

The Planning Inspectorate
3/18 Eagle Wing
Temple Quay House (2 The Square)
Temple Quay
Bristol
Avon
BS1 6PN

Our ref: AE/2022/127023/03-L01
Your ref: -
Date: 16 August 2022

Dear Sir/Madam

APPLICATION BY LONGFIELD SOLAR ENERGY FARM LTD FOR AN ORDER GRANTING DEVELOPMENT CONSENT FOR THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM (EN010118) - RESPONSE TO DEADLINE 1B - WRITTEN REPRESENTATION LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM

Thank you for the opportunity to provide further comments following our relevant representation dated 25 May 2022.

In our response to the statutory consultation dated 25 May 2022 and referenced AE/2022/127023/01-L01, we provided our position on Flood Risk. We identified that the applicant had not undertaken site specific hydraulic modelling of the River Ter and Boreham Brook (tributary) but have instead used the Braintree SFRA outlines to define the fluvial Flood Zones. We outlined two options for the applicant to explore:

1. Undertake site specific hydraulic modelling of the River Ter and Boreham Brook (tributary) .
Or
2. Assess that there is no 'critical infrastructure' within Flood Zones 2 or 3 or ideally that critical infrastructure is outside the 0.1% (1 in 1000) annual probability event with allowance for future climate change (maximum credible scenario).

We are pleased to see that the applicant has now provided further information to us that shows the PV solar panels would not be affected by floodwaters as they are raised. The Flood Zones depicted in the SFRA's are an over estimation compared with the latest requirements for climate change, even the maximum credible scenario (Upper End) of 37%. Therefore, we are satisfied that there are no features of the infrastructure that are critical to its operation close to the boundaries of the flood zones and therefore flood risk modelling will not need to be undertaken.

The remaining comments made within our previous representation remain up to date.

We trust these comments are useful.

Yours faithfully

Environment Agency
Iceni House Cobham Road, Ipswich, IP3 9JD.
Customer services line: 03708 506 506
www.gov.uk/environment-agency

Cont/d..



Mr Liam Robson
Sustainable Places - Planning Advisor

