

**SOUTH DERBYSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL’S ANSWERS
TO THE EXAMING AUTHORITY’S SECOND WRITTEN QUESTIONS**

ANSWERS FOR DEADLINE 5

Oaklands Farm Solar Farm NSIP

(Construction and operation of a solar farm plus energy storage with
associated infrastructure and connection to the grid)

Application by Oaklands Farm Solar Ltd

PINS Reference: EN010122

EN010122 - Oaklands Farm Solar Park NSIP – SDDC’s Answers to the ExA’s Second Written Questions

Ref:	ExA’s Question	SDDC Answer:
1.	Draft Development Consent Order (dDCO) and other consents	
	General points	
	Part 1 - Preliminary	
	NA	
	Part 2 - Principal Powers	
	N/A	
	Part 3 - Streets	
	N/A	
	Part 5 – Powers of Acquisition	
	N/A	
	Part 7 - Miscellaneous/General	
	N/A	
	Schedule 1, Part 2 - Requirements	
	N/A	
	Schedule 1, Part 3 – Procedure for Discharge of Requirements	
	N/A	
	Schedule 10 – Protective Provisions	

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Ref:	ExA’s Question	SDDC Answer:
	N/A	
2. Land rights, related matters, and statutory undertakers		
	N/A	
3. General and cross-topic planning matters		
3.4	<p><u>Solar panel and battery storage replacement during the operation stage</u></p> <p>The Applicant [REP1-025 response to question 4.2] states that solar panels are not expected to be replaced during the operational life of the project, save for individual instances of damage or unexpected failure of specific panels, and that to account for this an annual replacement rate of 0.2% per year has been assumed in the ES [REP3-021 Table 13.3]. Battery cells replacement is anticipated to be once every 8 to10 years depending on the final installed system and the operations profile. It considers that mitigation measures are secured within the Outline CEMP [REP1-007] and Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (Outline CTMP) [REP1-021], and summarised in the ES [REP3-021 paragraph 13.59].</p> <p>The ExA notes the potential for adverse impacts in relation Heavy Goods Vehicle (HGV) movements during the operation stage, including for the replacement of solar panels and other equipment, in various chapters of the ES. It is seeking to ensure that appropriate precision and clarity is provided for related mitigation during the operation stage.</p> <p>Responding to similar concerns, paragraphs 2.2.3 and 2.2.5 of the Mallard Pass Solar Farm Outline OEMP limit the maximum number of daily HGV movements during operation and requires the relevant planning authority to confirm that any maintenance activities involving panel replacement would not lead to such</p>	<p>b) SDDC would be content for the definition of “maintain” to be amended to reflect the wording set out in the Mallard Cross Solar Farm DCO.</p>

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Ref:	ExA’s Question	SDDC Answer:
	<p>materially different effects. The Mallard Pass Solar Farm DCO provides that the definition of “maintain” does not include remove, reconstruct or replace the whole of Work No. 1 at the same time and for such works not to give rise to any materially new or materially different environmental effects than those identified in the ES for the operation of the authorised development. The ExA is considering whether to adopt a similar approach.</p> <p>a) Please could the Applicant suggest updates to the dDCO [REP3-008] and Outline OEMP [REP1-009]?</p> <p>b) Please could SDDC, DCC, LCC and SCC comment at Deadlines 4 and 5, setting out any concerns and how they might be resolved?</p>	
4.	Need case, effects on climate change, alternatives, electricity generation, and grid connection	
	N/A	
5.	Project lifetime and decommissioning	
6.	Agriculture, land use, soils, ground conditions, minerals, and geology	
6.1	<p><u>Agricultural Land Classification (ALC)</u></p> <p>NE [AS-022, REP1-037] raise various concerns regarding ALC, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • where BMV is not expected then a semi detailed survey (1 auger per 2 ha plus representative pits) will suffice; • in areas that BMV is expected then a full ALC (1 auger per ha plus representative pits) must be undertaken; • it does not concur with the assumption that land quality is mostly 3b within the cable route; 	<p>b) SDDC are content that the surveyors work was to an acceptable standard and by undertaken by appropriate surveyors.</p> <p>d) SDDC have not had any recent dialogue with the Applicant regarding ALC. SDDC would generally concur with NE’s comments. SDDC would also add that soil scientists (surveyors) should be BSSS standard, and that ALC survey must inform the Soil Management Plan.</p>

