

Raywood, Simon

From: Squire, Sandra [REDACTED]
Sent: 19 August 2024 11:51
To: Cottam Solar Project
Subject: EN010133 - Cottam Solar Project - Responses to consultation letter

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Thank you for consulting the Forestry Commission on the responses to the Secretary of State's Consultation letter.

We have assessed the responses, in particular the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan – Revision F.

Whilst we note plans for a total 0.4ha of woodland creation across the site, including small woodland and shelterbelt. As stated in the Environmental Improvement Plan 2023 it is a strategic government objective to increase the net area of tree canopy and woodland cover to 16.5% of total land area in England by 2050. It goes on to state that that increasing tree cover is key to achieving the Net Zero Strategy and species abundance targets.

Hedgerows, individual trees and woodlands within a development site should be considered in terms of their overall connectivity between woodlands affected by the development. Perhaps by linking up some of the existing woodlands, to create some larger woodland blocks. There is the opportunity for much more woodland creation and tree planting than highlighted in the provided plans, especially in the areas adjacent to the existing woodland blocks.

If you require any further information, particularly in regard to woodland creation, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best wishes

Sandra

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