THE DROVES
SOLAR FARM

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30 October 2026

[redacted]
Planning Inspectorate
c/o QUADIENT
69 Buckingham Avenue
Slough
SL1 4PN

THE DROVES SOLAR FARM DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER – DEADLINE 6 SUBMISSION

APPLICATION REFERENCE: EN0110013 THE DROVES SOLAR FARM

Further to the Examining Authority's (ExA) updated **Rule 8 Letter [PD-008]**, published 13 May 2026, I am writing to provide the Applicant's submissions for Deadline 6 of The Droves Solar Farm examination.

The documents submitted at Deadline 6 are set out in tabulated form in Appendix A (new documents) and Appendix B (updated documents) of this letter.

Examining Authority's Request for Further Information

On 21 October 2026, the ExA published a **Rule 17 Letter [PD-013]** which made a request of the Applicant for further information in relation to: decommissioning and restoration; Design Principles, Parameters and Commitments; and archaeology. The **Rule 17 Letter** requested that these matters be responded to at Deadline 6.

The Applicant confirms that, as contained within the **Applicant's Response to Rule 17 Request [APP/8.36]**, the Applicant has provided responses to all those questions put to the Applicant within the **Rule 17 Letter** and that this response document is submitted at Deadline 6.

Cumulative Development

The Applicant noted the publication of the Longmarsh Green Energy project's EIA Scoping Report on the Planning Inspectorate's website on 26 October 2026. Whilst there has been little time between this publication and Deadline 6, the Applicant has reviewed and updated its Environmental Statement and related documents, as appropriate, to assist the ExA during its recommendation report stage and the Secretary of State's ultimate decision. This demonstrates the proactive and robust nature of the Applicant's cumulative assessment, even though the information for the Longmarsh Green Energy project has been received at a late stage of the Examination.

The Applicant can confirm updates to the following Environmental Statement and related documents, together with a summary of the update:

- **Planning Statement [APP/5.5.3]** – this document has been updated to account for the reporting of new and/or updated magnitudes of likely significant effects in the

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Environmental Statement. These amendments have not impacted on the planning balance, which remains firmly in favour of granting consent for the Scheme.

- **ES Chapter 7: Ecology and Biodiversity [APP/6.2.3]**, **ES Chapter 9: Transport and Access [APP/6.2.2]** and **ES Chapter 15: Human Health [APP/6.2.2]** – these chapters have been updated as the Longmarsh Green Energy project has the potential to give rise to cumulative topic-matter effects. However, consideration of the Longmarsh Green Energy project has not resulted in any changes to the magnitude of (or resulted in the reporting of new) likely significant effects.
- **ES Chapter 11: Soils and Agriculture [APP/6.2.3], ES Chapter 14: Socio-Economics [APP/6.2.2]**, **ES Chapter 16: Other Environmental Matters [APP/6.2.2]** and **ES Chapter 18: Summary of Effects [APP/6.2.2]** – these chapters have been updated as the Longmarsh Green Energy project has the potential to give rise to cumulative topic-matter effects. The Applicant notes, though, that there are limitations of the information available for the Longmarsh Green Energy project (due to it only being at the scoping stage of the application process). As such, these conclusions represent a worst case scenario and, as that project progresses, more information may come to light which reduces the impact of these new effects.
  a. Consideration of the Longmarsh Green Energy project has resulted in an uplift of the magnitude of a likely significant adverse cumulative effect in **ES Chapter 11: Soils and Agriculture [APP/6.2.3]**;
  b. Consideration of the Longmarsh Green Energy project has resulted in one new likely significant adverse cumulative effect in **ES Chapter 14: Socio-Economics [APP/6.2.2]**;
  c. Consideration of the Longmarsh Green Energy project has resulted in two new likely significant adverse cumulative effects with regard for waste, as reported in **ES Chapter 16: Other Environmental Matters [APP/6.2.2]**; and
  d. **ES Chapter 18: Summary of Effects [APP/6.2.2]** has been updated to reflect the above amendments to the reporting of effects.
- **ES Figure 2.1: Cumulative Schemes – Within 25km [APP/6.3.3]**, **ES Figure 2.2: Cumulative Schemes – Countywide [APP/6.3.1]** and **ES Appendix 2.4: Cumulative Schemes [APP/6.4.2]** – these documents have been updated to include consideration of the Longmarsh Green Energy project.
- **Report on Interrelationships between Projects [APP/8.3.3]** – this document has been updated to include consideration of the Longmarsh Green Energy project**.**

Statements of Common Ground (SoCG)

At Deadline 5, the Applicant submitted three final and signed SoCGs (with Historic England, Anglian Water Services Ltd and the Defence Infrastructure Organisation).

