



Planning Inspectorate

The Planning Act 2008

Application for Development Consent for Stonestreet Green Solar for the construction, operation and maintenance, and decommissioning of solar photovoltaic ('PV') arrays and energy storage, together with associated infrastructure and an underground cable connection to the existing National Grid Sellindge Substation

Case Ref: EN010135

Examining Authority's Note of an Unaccompanied Site Inspection (USI)

Inspection 3: Inspection of general site and immediate environs 24 February 2025 with specific focus on viewpoints and public rights of way

This note is a brief record to inform the applicant, interested parties and other parties of the actions taken by the Examining Authority (ExA).

The weather was overcast with sunny spells and there was some localised flooding of roads. The viewpoints are referenced on the applicant's submission [[REP3-001](#)].

The ExA departed Ashford at 12:15 and drove towards Mersham via the A2070 turning right onto Church Road before progressing onto Cheeseman's Lane, Broad Oak Road before turning right onto Flood Street. The ExA stopped at VP8 and VP9 looking south eastwards. The ExA then drove up Flood Street in a northerly direction and turned right at the Junction of Bower Road. The ExA then proceeded to view the site from VP32 which was at the intersection of Bower Road with AE372. It was noted the footpath AE428 was blocked with vegetation on the south side of Bower Road, therefore the ExA then viewed the site from AE373A. The ExA then proceeded along Bower Road before walking down through footpath AE428 to VP30 and looking south and south easterly.

The ExA then drove in an easterly direction and turned left onto Station Road. The ExA viewed the junction with the A20 at Smeeth Crossroads before travelling east on the A20. The ExA then turned right onto Church Lane travelling past the Sellindge Power Station down towards VP28 looking, from St Martin's Church in a north westerly direction across Fields 20, 21 and 22 on the Application Site.

The ExA continued along Church Lane turning left onto Roman Road. The ExA then travelled along Roman Road before turning left onto the B2067 travelling towards VP22.

The ExA then travelled along the A20 towards Aldington turning left at the Smeeth Crossroads onto Station Road and then onto Calleywell Lane and parked shortly before the junction of Roman Road. The ExA then walked along towards and past the Aldington Primary School and viewed the site from VP2, EPL7 and P9. It was evident at the time, approximately 15:15 hours, that the school was about to end for the day as there were a number of cars parked along Roman Road, and more heavily on Goldwell Lane adjacent to the Parish Hall.

Finally, the ExA then travelled west along Frith Road, stopping at VP5 and VP6. The ExA then ended the USI and returned to Ashford at 16:00 hours.

End of USI3