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Ref:	ExA’s Question	SDDC Answer:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an ALC survey should be undertaken on the cable route; • in the absence of a detailed survey for most of the cable corridor it is impossible to provide an accurate baseline and demonstrate the likely potential impacts; • the survey requires an experienced ALC surveyor to make the correct professional judgements; • detail should be provided of the professional credentials and experience required of soil scientists (surveyors) experience carrying out ALC; and • the ALC survey will inform the Soil Management Plan. <p>SDDC [REP1-029] consider that the Applicant’s ALC and surveys meet the minimum criteria of MAFF 1988, but say that the soil survey work was not supervised/ observed.</p> <p>NE [AS-022] provide detailed comments on the Applicant’s ALC undertaken to date and say [REP1-037] that it will provide more detailed comments for Deadlines 2 and 3. The ExA notes that these are yet to be submitted.</p> <p>The Applicant [REP1-023, REP1-025, REP3-032] considers the approach and methodology used within the ALC and surveys to be robust and appropriate. It says that is engaging with NE on a SoCG. It states that it is undertaking further survey work to confirm the ALC on the cable route and will provide an update on the results of the survey at Deadline 4.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Please could the Applicant clarify the supervision provided for all ALC and surveys, including for the soil survey work on site, setting out the relevant professional credentials and experience of the surveyors/ scientists? b) Please could NE and SDDC comment on the supervision provided by the Applicant at Deadline 5? 	<p>e) SDDC are of the opinion that without a survey it cannot be accepted that the land quality at the location of the cable route is mostly 3b.</p>

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Ref:	ExA’s Question	SDDC Answer:
	<p>c) Please could the Applicant provide a draft copy of the SoCG with NE at Deadline 4, and set out the ALC matters yet to be agreed with NE and the next steps to be taken to address them?</p> <p>d) Please could NE and SDDC set out any remaining ALC concerns at Deadlines 4 and 5, summarise any related discussions with the Applicant, and suggest how their issues might be resolved?</p> <p>e) Please could NE and SDDC provide their comments on the results of the Applicant’s ALC on the cable route at Deadline 5?</p>	
6.2	<p><u>Outline Soil Management Plan</u></p> <p>NE [AS-022] comment that the Outline Soil Management Plan should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • comply with paragraph 5.1 of the Defra Construction Code of Practice for the Sustainable Use of Soils on Construction Sites (2009); • follow the Institute of Quarrying’s Good Practice Guide for Handling Soils in Mineral Working; • clarify the level of professional qualification and experience required of the site foreman to ensure that soil handling and storage of soils adhere to the Defra Construction Code of Practice; • set out the target specification for the proposed end uses based on pre-construction ALC grade; • where topsoil is to be stripped, typically for construction compounds; access tracks and laying cabling, the soil handling methodology (movement, storage & replacement) and soil protection proposals are reviewed 	<p>d) SDDC would generally concur with NE’s comments. SDDC would also add that the site foreman should be a suitably qualified soil scientist, and that soil handling should be avoided during the months of October to March (inclusive) irrespective of soil moisture conditions, except in special circumstances that have been agreed.</p>

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Ref:	ExA’s Question	SDDC Answer:
	<p>to ensure that appropriate mitigation is in place to allow for the restoration of the land to the baseline ALC Grade;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • avoiding soil handling during October to March inclusive, irrespective of soil moisture conditions; • only allow soils in a dry and friable condition to be handled; and • limit stockpile heights to avoid compaction of soils, typically a maximum of 3m for topsoils and 5m for subsoils. <p>The Applicant [REP1-023] is drafting a SoCG with NE to ensure all comments are addressed.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Please could the Applicant provide a draft copy of the SoCG with NE at Deadline 4, and set out the Outline Soil Management Plan matters yet to be agreed with NE, and the next steps to be taken to address them? b) Please could the Applicant submit the updated Outline Soil Management Plan? c) Please could NE set out any remaining Outline Soil Management Plan concerns at Deadlines 4 and 5, summarise any related discussions with the Applicant, and suggest how their issues might be resolved? d) Please could SDDC comment at Deadlines 4 and 5? 	
6.3	<p><u>Loss of BMV agricultural land</u></p> <p>Paragraph 5.11.12 of NPS EN-1 states that Applicants should seek to minimise impacts on BMV agricultural land and preferably use land in areas of poorer quality. Paragraph 2.10.29 of NPS EN-3 says that the use of BMV agricultural land should be avoided where possible.</p>	<p>b) SDDC are of the opinion that the Soil Management Plan for BESS must meet the industry standard, and, in line with the comments of NE, we would agree that a standalone document would be appropriate.</p>

