

Application for Development Consent by Mallard Pass Solar Farm Limited (the Applicant) for the proposed Mallard Pass Solar Farm

Case Reference: EN010127

Examining Authority's (ExA) note of third unaccompanied site inspection (USI) on 18, 19 and 20 October 2023

Background

Previous unaccompanied ExA site inspections were carried out on 1,2 and 3 March 2023 [[EV-001](#)] and 18 May 2023 [[EV-001a](#)]. The ExA also carried out an accompanied site inspection on 17 and 18 August 2023 [[EV-050](#)]. Details of these previous site inspections can be accessed via the Examination Library using the above links.

The main purpose of this further unaccompanied site inspection was for the ExA (i) to view parts of the site and its features from within the extent of the Order Limits, including the routes of the proposed permissive paths, and (ii) to view the site and its surrounds from locations away from the Order Limits, including longer distance views.

Where necessary, advance permission to enter land within the Order Limits on an unaccompanied basis was provided. Other locations visited were publicly accessible and consequently the inspection was able to be undertaken without any other parties being present.

The main purpose of this note is to inform the Applicant and Interested Parties of the locations visited and viewed as part of the USI.

Details of site inspection

The Inspection was undertaken by David Cliff and Mark James of the ExA. Details are provided below of the main locations visited. Stops were made at regular intervals to observe the site (including in longer distance views), its surrounds and receptors, including residential properties.

Wednesday 18 October

The Inspection was carried out between 1.30pm and 5.00pm. The weather was generally cloudy and fine with a light shower.

- Grade II* Listed Burghley House and Gardens (including views towards the site).
- Observe Grade II Listed Uffington Park and its relationship with the proposed development.
- Walk Bridleway Uffi/5/1 northwards from A1175.
- Walk public footpath from Barholm towards Casewick Park.

Thursday 19 October

The Inspection was carried out between 8.45am and 5.00pm. The weather was generally cloudy with light showers.

- Existing Ryhall substation on Uffington Lane and proposed substation site.
- Walk and observe general route of the proposed permissive path south eastwards alongside West Glen River, crossing railway line and then follow general route of proposed permissive path north westwards adjacent to the railway line and then northwards towards Carly Road.
- Return on foot to Uffington Lane via A1621.
- Walk and observe sections of proposed permissive paths to northwest of Essendine.
- Walk public footpath southwards from Witham on the Hill.
- Observe site from locations near Careby.
- Walk restricted byway Care/3/1 south eastwards towards Manor Farm.
- Walk bridleway northwards from Pickworth towards Pickworth Great Wood.
- Walk footpath E168 north westwards from B1176 (northwest of Ryhall).
- Walk footpath south westwards from A6121 (south of Ryhall) towards Stamford.

Friday

The Inspection was carried out between 9.00am and 11.30am. The weather was cloudy with heavy rain.

- Observe Greatford and surrounds, including existing watercourses, footpaths and the relationship of Grade II Listed Greatford Hall Park and Gardens with the proposed development.
- Observe the relationship of the non-designated heritage asset Braceborough Grange with the proposed development.
- Observe SSSI along Hollywell Road and route between Hollywell Road and Castle Bytham/Clipsham junctions of the A1.

David Cliff

Lead member of the Panel