

Mr David Cliff
The Planning Inspectorate
National Infrastructure Planning
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Our ref: AN/2023/133932/07-L01
Your ref: EN010127
EA unique ref: 20036496
Date: 09 November 2023

Dear Sir

**Planning Act 2008 - application for a Development Consent Order for Mallard
Pass Solar Farm
Environment Agency's response to the Rule 17 letter, request for further
information, dated 3 November 2023**

Thank you for requesting further information from the Environment Agency. Our response to the relevant question is provided below.

Section 2 Water and flood risk

Question 2c): Can the Environment Agency confirm the extent to which it considers any surface water issues in relation to fluvial flood risk, particularly in this case where surface water run-off might occur in close proximity to a river?

Environment Agency's response:

Through the Flood and Water Management Act 2010, the Environment Agency has a strategic overview role for all sources of flood risk, including surface water. However, it is not within our remit to manage or assess the risk of flooding from surface water from development sites.

For these reasons, in our response of 24 October 2023 we highlighted that assessment of risk from surface water would also need to incorporate the appropriate climate change allowances for the 2080 epoch and that this would need to be agreed with the relevant Lead Local Flood Authorities (LLFAs).

It falls to the LLFAs to be satisfied that any potential increase in surface water can be appropriately attenuated on site for the lifetime of a development. Where surface water outfalls directly to main river, as in this case, we expect that the greenfield rate of runoff is maintained and any additional surface water runoff resulting from climate change is attenuated on site, to prevent any potential increase in fluvial flood risk.

Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.

Yours faithfully

Nicola Farr
Sustainable Places - Planning Advisor

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