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Ref:	ExA’s Question	SDDC Answer:
	<p>The ES [APP-169 paragraph 15.134] states that the Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) and onsite substation would be removed during decommissioning, but that the land in these areas may not be restored back to the same ALC grade. The BESS and substation would be within a small field of mixed Subgrade 3a and 3b quality. It is indicated that there would be a permanent loss or downgrading of 1.5ha of Subgrade 3a agricultural land if the substation was not removed or suitably restored.</p> <p>The Applicant [REP1-025, REP3-032] says that the BESS and onsite substation is proposed within a relatively small field and anticipates that this area could be restored to BMV status on decommissioning. At Deadline 4 it will submit a Soil Management Plan dedicated to this area to address the removal of topsoil, the management of that material for the duration of the consent. It anticipates restoration to comparable quality but cannot be certain of restoration back to the same ALC grade, and therefore considers that it would not be reasonable for the DCO to require no permanent loss of Subgrade 3a agricultural land.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Please could the Applicant comment on whether the BESS and onsite substation could be located to avoid BMV agricultural land? If not, why not? b) Please could DCC and SDDC comment on the Applicant’s Soil Management Plan for the BESS and onsite substation at Deadline 5, set out any remaining concerns and suggest how their issues might be resolved? <p>DCC and SDDC [REP1-026, REP1-029, REP2-001] consider it inevitable that land drains would be compromised by piling, cabling and other infrastructure and that, in the absence of land drains, nutrients would be washed out of the soil and the soil</p>	<p>e) SDDC of the opinion that the DEMP should include provision for a drainage specialist to consider any damage and works needed to remedy. Furthermore, a pre -entry survey of the soil should be established to determine its current health, and this needs to include the percentage of organic matter, pH, nutrient status and general soil structure.</p>

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Ref:	ExA’s Question	SDDC Answer:
	<p>would no longer be BMV agricultural land quality. They also say that soil compaction on soil structure would lead to reduced permeability to water and air as well as increased surface runoff and erosion. The councils consider that the impacts on soil would not be practically reversible in respect of BMV land and that the Proposed Development would result in the permanent loss of BMV land. The councils advise that the Proposed Development site contains soil that is particularly good to produce potatoes, as it is potato cyst nematode free, making the soil even more of a rarity and adding to the BMV value. They consider that the permanent loss of BMV land of the scale proposed is a critical impact and that it is reasonable for the dDCO to require no permanent loss of Subgrade 3a land.</p> <p>Councillor Amy Wheelton [REP1-039] notes that manure is not being added back to the soil to increase the organic matter content, raises concerns about the impact of the piling on the soil structure and land drainage, and considers that the land would be incapable of returning to BMV or any agricultural use as it would no longer be drained.</p> <p>The Applicant [REP3-031], [REP3-033] says that although piling may disturb or break up land drains, the number affected is expected to be minimal and in the unlikely event that any significant drainage issue emerges due to construction activity, it would use measures such as SuDS, replacing or repairing land drains to rectify the situation. It considers it likely that there would be an improvement to soil quality as the ground beneath the solar panels would be permanently vegetated whereas with the existing agricultural use there are periods of bare and compacted earth which increase levels of the surface water runoff. It states that the land would be returned to an appropriate condition following decommissioning without compromising soil quality. The Applicant says that the lease requires it to make</p>	

