



Department for
Energy Security
& Net Zero

3-8 Whitehall Place
London
SW1A 2AW
www.gov.uk/desnz

To:

Mallard Pass Solar Farm Limited
Network Rail Infrastructure Limited
Rutland County Council
Lincolnshire County Council

Ref: EN010127

13 March 2024

Dear Sir or Madam,

Planning Act 2008 and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010

Application by Mallard Pass Solar Farm Limited (“the Applicant”) for an Order granting Development Consent for the proposed Mallard Pass Solar Farm (“the Proposed Development”)

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

1. Following the completion of the Examination on 16 November 2023, the Examining Authority submitted a Report and Recommendation in respect of its findings and conclusions on the above application to the Secretary of State on 16 February 2024. In accordance with section 107 of the Planning Act 2008, the Secretary of State has three months to determine the application.
2. There are issues on which the Secretary of State would be grateful if **the Applicant, Network Rail Infrastructure Limited (“Network Rail”), Rutland County Council (“RCC”) and Lincolnshire County Council (“LCC”)** could provide updates or information as appropriate.

Cable crossing of the East Coast Main Line

3. **The Applicant** and **Network Rail** should confirm if there are any updates regarding whether an Option for Easement has been agreed, in relation to the cable crossing of the East Coast Main Line. If agreement has not been reached, an update should be provided as to when confirmation will be provided to the Secretary of State confirming that agreement has been reached.

Side agreements with RCC and LCC

4. **The Applicant, RCC, and LCC** should confirm if side agreements have been reached in relation to highway matters. If side agreements have not been reached,

an update should be provided as to when confirmation will be provided to the Secretary of State confirming that agreement has been reached.

Great Crested Newt License and Impact Assessment and Conservation Payment Certificate (IAPC)

5. **The Applicant** should confirm whether a draft Great Crested Newt district level license application has been made and if a IAPC has been issued. If the licence application has not yet been made, an update should be provided to the Secretary of State confirming when the Applicant intends to do so.

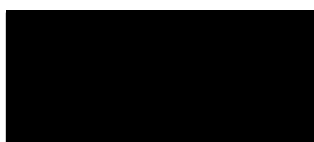
Responses

6. Responses to the requested information should be submitted via the [have your say link](#) on the Mallard Pass Solar Farm project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website **by 23.59 on 27 March 2024**. Responses will be published on the website as soon as possible after 27 March 2024:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/east-midlands/mallard-pass-solar-project/>

7. This letter is without prejudice to the Secretary of State's consideration of whether to grant or withhold development consent for the Mallard Pass Solar Farm or any part of the project. Nothing in this letter is to be taken to imply what the eventual decision might be or what final conclusions the Secretary of State may reach on any particular issue which is relevant to the determination of the application.

Yours faithfully



John Wheadon

Head of Energy Infrastructure Planning Delivery