From:
 Oaklands Farm Solar

 Cc:
 Oaklands Farm Solar

Subject: Oaklands Solar Farm Third Written Questions and Request for Information 12/11/2024 Interested Party Ref.

OKFS-001

Date: 25 November 2024 17:42:43

Attachments: <u>image103556.jpg</u>

Good Afternoon,

Third Written Questions of 12/11/2024.

In response to 8.1:

Potential harm to designated heritage assets The SoCG between the Applicant and HE [REP4-056] refers to matters not agreed and 'further landscape mitigation' suggested by HE to reduce harm to heritage assets, including in relation to metal security fencing, lighting and closed circuit television (CCTV).

a) Please could the detail of mitigation suggested by HE in the SoCG [REP4-056] for the matters not agreed be submitted to the Examination?

Following further information provided by the Applicant's team, there is sufficient landscape mitigation between Copperhill Spinney and Oaklands Farm to alleviate concerns. Historic England would still encourage reinforcing existing buffers, such as Redferns Wood, within their own redline boundary. Historic England previously advised there was scope to increase landscape mitigation along Coton Road due to the topography.

b) Please could the Applicant and HE provide an update of progress in resolving the matters not agreed and update the SoCG accordingly.

Whilst no significant progress has been made on this at this time, Historic England continue to engage and will update the SoCG for future deadlines.

c) Please could HE set out any remaining concerns at Deadlines 7 and 8 and suggest how they might be addressed?

Yes, Historic England will ensure this is set out where necessary.

In response to 8.2:

Archaeology – potential harm to assets subject to the policies for designated heritage assets. The SoCG between the Applicant and HE [REP4-056] does not address archaeology. The Applicant [REP5-026] says that this is because there are no

archaeological heritage assets within the remit of HE. The ExA notes that there is some uncertainty about the nature of any potential archaeology. Please could HE comment on the potential for harm to archaeological heritage assets within its remit?

Historic England has reviewed impacts on the significance of scheduled monuments in particular the potential glimpsed and winter views from Borough Hill [NHLE:1017742]. We have not raised concerns about the impact on the significance of the scheduled monument due to the low level of these impacts. There are potential further visual setting effects in respect of approach via an old (undated) track that approaches the hill fort and farmstead from the SE side of the road between Walton upon Trent and Coton-in-the Elms but again we have considered these to be a low level in terms of impact upon the significance of the monument. As regards other designated or equivalent (to scheduled) archaeological assets we have not identified harmful impacts. To our knowledge archaeological investigations in the course of the project to date have not identified additional sites of national importance. Whilst Historic England's functions extend across all heritage matters, we defer to the expertise of the County Archaeological advisor who will be best placed to comment on the archaeological impacts of this scheme, we can provide scientific support to County via our Science Advisor should this be required.

Kind regards,

Molly Edwards

Molly Edwards BA(Hons), MSt (Cantab)

Inspector of Historic Buildings and Areas

Regional Delivery Development Advice

Historic England - Midlands Region

The Foundry, 82 Granville Street, Birmingham, B1 2LH

Email:		@historicengland.org.uk
Mobile:		
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