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Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited

Your Ref:

Our Ref: EN010118

Date: 9 January 2023

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Dear Sir/Madam,

## **The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 (as amended) – Rule 17**

### **Application by Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Longfield Solar Farm Project**

#### **Request for further information**

I am writing under Rule 17 of the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 (as amended) to request the following information:

***ES Chapter 8 (Ecology) [APP-040] and ES Chapter 5 (EIA Methodology) [APP-037] confirm that the ecological assessment is based on the Concept Design. Table 5-1 of ES Chapter 5 states (in relation to the ecological assessment) that “The Concept Design does not have a smaller footprint than the Design Principles, and therefore the conclusions of the assessment are not affected by the flexibility allowed by the Design Principles”.***

***However, in the case of Work No.4 (grid connection route), the cable trench is defined in the Concept Design [REP6-005] as being 1900mm, whilst in the Outline Design Principles [REP6-007] it is stated as up to 3m wide. ES Chapter 8 (paragraph 8.3.4, a-d) does not specifically refer to the cable route in justifying why construction of the Proposed Development would not result in a greater impact to ecological receptors than the Concept Design. Please explain how this is accounted for in the ecological assessment and why this could not result in a greater adverse impact than what has been assessed.***

***I am also mindful that the same point applies in relation to the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (ES Chapter 10, paragraph 10.3.1 refers) [REP1b-005].***

***On the basis of the above, I am considering whether provisions should be included in the dDCO to restrict the cable trench width parameter to what has been assessed in the ES. The Applicant is invited to comment.***

Responses should be submitted on or before **Deadline 8 (Wednesday 18 January 2023)**.  
The Applicant may, however, wish to provide an interim response at Deadline 7  
(**Wednesday 11 January 2023**).

Yours faithfully

*Rory Cridland*

### **Examining Authority**

This communication does not constitute legal advice.

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