



## Meeting note

<b>Project name</b>	Oaklands Farm Solar
<b>File reference</b>	EN010122
<b>Status</b>	Final
<b>Author</b>	The Planning Inspectorate
<b>Date</b>	28 April 2023
<b>Meeting with</b>	Oaklands Solar Farm Limited
<b>Venue</b>	Microsoft Teams
<b>Meeting objectives</b>	Project Update Meeting
<b>Circulation</b>	All attendees

### Summary of key points discussed and advice given

The Planning Inspectorate (the Inspectorate) advised that a note of the meeting would be taken and published on its website in accordance with section 51 of the Planning Act 2008 (the PA2008). Any advice given under section 51 would not constitute legal advice upon which applicants (or others) could rely.

### *Re-targeted Consultation*

The Applicant has had new engagement from Natural England and is hoping to move towards a Statement of Common Ground (SoCG).

The Inspectorate advised that the Applicant should be aware of how they label their re-targeted consultation to avoid confusion as to whether it is statutory or non-statutory.

### *Draft Documentation*

The Inspectorate advised that it is too early at this stage to provide feedback on the draft documents that were provided by the Applicant on 21 April 2023. The Inspectorate advised that any specific areas that the Applicant can provide, that they want to be reviewed would assist in the Inspectorate conducting an effective and efficient review.

The Applicant highlighted consideration of alternatives, including site selection and design evolution (Chapter 3) as a key area for feedback.

The Applicant advised that Chapter 4 of the draft ES, the Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA), Explanatory Memorandum and the draft DCO work plans are expected to be submitted to the Inspectorate by the end of May 2023. The Applicant confirmed that ES Chapter 4 contains the project description

The Inspectorate queried whether there will be a change to the forecasted submission date on 30 June 2023. The Applicant advised that the submission date is likely to be delayed to late July 2023 or early August 2023.

## ***Emerging National Policy Statements (NPS)***

The Inspectorate advised that they are unable to provide timeframes on the emerging NPS Energy Suite.

The Inspectorate clarified that the submission will be reviewed under the NPS in place at the time of submission and an Application would be assessed in line with transitional arrangements in place for the implementation of a newly designated NPS. However, they should be aware that consideration should be given, where possible to any known upcoming changes to NPS's.

### ***Specific decisions/ follow-up required?***

The following actions were agreed:

- The Applicant is to let the Inspectorate know when the draft HRA will be provided.
- The Applicant will let the Inspectorate know when the most convenient time for the next update meeting