

Date: 10 November 2023

Our Ref: EN010127

Karl-Jonas Johansson
Case Manager
The Planning Inspectorate
Temple Quay House
Temple Quay
Bristol
BS1 6PN

Mallard Pass Solar Farm Project

The Planning Act 2008

The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010

This letter introduces Mallard Pass Solar Farm Limited's ('the Applicant's') submissions for Deadline 9 of the Examination and includes responses to Interested Parties' Deadline 8a submissions.

Updated Application Documents Submitted

The following updated application documents are submitted as part of the Applicant's Deadline 8a submissions:

- Document 1.2.11 - Guide to the Application (Clean and Tracked) [Version 11];
- Document 2.1.4 – Land Plans [Version 4] – this has been updated to reflect the changes to the DCO definitions of Order land and Order limits at Deadline 8 by removing the words 'Order land' from the key for Temporary Possession land;
- Document 3.1.8 - Draft Development Consent Order (Clean and Tracked) [Version 8] and associated Schedule of Changes (Document 9.3.8) [Version 8].
This includes a version tracked against the previous version of the DCO and a separate version tracked against the application version of the DCO and a SI template compliant Word version of the DCO;
- Document 3.2.1 - Final Explanatory Memorandum (Clean and Tracked) [Version 1];
- Document 4.3.7 – Book of Reference (Clean and Tracked) [Version 7] and accompanying Schedule of Changes (Document 9.6.5) [Version 5]; and



Write to us at:
FREEPOST MALLARD
PASS SOLAR FARM



Email us at:
info@MallardPassSolar.co.uk



Call our Freephone information line:
0808 196 8717



Visit our website at:
www.MallardPassSolar.co.uk

- Document 4.4.4 Schedule of Negotiations and Powers Sought (Clean and Tracked) [Version 4]; and
- Document 7.13.2 – Outline Water Management Plan (Clean and Tracked) [Version 2].

Examination Documents Submitted

The following documents submitted during the Examination are updated as part of the Applicant's Deadline 9 submissions:

- Document 8.1.7 – Statement of Commonality (Clean and Tracked) [Version 7];
- Document 8.2.5 – Final Statement of Common Ground with Environment Agency [Version 5];
- Document 8.5.2 – Final Statement of Common Ground with Historic England [Version 2]
- Document 8.6.4 – Final Statement of Common Ground with Natural England [Version 4];
- Document 8.8.4 – Final Statement of Common Ground with Lincolnshire County Council [Version 4];
- Document 8.9.4– Final Statement of Common Ground with South Kesteven District Council [Version 4];
- Document 8.10.3 – Final Statement of Common Ground with Rutland County Council [Version 3];
- Document 8.11.2 Final Statement of Common Ground with Mallard Pass Action Group [version 2], and
- Document 9.50.1 - Consideration of Additional Cumulative Long List Developments - Update [Version 1].

New Documents Submitted

- Document 9.51 – Applicants Response to ExA's Rule 17 Request for further information;
- Document 9.52 – Appendices to Response to ExA's Rule 17 Request for further information;
- Document 9.53 – Draft Development Consent Order SI Validation Report;
- Document 9.54 – Comparison of Application Submission Draft Development Consent Order v Deadline 9 Draft Development Consent Order; and



- Document 9.55 – Agricultural Land Classification: Trial Pits 3 and 4 data.

Response to Interested Parties' Deadline 8a Submissions

The Applicant has considered the Deadline 8a submissions and considers that its Deadline 8a submissions deal with most of the concerns raised. In the table below, the Applicant has responded to the clarifications sought by Interested Parties (noting that it has dealt with Natural England concerns in its Deadline 8a submissions and the soil pit information referred to above).