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Ref:	ExA’s Question	SDDC Answer:
	<p>good the land in no worse state or condition prior to implementing the Proposed Development.</p> <p>c) Please could the Applicant suggest how measures to mitigate the potential for damage to existing land drains and impacts on soil quality can be secured by the dDCO [REP3-008]?</p> <p>d) Please could the Applicant suggest how the condition of the land after decommissioning can be secured by the dDCO [REP3-008]?</p> <p>e) Please could DCC and SDDC comment on the Applicant’s suggestions at Deadline 5, set out any remaining concerns and suggest how their issues might be resolved?</p>	
<p>7. Biodiversity</p>		
<p>7.2</p>	<p><u>Woodland bordering the former Drakelow Power Station site</u></p> <p>The Forestry Commission [RR-095] considers that the woodland bordering the former Drakelow Power Station site, listed on the Arboricultural Report as Woodlands 8, 9 & 10 are Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland on the Priority Habitat Inventory (England) and therefore recognised under the UK Biodiversity Action Plan as being the most threatened and requiring conservation action.</p> <p>The Applicant [REP1-023] applies the habitat type of Other Woodland; Broadleaved rather than Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland due to the quality of the habitat present, which it considers do not meet the criteria for the Lowland Mixed Deciduous habitat type, including because of the presence of sycamore and the mixture of broadleaved and coniferous species.</p>	<p>b) SDDC are content with the Applicant’s explanation for categorisation as Other Broadleaved Woodland.</p>

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Ref:	ExA’s Question	SDDC Answer:
	<p>The Applicant [REP1-023, REP3-030] is updating the Arboricultural Survey Report [APP-133] to provide further detail of the approach to be taken to the construction of the access and cable route at the Drakelow Power Station and anticipates providing the update at Deadline 4.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Are the Forestry Commission and SDDC satisfied with the Applicant’s explanation for categorisation as Other Woodland; Broadleaved? If not, why not? b) Please could the Forestry Commission and SDDC comment on the updated Arboricultural Survey Report at Deadline 5, set out any remaining concerns and suggest how their issues might be resolved? 	
7.4	<p><u>Ancient/ veteran trees</u></p> <p>The Woodland Trust [RR-316, REP1-049] question whether various trees in the Arboricultural Survey Report [APP-133] that are not identified as veteran/ ancient should be. The Applicant [REP1-023, REP3-031] provides its reasoning for each tree and says that it will engage with SDDC and DCC regarding the identification and classification of veteran trees .</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Please could the Applicant provide a draft copy of the SoCG with SDDC and DCC at Deadline 4, and set any tree classification matters yet to be agreed, and the next steps to be taken to address them? b) Please could The Woodland Trust, DCC and SDDC set out any remaining concerns regarding tree classification and ancient/ veteran trees at Deadlines 4 and 5, summarise any related discussions with the Applicant, and suggest how their issues might be resolved? 	<p>b) The Applicant has agreed to provide details of tree works as part of this DCO process which would enable SDDC to consider those works as part of this process, rather than after the decision on the DCO is made.</p>

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Ref:	ExA’s Question	SDDC Answer:
7.5	<p><u>Habitat Constraints Plan</u></p> <p>The ExA [PD-010 question 7.13] asked whether a Habitat Constraints Plan, or similar, would provide helpful clarification of the buffer zones, and if the Applicant, DCC and SDDC could agree what should be included in the Outline CEMP [REP1-007].</p> <p>DCC [REP1-026] and SDDC [REP1-029] recommended that a habitat constraints plan or similar is produced for the CEMP, which clearly defines buffer zones to sensitive features such as ancient/ veteran trees, other retained trees, ponds, watercourses, hedgerows and woodlands etc.</p> <p>The Applicant [REP3-032] agrees with SDDC and DCC that a Habitat Constraints Plan should be included as part of the detailed CEMP.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Please could the Applicant, in consultation with SDDC and DCC, submit an updated Outline CEMP [REP1-007] at Deadline 4 to include for a Habitat Constraints Plan, setting out what such a plan should include? b) Should a Habitats Constraint Plan be required for the site preparation works? c) Please could SDDC and DCC comment on the provisions for a Habitat Constraints Plan in the updated Outline CEMP at Deadline 5, set out any remaining concerns and suggest how their issues might be resolved? 	<p>c) The Applicant has advised that they are to provide a draft version of interpretable maps in relation to habitats constraints and buffers.</p>
7.7	<p><u>Barn owl</u></p> <p>Paragraph 5.4.55 of NPS EN-1 states that consent should be refused where harm to a protected species and relevant habitat would result, unless there is an overriding public interest, and the other relevant legal tests are met.</p>	<p>e) The Applicant has advised that they are to provide a survey to better quantify the barn owl population in the surrounding area and identify the degree of impact. An approximation of the barn owl population of the surrounding area would be useful.</p>

