:49:38,840 --> 00:49:39,660
Yeah. Regarding the

853
00:49:41,200 --> 00:49:45,140
solar panel cleaning, which is obviously going to take place once a year, we're

854
00:49:45,180 --> 00:49:48,880
looking at roughly three million liters of deionized

855
00:49:48,940 --> 00:49:50,840
water that you're going to bring to site.

856
00:49:52,880 --> 00:49:56,360
Can you confirm how many HGVs, and

857
00:49:57,420 --> 00:50:00,100
how long this period of cleaning is going to last?

858
00:50:00,180 --> 00:50:03,560
Because obviously it's going to have to be done by machine with rollers

859
00:50:04,000 --> 00:50:07,870
because a human being will not be able to access a four and a

860
00:50:07,920 --> 00:50:09,400
half meter solar panel.

861
00:50:11,440 --> 00:50:14,300
Thank you, sir. Alex Tresadern on behalf of the applicant.

862
00:50:16,320 --> 00:50:20,200
The applicant's undertaken a sensitivity test on the increased HGV

863
00:50:20,300 --> 00:50:24,020
movements associated with tankering in an update to the transport

864
00:50:24,060 --> 00:50:25,670
chapter of the environmental statement.

865
00:50:27,160 --> 00:50:31,060
And further, I'd note that there are caps on movements in this

regard

866
00:50:31,120 --> 00:50:33,770
in the outline construction

867
00:50:34,580 --> 00:50:37,140
traffic management plan and the outline operational traffic management plan, both

868
00:50:37,200 --> 00:50:40,460
of which are secured via corresponding requirements in the DCO.

869
00:50:43,560 --> 00:50:44,600
Okay, thank you.

870
00:50:46,960 --> 00:50:49,960
No further hands in the room. So, Sarah Luff.

871
00:50:53,520 --> 00:50:56,080
Hello. Sarah Luff, local flood authority for Norfolk.

872
00:50:57,400 --> 00:51:01,340
In terms of the discharge hierarchy, top of the hierarchy

873
00:51:01,440 --> 00:51:03,950
is water reuse in terms of surface water.

874
00:51:04,740 --> 00:51:08,630
So we have had a discussion

875
00:51:08,660 --> 00:51:12,220
about whether they could reuse water, but obviously this would involve

876
00:51:12,280 --> 00:51:15,960
collecting it and as they wish to discharge direct to ground, which

877
00:51:16,020 --> 00:51:18,640
is unconfirmed in whether that is possible or not,

878
00:51:19,940 --> 00:51:22,180

there are limited opportunities for them to do so.

879
00:51:23,000 --> 00:51:26,980
However, seeing as they're importing so much water to site

880
00:51:27,020 --> 00:51:28,760
and it is a water-stressed area,

881
00:51:29,680 --> 00:51:33,570
it would be reasonable to ask for further consideration

882
00:51:33,640 --> 00:51:37,540
of reusing surface water that is collected off other areas of the site,

883
00:51:37,600 --> 00:51:38,300
potentially.

884
00:51:39,160 --> 00:51:42,840
And as the development has got so many

885
00:51:42,900 --> 00:51:46,580
pieces of equipment coming in from outside the area,

886
00:51:47,120 --> 00:51:51,060
would it not be reasonable to consider whether it is viable

887
00:51:51,120 --> 00:51:55,060
to have a deionizing facility on site if they're going to be

888
00:51:55,140 --> 00:51:58,320
using so much water in a water-stressed area

889
00:51:59,500 --> 00:52:03,020
that is already experiencing EA

890
00:52:03,080 --> 00:52:06,740
removal of abstraction licenses to agricultural

891
00:52:06,860 --> 00:52:07,440
users?

892
00:52:09,740 --> 00:52:10,160
Okay, thank you.

893
00:52:10,180 --> 00:52:10,660
Thank you very much.

894
00:52:10,940 --> 00:52:11,680
Liam Nevins.

895
00:52:11,940 --> 00:52:14,160
Yeah, Liam Nevins on behalf of the applicant, and that's something that we'll take

896
00:52:14,200 --> 00:52:15,280
away and confirm in writing, sir.

897
00:52:15,620 --> 00:52:16,340
Okay, thank you.

898
00:52:17,880 --> 00:52:21,480
So I'm now going to move on to item four, which is the next

899
00:52:21,580 --> 00:52:25,350
steps. So I've written down three points on

900
00:52:25,420 --> 00:52:29,200
population. Norfolk County Council to provide a written response

901
00:52:29,460 --> 00:52:30,700
on that first question.

902
00:52:32,160 --> 00:52:34,640
Lead local authority to respond in writing

903
00:52:36,020 --> 00:52:38,280
regarding battery safety/fire water.

904
00:52:39,040 --> 00:52:40,420
And as we've just discussed,

905
00:52:41,340 --> 00:52:43,800
if the applicant could respond regarding

906
00:52:45,100 --> 00:52:47,020
reusing water on site.

907
00:52:48,060 --> 00:52:50,020