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10 December 2024

Dear Sir,

**Re: Application for an Order Granting Development Consent for Stonestreet Green Solar – Post Hearing Submission**

Following the Planning Inspectorate's Rule 8 letter dated 28 November 2024, the County Council wishes to submit its Post Hearing Submission following matters raised during the Issue Specific Hearing 2 (ISH2) regarding Construction Traffic which took place on Thursday 21 November 2024.

As raised during Issue Specific Hearing 2 (ISH2) regarding Construction Traffic, the Local Highway Authority's view on the proposed development and its impacts will be set out as part of the Written Representation and Local Impact Report to be submitted alongside this response at Deadline 1.

Additional points raised during the hearing are covered below.

*Article 15 (AS-005)*

The County Council notes that Article 15 details each indicated access point as being 'permanent means of access'.

The access strategy for construction vehicles onto the highway for the Construction phase (as will be required for later Decommission phase) specifically uses operatives and traffic management at the access points that require road crossings to maintain highway safety. This method also removes the need for largescale vegetation removal for visibility splays. This operational protocol will not be present at the accesses post completion.

Many of the site access locations are existing agricultural access points and as such the County Council has no issue with permanent revision at these locations. The County Council is also mindful that operational maintenance traffic will be infrequent, likely even less than the agricultural land holdings existing uses. However, the County Council does have concerns regarding the pair of new access points on Station Road, north of Calleywell Lane. Station Road has the higher background traffic level in the area and there is a dog-leg in the road both north and south of these accesses, restricting forward visibility. As such, the County Council considers that as permanent operational accesses, these two should be supported by permanent visibility splay requirements to ensure safe visibility is provided and maintained; clear of equipment, fencing and vegetation. These splays would fall within the highway boundary and the applicants land holding and should not be difficult to deliver. The County Council would welcome confirmation on this point by the applicant.

*Article 17 (AS-005)*

The County Council is content with this article, however, the proposed measures would still require booking of road space and authorisation of specific arrangements from the County Council's Streetworks Team.

*Environmental Statement (AS-009) chapter 13 Appendix 13.5*

The County Council confirms that it has personal injury crash data up to June 2024. This data has been requested by the applicant and provided accordingly.

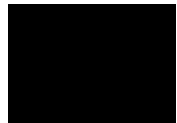
The County Council, as Local Highway Authority, is not raising concerns regarding the matter of traffic data being collected in 2022. The national travel restrictions were lifted on 24th Feb 2022. The surveys carried out in respect of this project were several months after this (June 2022) and although the COVID-19 pandemic did permanently change some people's travel habits from the time preceding the pandemic, the County Council does not doubt that the surveys taken later on that year are not representative.

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The County Council looks forward to working with the applicant and the Planning Inspectorate as the project progresses through the DCO process and would welcome the opportunity to comment on matters of detail throughout the Examination.

Should you require any additional information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Corporate Director – Growth, Environment and Transport