



Longfield Solar Farm

Statement of Common Ground – East of England Ambulance Service
Trust

Deadline 1B

Document Reference : EN010118/EX/8.4

Revision 1.0

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Longfield Solar Energy Farm Ltd

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1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose of this document

- 1.1.1 This Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) has been prepared as part of the proposed Longfield Solar Farm Development Consent Order (the Application) made by Longfield Solar Energy Farm Ltd (the Applicant) to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (the Secretary of State) pursuant to the Planning Act 2008 (PA 2008).
- 1.1.2 This SoCG does not seek to replicate information which is available elsewhere within the Application documents. All documents are available in the deposit locations and/or the Planning Inspectorate website.
- 1.1.3 This SoCG has been produced to confirm to the Examining Authority (ExA) where agreement has been reached between the parties, and where agreement has not (yet) been reached. SoCGs are an established means in the planning process of allowing all parties to identify and focus on specific issues that may need to be addressed during the examination.

1.2 Parties to this Statement of Common Ground

- 1.2.1 This SoCG has been prepared by (1) Longfield Solar Energy Farm Ltd as the Applicant and (2) East of England Ambulance Service Trust (EEAST). It is intended that an updated version of the SoCG will be submitted to the Examining Authority at Deadline 2.
- 1.2.2 Collectively, Longfield Solar Energy Farm Ltd and EEAST are referred to as 'the parties'.

1.3 Terminology

- 1.3.1 In the table in the Issues chapter of this SoCG:
 - “Agreed” indicates where the issue has been resolved.
 - “Not Agreed” indicates a final position, and
 - “Under discussion” indicates where these points will be the subject of on-going discussion wherever possible to resolve, or refine, the extent of disagreement between the parties.

2. Record of Engagement

2.1 Summary of consultation

2.1.1 The parties have been engaged in consultation since the beginning of the proposed development. A summary of the meetings and correspondence that has taken place between Longfield Solar Energy Farm Ltd and EEAST in relation to the Application is outlined in **Table 2-1**.

Table 2.1 - Record of Engagement

Date	Engagement on the SoCG
01.08.22	The Applicant issued an initial draft of the SoCG.
09.08.22	The Applicant and EEAST had an initial call to discuss the scope and content of the SoCG for Deadline 1.
10.08.22	The Applicant issued an updated draft of the SoCG for comment.
11.08.22	EEAST submitted comments to the Applicant on the updated draft.

2.1.2 It is agreed that this is an accurate record of the key meetings and consultation undertaken between (1) Longfield Solar Energy Farm Ltd and (2) EEAST in relation to the issues addressed in this SoCG.

3. Issues

3.1 Transport and means of access

Ref	Sub-topic	Stakeholder Comment	Applicant's Response	Status
1	Means of transport and access including road closures	<p>EEAST attend 999 calls within nationally defined timeframes, including a timed element in the transportation of patients to a location of definitive care. Non-adherence to these timescales has contractual implications.</p> <p>EEAST are a 'Blue Light Agency' in addition to being a health care provider. Transport issues will impact on 'business-as-usual' (BAU) and EEAST needs to be recognised as a stakeholder in respect of transportation impact on a par with police and fire.</p> <p>EEAST seeks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - confirmation that Essex County Council is satisfied that there would be no significant adverse impacts on the highway network as a result of the proposed development; and - assurance that EEAST will be notified of any works to the highway (e.g. temporary road closures), so that routing can be planned to ensure that there would be no adverse impact on response times of its emergency vehicles. 	<p>Chapter 13 Transport and Access of the Environmental Statement (EN010118/APP/6.1) considers the potential effects of the Scheme on traffic and transport during the construction, operation and decommissioning phases, including AILs. It concludes that there would be no adverse impact on the highway network arising from the proposed development.</p> <p>A suite of management plans for both the construction and operational phase movements have been developed. These will be secured by the DCO.</p> <p>The Applicant is working with ECC to ensure that it is satisfied that there would be no significant adverse effects. The position of those parties and related actions are detailed in the SoCG between the Applicant and the Host Authorities. Once the position is 'agreed' between the Applicant and the Host Authorities this will be confirmed to EEAST and the position updated in a subsequent version of this document.</p> <p>The Applicant commits to including EEAST as named party within the Community Liaison Group (CLG). The Applicant is considering how best to</p>	<p>Under discussion. The Applicant will undertake the following and an update will be provided at Deadline 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to confirm to EEAST once ECC is satisfied that there would be no significant adverse effects to the public highway; - to confirm how it will give assurance to EEAST that they will form part of the CLG; - to confirm how it will give assurance to EEAST that they will have access to advance notice and live information on works to the highway, HGV, and AIL movements to aid their routing strategy; and - to agree whether a financial contribution for any delays experienced by EEAST to response times/on-ward transportation as a result of adverse delays is necessary. <p>Note: Where AILs require an escort, the police will be able to direct and hold traffic to enable EEAST to pass in a blue light situation.</p>