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	<p>Breeding Bird Survey Report ES Appendix 6.4 [APP-124] states that no records of barn owl were returned during the desk study or during a search of publicly available data sources, no records were found within the Site Boundary, and no suitable nest sites were noted during the field survey. Breeding Bird Survey Report ES Appendix 6.9 [APP-128] records that a barn owl was recorded leaving a tree on 29/07/2021 within the Park Farm Site, adding that no specific survey was undertaken for this species, but it has been considered a probable breeding species on account of its presence and suitable nesting sites both within mature trees and within the Park Farm buildings.</p> <p>SDDC [REP1-029, REP2-001] say that the Applicant should clarify whether barn owl has been identified as nesting within a Site tree and if nesting has been identified, mitigation and compensation measures should be prescribed to adhere to statutory legislation and best practice guidelines during construction and operation stages. It refers to some inconsistencies in the Breeding Bird Survey Report . It considers that there would be an adverse impact on barn owl as while the total area of suitable habitat may have increased, the fragmented form of that habitat, broken up by solar panels, may no longer be suitable for some species.</p> <p>NE [REP1-037] recommends that any potential negative effects to barn owl should be identified as early as possible, designed out to avoid impacts. NE refers to its standing advice on best practice for surveys, methods, and mitigation, to avoid negative impacts for breeding birds such as barn owl.</p> <p>The Applicant [REP1-025, REP3-032] states that the site provides suitable habitat for barn owl to nest but no nesting activity was recorded during the bird surveys. It considers that the Proposed Development would not result in a reduction in the</p>	

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Ref:	ExA’s Question	SDDC Answer:
	<p>availability of foraging habitat during either construction or operation stages.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Please could the Applicant set out whether it has fully followed NE’s standing advice? b) Please could the Applicant address the inconsistencies in the ES and submit an update to the ES at Deadline 4, together with any necessary updates to the Outline CEMP [REP1-007], ensuring that it takes a precautionary approach? c) Please could SDDC and DCC comment on the updates at Deadline 5? d) With reference to NPS EN-1, please, at Deadlines 4 and 5, could the Applicant, SDDC and NE set out whether they consider that the Proposed Development would harm barn owl? e) Please, at Deadlines 4 and 5, could SDDC, DCC and NE set out any remaining concerns regarding barn owl, and suggest how their issues might be resolved? 	
7.11	<p><u>Draft DCO [REP3-008] Requirement 21 – Protected Species Species Protection Plans</u></p> <p>SDDC [REP1-029] consider that the Outline CEMP [REP1-007] should provide Species Protection Plans for Otter, Great Crested Newt/ /Ponds, Hedgerows & Trees and Woodland and identify important zones for each species to feed into mitigation strategies. DCC [REP1-026] suggest that outline Species Protection Plans. should be provided in outline during the Examination.</p>	<p>c) The Applicant has advised that they are to provide a draft version of interpretable maps in relation to habitats constraints and buffers. These will help understanding of the Species Protection Plans.</p>

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Ref:	ExA’s Question	SDDC Answer:
	<p>The Applicant has updated paragraph 2.81 of the Outline CEMP [REP1-007] to set out the high level contents for a Species Protection Plan to be included in the final CEMP.</p> <p>The ExA notes the series of concerns raised by SDDC [REP1-029, REP2-001] in relation to scoping, surveys and potential impacts on a number of protected species, including skylark, barn owl, great crested newt, and otter.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Please could the Applicant, in consultation with SDDC and DCC, submit an updated Outline CEMP [REP1-007] at Deadline 4 to include more detail of Species Protection Plans so that specific measures are identified for individual species and address SDDC’s concerns? b) Site preparation works which include (amongst other things) remedial work in respect of any contamination or other adverse ground conditions, diversion and laying of services, and the demolition of existing buildings and structures, typically fall outside the Outline CEMP [REP1-007]. Should Species Protection Plans be required for the site preparation works? c) Please could SDDC and DCC comment on the provisions for Species Protection Plans in the updated Outline CEMP at Deadline 5, set out any remaining concerns and suggest how their issues might be resolved? 	
8.	Historic environment	
	N/A	
9.	Landscape, visual, glint, and glare	

