



Longfield Solar Farm

Statement of Common Ground – East of England Ambulance Service
Trust

Deadline 4

Document Reference : EN010118/EX/8.4(A)

Revision 2.0

November 2022

Longfield Solar Energy Farm Ltd

Table of Contents

1.	Introduction	1
1.1	Purpose of this document	1
1.2	Parties to this Statement of Common Ground	1
1.3	Terminology	1
2.	Record of Engagement	2
2.1	Summary of consultation.....	2
3.	Issues	3
3.1	Transport and means of access.....	3
3.2	Emergency planning and major accidents and disasters	5
3.3	Demand on EEAST services.....	6
4.	Signatories	7
4.1	Overview	7

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 continuing to work 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 has included EEAST as named party within the Community Liaison Group (CLG).</p>	<p>Under discussion. The Applicant continues to engage with ECC to confirm that transport matters between the parties is being resolved.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The draft Development Consent Order [REP3-006] includes provision within Requirement 6 for EEAST to be involved in the Community Liaison Group. This group will be the driver for the provision of information, including advance notice and live information on works to the highway, HGV, and AIL movements to aid their routing strategy. <p>Discussions are ongoing as to 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> <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>

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 has committed to including an obligation and associated sum of money into the Section 106 Agreement that will allow for a site familiarisation exercise to be undertaken. The wording will be shared with EEAST in advance of its inclusion within the draft Agreement at Deadline 5.
	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>	

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.		Agreed – EEAST note the confirmation from UK Health Security Agency that they are satisfied with the health impact assessment undertaken and consequently there would not be a significant impact that would require mitigation.

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 Senior Director at Quod, on behalf of LFS Limited

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