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To the Applicant  
(By email only)

Your Ref:

Our Ref: EN010123

Date: 13 March 2023

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Dear Laura,

## **Planning Act 2008 (as amended) – Section 51**

### **Application by Ecotricity (Heck Fen Solar) Limited for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Heckington Fen Solar Park.**

#### **Advice following issue of decision to accept the application for examination**

On 13 March 2023 the Secretary of State decided that the application for the above project satisfied the acceptance tests under section 55 of the Planning Act 2008 (PA2008). The Planning Inspectorate's acceptance checklist and the application documents have been published and made available on the project page of our website.

In undertaking checks at the acceptance stage, the Inspectorate has made some initial observations in relation to the application. This letter comprises advice to the Applicant provided under section 51 of the PA2008 in respect of these initial observations. The Applicant should pay attention to its content and consider how appropriate action might be taken in response.

#### **Consultees identified on a precautionary basis**

Given the individual circumstances of this case, the Planning Inspectorate advises taking a precautionary approach to consultation under s42(1)(a) of PA2008 to ensure that all persons potentially affected by, or potentially likely to have an interest in the application are given the opportunity to participate fully in the Examination of the application. On this basis, the Applicant may wish to serve notice on the bodies listed in Box 6 of the section 55 checklist when it serves notice of the accepted application under s56(2)(a) of the PA2008; unless there is a specific justification why this is not necessary.

## **Land and Crown Land Plan (Doc 2.1) & Book of Reference (Doc 4.3)**

The legend used on the Land and Crown Land Plan is difficult to interpret. The Applicant should clarify the rights sought by cross-referencing to the information contained within the introduction of the Book of Reference to enable easier interpretation.

To provide clarity and aid understanding the Applicant should make it clear in the introduction of the Book of Reference whether Class 4 and Class 5 relate to permanent or temporary needs.

The Planning Inspectorate strongly advises the Applicant to resolve these issues before the issuance of notices under s56 of the PA2008.

### **Minor errors and omissions**

There are minor errors and omissions, as reflected in Box 30 of the acceptance checklist. The Applicant should carry out a review of the relevant documents and submit updated documents.

An Examining Authority, once appointed, may ask questions regarding these matters or request updated documents unless these are provided.

### **Submission of updated documents**

With regard to the issues identified above, it would be helpful and assist the examination process if any other information, clarification documents or amendments made to the application documents were submitted to the Planning Inspectorate as soon as possible to assist those who may benefit from their publication whilst preparing Relevant Representations.

Please pay close attention to the advice set out in this letter and act on it accordingly. It is requested that you action these points before the commencement of the Relevant Representation period in particular the points in relation to the Land and Crown Land Plans and Book of Reference. This will contribute towards a more efficient examination and give any future Examining Authority comfort that the documentation is complete and accurate.

We trust you find this advice helpful, however if you have any queries on these matters please do not hesitate to contact our office using the contact details at the head of this letter.

Yours sincerely

*Tom Bennett*

Tom Bennett  
**Case Manager**

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