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The Applicant confirms that the remaining nine SoCGs that were still in draft into Deadline 5 have been submitted as final and, where possible, signed into Deadline 6. The Applicant confirms that the following SoCG has not been possible to submit as signed by both parties:

- **SoCG with Breckland Council [APP/5.11.4]** – Breckland Council did not have any available persons to sign this SoCG into Deadline 6. Notwithstanding, the Applicant submits this SoCG as reflecting the final position between the parties.

Applicant's Final Updates

With regard to Annex F of the ExA's **Rule 6 Letter [PD-006]**, published 13 May 2026, and the ExA's requirement on the Applicant to submit updates to the referenced documents at Deadline 6 (as recorded in **Rule 8 Letter [PD-008]**), the Applicant can confirm the following:

- **Final Versions of SoCGs** – the Applicant has submitted final versions of all SoCGs at Deadline 6, as outlined in the section above.
- **Book of Reference** – the Applicant has submitted a revised **Book of Reference [APP/4.3.4]**, reflecting the latest, fully up-to-date version of this document. A revised **Schedule of Changes to the Book of Reference [APP/8.1.3]** has been submitted to reflect changes to the **Book of Reference [APP/4.3.4]**.
- **Statement of Reasons** – the Applicant confirms that there is no further update to the version of the **Statement of Reasons [REP3-009]** which was submitted at Deadline 3.
- **Land and Rights Tracker** – the Applicant has submitted a revised **Land and Rights Negotiations Tracker [APP/4.4.5]**, reflecting the latest, fully up-to-date version of this document.
- **Draft Development Consent Order** – the Applicant has submitted a revised **draft Development Consent Order (DCO) [APP/3.1.6]**. The Applicant has submitted: a clean and tracked version of this document against the Deadline 5 version of this document; a tracked version of the draft DCO against the submission version of the draft DCO and a clean final word version. A revised **Schedule of Changes to the Draft Development Consent Order [APP/8.5.5]** has been submitted to reflect changes to the **draft DCO [APP/3.1.6]**.
- **DCO Validation Report** – the Applicant has submitted a revised **draft DCO Template Validation Report [APP/3.3.1]** to confirm that the statutory instrument has been validated successfully.
- **Explanatory Memorandum** – the Applicant has submitted a revised **Explanatory Memorandum [APP/3.2.5]**, reflecting the latest, fully up-to-date version of this document.
- **Consents and Agreements Position Statement** – the Applicant confirms that there is no further update to the version of the **Consents and Agreements Position Statement [APP-185]** which was submitted as part of the DCO Application.

Separate to the Annex F requirements of the ExA's **Rule 6 Letter [PD-006]**, the Applicant can confirm that **Commitments Register [APP/6.5.1]** has been updated at Deadline 6 to capture and reflect all commitments at the close of Examination.

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Other Deadline 6 Requirements

As requested in the **Rule 8 Letter [PD-008]**, the Applicant has prepared and submitted the **Applicant's Closing Statement [APP/8.35]** and the **Applicant's Response to Deadline 5 Submissions [APP/8.34]** to summarise final positions and to respond to any residual matters respectively.

Use of Artificial Intelligence

In accordance with the Planning Inspectorate's guidance on the use of artificial intelligence, the Applicant confirms that there has been minor use of AI (ChatGPT Teams) in **Applicant's Response to Deadline 5 Submissions [APP/8.34]** to make linguistic amendments which have not altered the substance or meaning of the Applicant's application material. All suggested text has been checked by an appropriately knowledgeable or qualified person before inclusion. This means that all text has been validated for its content and accuracy by the author before submission of the document set out above.

I would be grateful if you would please acknowledge safe receipt of this letter and the enclosed documents.