Ref	Sub-topic	Stakeholder Comment	Applicant's Response	Status
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secure this commitment and an update will be provided at Deadline 2.

The Applicant is also considering how else it will ensure EEAST is kept up to date of any temporary works on the highways, so that they can planning this into vehicle routing. An update will be provided at Deadline 2.

3.2 Emergency planning and major accidents and disasters

Ref	Sub-topic	Stakeholder Comment	Applicant's Response	Status
2	Major accidents and disasters	EEAST seeks comfort that there would not be significant risk of accidents to workers during the construction phase.	Section 16.4 (Major Accidents or Disasters) of Chapter 16 (Other environmental Topics) of the Environmental Statement (EN010118/APP/6.1) identifies the expected significant adverse effects of the development on the environment deriving from the vulnerability of the development to risks of major accidents and/or disasters that are relevant to the project.	Under discussion. The Applicant will undertake the following and an update will be provided at Deadline 2:
	Emergency Planning and Hand-over Plans	- EEAST confirms that an evacuation plan is not required for the Project. However, EEAST requires agreement of the method for 'hand over' in the event of an accident(s) prior to commencement of construction.	<p>Minimising the risk of major accidents during construction, operation, and decommissioning will be addressed through appropriate risk assessments necessitated through the Outline Construction and Environmental Management Plan (CEMP), Operational Environmental Management Plan (OEMP) and Decommissioning Strategy. These will all be secured via a requirement to the DCO.</p> <p>Furthermore, Chapter 15 (Human Health) of the Environmental Statement (EN010118/APP/6.1) does not identify any significant effects during construction or operation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to explore whether any further information can be provided to EEAST to provide comfort that there is not a significant risk of accidents in the construction of solar farms; - to confirm how arrangements for the hand-over of any member of construction staff needing medical attention from EEAST will be agreed and secured (prior to commencement), as ambulances may not be able to access the internal areas of the Longfield sites due to them being on unmade ground; and <p>to agree whether a financial contribution to EEAST would be made, should any exercises on site, site visits and familiarisation, preparation for and attendance at meetings and undertaking procedure and policy preparation and updates be required.</p>

3.3 Demand on EEAST services

Ref	Sub-topic	Stakeholder Comment	Applicant's Response	Status
3	Demand on EEAST's services	- EEAST seeks confirmation potential for construction activities and staff to place additional demand on EEAST's services.		<p>Under discussion. The Applicant will undertake the following and an update will be provided at Deadline 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- to confirm the impact is likely to be small given the nature of construction activities to be undertaken, and sign-post to information on the size and likely age profile of the workforce, and the duration of construction. <p>Both parties agreed to review and share data to inform a future discussion to help facilitate reaching agreement. EEAST considers that this may result in a request for funding secured through a Section 106 agreement.</p>

4. Signatories

4.1 Overview

4.1.1 The above SoCG is agreed between Longfield Solar Farm Limited (LFS Limited) (the Applicant) and EEAST, as specified below.

Duly authorised for and on behalf of **Longfield Solar Limited**

Name	Carly Vince
Job Title	Chief Planning Officer, EDF
Date	
Signature	

Duly authorised for and on behalf of **East of England Ambulance Service Trust**

Name	Zoë May
Job Title	Head of Business Relationships
Date	
Signature	