

Mr Kenneth Stone Examining Authority National Infrastructure Planning Temple Quay House 2 The Square Bristol BS1 6PN Our Int. Party ref: 20037265 Your ref: EN010131

Date: 01 September 2023

By email: gateburtonsolar@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Order Granting Development Consent for the Gate Burton Energy Park (EN010131) - Deadline 3 submission – Written summary following Issue Specific Hearing 2: Draft Development Consent Order and Issue Specific Hearing 3: Environmental matters

Dear Sir

Following Issue Specific Hearing (ISH) 2 on 23 August 2023 and ISH 3 on 24 August 2023, we would like to summarise our comments below having observed the hearings on the livestream:

Schedule 2, Requirement 5

Detailed Design Approval

In our written representations (section 6.3) we asked to be a specific named consultee in respect of Schedule 2, Requirement 5 (Detailed Design Approval). We have been satisfied by the applicant that this is not necessary as our interests on flood risk matters will be secured via the protective provisions (Schedule 15, Protective Provisions, Part 8).

For the avoidance of doubt the Environment Agency no longer wishes to be named as a specific consultee in respect of Schedule 2, Requirement 5, parts (a), (c) and (h).

Schedule 15, Protective Provisions, Part 8

For the protection of the Environment Agency

The Environment Agency is continuing to negotiate protective provisions with the applicant, and these are nearing agreement with only a few outstanding points remaining. We are confident that these will be agreed for Deadline 4 (3 October 2023), and in any event before the end of the Examination.

Statement of Common Ground

Following on from the Issue Specific Hearings, we note the applicant was asked to confirm that the Environment Agency's position in the signed Statement of Common Ground [REP-013 – paragraph 1.1.5] accords with the applicant's position that there

is no potential for the scheme to impact ecology from the presence of electromagnetic fields.

Given the additional information submitted into the Examination in respect of the potential impact on ecology from electromagnetic fields, we will review this and provide any additional comments on this matter at Deadline 4 (03 October 2023).

Should you require any additional information, or wish to discuss these matters further, please do not hesitate to contact me using the details below.

Kind regards

Keri Monger AssocRTPI Planning Specialist @environment-agency.gov.uk