Kind regards,

[redacted]

[redacted]

Project Development Manager – on behalf of The Droves Solar Farm Limited

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Appendix A – New Documents Submitted at Deadline 6

Document Reference	Document Title	Reason for Submission
APP/8.34	Applicant's Response to Deadline 5 Submissions	To provide the Applicant's responses to submissions made by Interested Parties at Deadline 5, where the Applicant considers it necessary to do so.
APP/8.35	Applicant's Closing Statement	To summarise the key outstanding matters between the Applicant and Interested Parties.
APP/8.36	Applicant's Response to Rule 17 Request	To respond to the ExA's **Rule 17 Letter [PD-013]**.
APP/8.37	Cover Letter for Deadline 6	This Cover Letter is provided to support the Applicant's Deadline 6 submissions.

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Appendix B – Updated Documents Submitted at Deadline 6

Document Reference	Rev No.	Document Title	Reason for Submission
APP/1.3	8	Guide to the Application	To provide an up-to-date list of the status of application documents and to identify where any have been superseded.
APP/2.2	1	Land Plan	To reflect an update in a split plot following a refresh of His Majesty's Land Registry.
APP/3.1	6	draft Development Consent Order	To reflect minor clarificatory updates made, plus updates to Schedule 13 and the inclusion of the agreed form of protective provisions with National Highways.
APP/3.2	5	Explanatory Memorandum	To reflect the updates to the **draft DCO [APP/3.1.6]**.
APP/3.3	1	draft DCO Template Validation Report	To reflect the re-validation of the statutory instrument.
APP/4.3	4	Book of Reference	To reflect an up-to-date register of land interests.
APP/4.4	5	Land and Rights Negotiations Tracker	To provide an update as to the current status of negotiations with affected person(s) or company(ies).
APP/5.5	3	Planning Statement	To reflect effects reported across the Environmental Statement within the various assessments and to update a homes powering figure.
APP/5.6	3	Policy Compliance Document	To update a homes powering figure.
APP/5.8	6	Design Principles, Parameters and Commitments	To amend a document readability issue with Appendix 1.
APP/5.10	5	Statement of Commonality	To reflect the final positions within the final Statements of

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			Common Ground submitted at Deadline 6.
APP/5.11	4	Statement of Common Ground with Breckland Council	To reflect a final position within the Statement of Common Ground for each party.
APP/5.12	4	Statement of Common Ground with Norfolk County Council	
APP/5.13	4	Statement of Common Ground with the Environment Agency	
APP/5.15	4	Statement of Common Ground with Natural England	
APP/5.16	2	Statement of Common Ground with National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc	
APP/5.17	3	Statement of Common Ground with National Highways	
APP/5.19	2	Statement of Common Ground with Norfolk Wildlife Trust	
APP/5.20	4	Statement of Common Ground with Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk	
APP/5.21	2	Statement of Common Ground with National Energy System Operator Limited	
APP/6.2	5	ES Chapter 12: Water Resources	To amend references to Work Nos. in respect of rainwater harvesting and pollution control.
APP/6.2	3	ES Chapter 7: Ecology and Biodiversity	To reflect an updated cumulative assessment to consider the Longmarsh Green Energy project.
APP/6.2	2	ES Chapter 9: Traffic and Transport	
APP/6.2	3	ES Chapter 11: Soils and Agriculture	
APP/6.2	2	ES Chapter 14: Socio-economics	
APP/6.2	2	ES Chapter 15: Human Health	

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APP/6.2	2	ES Chapter 16: Other Environmental Matters	
APP/6.2	2	ES Chapter 18: Summary of Effects	
APP/6.3	3	ES Figure 2.1 Cumulative Schemes - Within 25km	
APP/6.3	1	ES Figure 2.2 Cumulative Schemes - Countywide	
APP/6.4	2	ES Appendix 2.4 Cumulative Schemes	
APP/6.5	1	Commitments Register	To provide an updated register of commitments secured across updated documents during the Examination.
APP/7.8	6	Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan	To provide updates as requested by Environment Agency to the emergency response plan and in respect of rainwater pollution measures.
APP/8.1	3	Schedule of Changes to the Book of Reference	To reflect updates to the **Book of Reference [APP/4.3.4]**.
APP/8.3	3	Report on Interrelationships between Projects	To reflect consideration of the Longmarsh Green Energy project.
APP/8.5	5	Schedule of Changes to the Draft Development Consent Order	To reflect updates to the **draft DCO [APP/3.1.6]**.
APP/8.25	1	Permitted Preliminary Works Environmental Management Plan	To reflect comments from the Environment Agency on measures within this Plan.