



Department for
Energy Security
& Net Zero

3-8 Whitehall Place
London
SW1A 2AW

www.gov.uk/desz

To:

West Burton Solar Project Limited

Our Ref: EN010132

22 November 2024

Dear Sir or Madam,

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

Application by West Burton Solar Project Limited (“the Applicant”) for an Order granting Development Consent for the proposed West Burton Solar Project.

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

1. Following the completion of the Examination on 8 May 2024, 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 8 August 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 matters on which the Secretary of State would be grateful if the Applicant could provide information as appropriate.
3. Without prejudice to the Secretary of State’s final decision, the Applicant is requested to provide further clarification regarding the option to remove solar panels from Stow Park Deer Park (“the Stow Park Alteration”).

Best and Most Versatile (“BMV”) Land

4. The Applicant is requested to provide clarification relating to the figures given in Environmental Statement (“ES”) Chapter 4, ES Chapter 5, ES Chapter 19 and ES Appendix 19.1 for the Agricultural Land Classification (“ALC”) proportions. The Secretary of State has been unable to reconcile these figures to determine the proportions of land in West Burton 1, West Burton 2 and West Burton 3 by grade. The Applicant is requested to provide further clarification in a table as to the proportions by ALC grades 1, 2, 3a and 3b for West Burton 1, West Burton 2 and West Burton 3 and for the Stow Park Alteration.

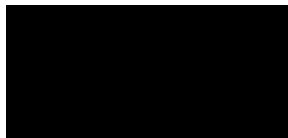
Biodiversity Net Gain (“BNG”)

5. The Applicant is requested to provide clarification relating to the figures given in the ES Appendix 9.12 Biodiversity Net Gain Report Rev A (“BNG Report Rev A”). The Secretary of State notes discrepancies in the percentage of BNG for river units, between the figures in the Executive Summary, those in Figure 3, and those noted in paragraph 6.1.5 of BNG Report Rev A.

Responses

6. **Responses to the requested information should be submitted by email only to: westburtonsolarproject@planninginspectorate.gov.uk by 23.59 on 29 November 2024.**
7. Responses will be published on the West Burton Solar Project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website as soon as possible after 29 November 2024:
<https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010132>
8. This letter is without prejudice to the Secretary of State’s consideration of whether to grant or withhold development consent for the West Burton Solar Project 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

Energy Infrastructure Planning