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Ref:	ExA’s Question	SDDC Answer:
9.3	<p><u>The National Forest</u></p> <p>SDDC [REP1-029] considers that the Proposed Development is consistent with Local Plan Policy INF8 in relation to tree planting and connectivity depending on the amount and extent of necessary tree felling for the safe delivery of the Proposed Development. It requests greater identification of areas that would be subject to tree felling to help identify whether the mitigation measures are adequate.</p> <p>The Applicant [REP3-030, REP3-032] says that the Arboricultural Survey Report [APP-133] includes a Tree Removal and Retention Plan that identifies where trees would be removed, and anticipates providing an update at Deadline 4.</p> <p>a) Please could SDDC comment on the updated Arboricultural Survey Report at Deadline 5 in relation to its concerns regarding compliance with Local Plan Policy INF8, set out any remaining concerns regarding compliance with Local Plan Policy INF8, and suggest how the issues might be resolved?</p> <p>b) Does The National Forest Company have any remaining concerns? How might they be addressed?</p>	<p>a) SDDC will be content with the proposals in relation to compliance with Local Plan Policy INF8 once detailed tree works are provided for SDDC to consider.</p>
<p>10. Noise and vibration</p>		
10.3	<p><u>Piling for the solar panels</u></p> <p>SDDC [APP-160 paragraph 11.101] is quoted as identifying piling during construction as the most significant noise impact.</p> <p>The Applicant [REP1-025 response to question 10.1] refers to mitigation including scheduling the work at times to minimise impact on nearest receptors, employing multiple rigs to reduce the time taken for piling in a given area before moving on, screening or low-noise plant models. It refers to mitigation</p>	<p>b) The Applicant has still to approach SDDC for further discussions on this matter.</p>

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	<p>measures set out in paragraph 2.2.3 of the Outline CEMP [REP1-007].</p> <p>Not all of the mitigation mentioned by the Applicant is included in the Outline CEMP [REP1-007] and none of it specifically refers to piling.</p> <p>a) Given the potential for noise impacts from piling during construction and SDDC’s comments, and for clarity, please could the Applicant, in discussion with SDDC, update the Outline CEMP [REP1-007] to include the specific mitigation measures for piling?</p> <p>b) Please could SDDC comment at Deadlines 4 and 5?</p>	
<p>11. Traffic and transport</p>		
<p>11.3</p>	<p><u>Construction traffic – DCC and SDDC concerns</u></p> <p>DCC and SDDC [RR-078, RR-295, REP1-026, REP2-001] raise concerns including in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • infringement of the 7.5 tonne Environmental Weight Limit in the locality; • further assessments are required to establish the impacts of HGV movements during construction and decommissioning, particularly regarding the impacts of goods vehicle access through urban areas and along relatively quiet country roads; • the Applicant to work in consultation with the Highway Authority and the organisers of events in the locality to ensure that vehicle movement routes and timings can be coordinated for the avoidance of congestion; • weight and width restrictions on bridges, traffic control and monitoring to ensure compliance with routing and 	<p>SDDC has nothing more to add to our response to this at Deadline 4.</p>