Parties Raised	Issues Raised	Applicant's Response
John Hughes	John Hughes's email on 31 October 2023 regarding multiple points that have been raised over a number of emails sent and feedback throughout the process.	<p>Prior to the launch of the project at the non-statutory consultation, the Applicant considered the potential for solar PV Arrays to be accommodated within all the fields located within the Order limits. Mr Hughes is correct that at the time of the non-statutory consultation, Field 26 was shown as 'Mitigation and Enhancement', this is because the Applicant had already considered and removed PV Arrays from within this field, as set out within the 'Early Site Environmental Red Flag Review' (Appendix F of REP2-038).</p> <p>Photomontage E (APP-172) provides an illustration of the Proposed Development, with the PV Arrays facing south, in year 1 and year 15. The photomontages use winter photography, along with winter planting (i.e. not in leaf). Therefore, the Applicant considers the winter photography to be representative of the general winter conditions and that a summer viewpoint would have greater visual screening due to the hedgerows and trees being in full leaf.</p> <p>The Applicant has previously explained (REP4-022) that the Photomontage Year 15 for Viewpoint 11 (APP-172) illustrates a hedgerow with hedgerow trees, whereas a tree belt is shown on the Green Infrastructure Plan (REP7-021). The</p>



		<p>tree belt has been proposed to reflect the topography and view across fields 26, 18 and 19 from the A6121. At Deadline 4 the Applicant submitted a wireline for Year 15 for Viewpoint 11 (Appendix D – REP4-022) to illustrate the maximum parameters of the Onsite Substation. The wireline also illustrates the tree belt, instead of hedgerow and hedgeline trees. With reference to Photomontage Year 15 for Viewpoint 11 (APP-172), it can be seen that the proposed tree belt would be of such a height to screen the Mounting Structures and PV Arrays located within Field 18.</p> <p>The outline Soils Management Plan [REP8a-004], provides details on how the soils will be managed during the construction phase, which includes the management and long-term storage of the topsoil that will be stripped from the Onsite Substation area. The exact location and size of the bund will be agreed in the Soil Management Plan to be submitted pursuant to Requirement 14 of the DCO. The primary function of the soil bund is for long-term storage of topsoil so to enable restoration of the Onsite Substation area during decommissioning. The bund has not been identified as mitigation required for the landscape and visual impact assessment. The details of the bund will be go to the local planning authority for approval pursuant to Requirement 6 of the DCO.</p>
MPAG	The Applicant explains “that Plots 02-29 to 02-36 and 02-38 are still required to provide working room for the installation of the cable from Plot 02-23”, yet there is no explanation why the cable	As set out in the oCEMP, the Applicant has committed that access to all existing PRoW will be retained during the construction phase, with a limited number of temporary PRoW diversions. As such, routing through or under a bridleway has been sought to



	route back from 02-03 could not run alongside the bridleway and come out almost opposite Uffington Lane, instead of the proposed route going via 02-28 which cuts across fields rather than going down the side of fields. Using plot 02-28 would cause unnecessary disruption for the residents opposite on A6121 and also necessitate more complex traffic restrictions on what is already a busy road with a dangerous bend.	be avoided where possible. The Applicant is also seeking to avoid affecting vegetation wherever possible, and using the route suggested by MPAG could do so, given that the bridleway runs alongside and in between trees. The construction methodology and cable design has not yet been finalised and therefore it is not possible at this stage to commit to the installation of cables along a specific route in this area. Any traffic restrictions will be agreed with the LPA before they are installed, to ensure safety.
Local Planning Authorities	The LPAs continue to seek that the period of discharge of Requirements should be the same 10 week period for all Requirements.	Whilst the Applicant continues to consider that this is not necessary, if the Secretary of State were to decide that it was, then it considers that the drafting changes proposed by LCC in its Deadline 8A submissions would be the appropriate way that this could be achieved.

If the ExA or the case team has any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,



Sarah Price
Partner
DWD
For and on behalf of Mallard Pass Solar Farm



Write to us at:
FREEPOST MALLARD
PASS SOLAR FARM



Email us at:
info@MallardPassSolar.co.uk



Call our Freephone information line:
0808 196 8717



Visit our website at:
www.MallardPassSolar.co.uk