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Ref:	ExA’s Question	SDDC Answer:
	<p>timing requirements, working in consultation with the Highway Authority to reduce the potential for related adverse impacts on congestion;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a pinch point at Coton-in-the-Elms with very narrow local roads where residents park on either side of the road (reference construction route Scenario 2B); • disruption to farm traffic and rural business through the increase of road usage by HGVs accessing the site during the construction stage; • safe and satisfactory means of access to each of the individual compounds comprising the wider site; • ensuring that there are no fundamental safety considerations regarding the wider highway network, including that suitable manoeuvring of HGV vehicles (swept-path analysis) can be readily achieved along the narrow country lanes; and • it is anticipated that the Applicant would be responsible for keeping the highway clear of debris, preventing the trafficking of mud onto the road and rectifying of additional harm caused to the network assets demonstrably caused by the Applicant or its contractors to the satisfaction of the Highway Authority. <p>The Applicant [REP1-025] reports that DCC and/ or SDDC require review or clarification of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cumulative traffic impact - other projects and event management; • communication plans with the local community, stakeholders, and events during construction; 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • controls on vehicle movements during highway incidents and emergency road closures; • controls on vehicle movements during school pick up/ drop off times; • remedial measures to address infringement of designated construction vehicle route; and • communication plans with local community, and stakeholders. <p>The Applicant’s responses [REP1-023, REP1-025, REP3-032] include that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • paragraph 5.15 of the Outline CTMP [REP1-021] contains a firm commitment by the Applicant to engage with Catton Hall, the National Memorial Arboretum, DCC and SCC to agree the timing of construction vehicles so as to not disrupt event traffic; • HGVs would not be permitted to travel through the villages of Walton-on-Trent or Rosliston, table 3-3 of the Outline CTMP [REP1-021] identifies the sensitive built up areas to be avoided by construction traffic including Walton-on-Trent and outlines mitigation in the form of a signing strategy (Section 4), contractor information packs (paragraph 5.36), and compliance measures (paragraph 6.10); • Section 6 of the Outline CTMP [REP1-021] includes for a Traffic Management Group (TMG) to oversee the implementation of the CTMP and the appointment of a Transport Co-ordinator, accountable for monitoring and reporting to the TMG; 	

EN010122 - Oaklands Farm Solar Park NSIP – SDDC’s Answers to the ExA’s Second Written Questions

Ref:	ExA’s Question	SDDC Answer:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • it is expected that full details of monitoring systems would be agreed with the relevant highway authorities in the preparation and approval of the CTMP; • DCC confirm that it is reviewing the highway asset provisions and measures and will revert with any concerns; and • it is engaging with DCC and SCC on transport matters to be agreed in a SoCG and additional measures will be added to the Outline CTMP [REP1-021] if needed. <p>a) Please could the Applicant provide a draft copy of the SoCG with DCC and SDDC at Deadline 4, and set out the construction traffic matters yet to be agreed with DCC and SDDC, and the next steps to be taken to address them?</p> <p>b) Please could the Applicant submit the updated Outline CTMP [REP1-021]?</p> <p>c) Please could DCC and SDDC set out any remaining construction traffic or highway asset protection concerns at Deadlines 4 and 5, summarise any related discussions with the Applicant, and suggest how their issues might be resolved?</p>	
12. Water quality, resources, drainage, and flooding		
	N/A	

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Ref:	ExA’s Question	SDDC Answer:
13.	Other planning topics	
13.3	<p><u>Cumulative effects</u></p> <p>DCC [REP2-001] and SDDC [REP2-001] refer to general concerns regarding cumulative impacts in relation to the number of developments coming forward in the surrounding area.</p> <p>The Applicant [REP3-033] says that it uses a list of developments agreed with the DCC and SDDC and that it is reviewing the cumulative developments with a view of updating the list in agreement with DCC and SDDC through the SoCG.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Please could the Applicant provide a draft copy of the SoCG with DCC and SDDC at Deadline 4, and set out the cumulative effects matters yet to be agreed with DCC and SDDC, the next steps to be taken to address them? b) Please could the Applicant submit any updates required to relevant chapters of the ES, ensuring that they include consideration of any cumulative developments added to the list? c) Please could DCC and SDDC set out any remaining cumulative effect concerns, including in relation to any other specific development or any specific planning issue, at Deadlines 4 and 5. How might their issues be resolved? 	<p>c) Following the discussions that took place at Issue Specific Hearing 1, SDDC understands that the Applicant is to further review the cumulative impacts of the proposed development and produce a report in light of that review. SDDC has no comments to add on this issue until such time as that report has been produced by the Applicant.</p>