



Historic England

**RESPONSES TO THE WRITTEN QUESTIONS OF THE EXAMINING AUTHORITY  
FOR DEADLINE 5**

**15<sup>th</sup> November 2024**

**ON BEHALF OF THE**

**HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND MONUMENTS COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND  
(HISTORIC ENGLAND)**

**Application by**

**RWE Renewables UK Solar and Storage Limited  
for an Order Granting Development Consent for  
the Byers Gill Solar Project**

**PINS Reference No: EN010139**

**Historic England Reference No: PL00795646**

**Deadline 5 Submission**

**15<sup>th</sup> November 2024**

| ExQ1    | Question to:   | Question:  | Historic England response   |
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| HEN 2.2 | Darlington Borough Council (DBC)<br>Historic England | At ISH2 the ExA asked the Applicant a series of questions regarding its approach to Historic Environment. The Applicant confirmed, in reference to table 8-4 Significance of effect included in [APP-031] that “negligible effect” was the term used to also describe “no effect”. This is then further confirmed in the Applicant’s response to HEN.1.7 [REP2-007]. Darlington Borough Council (DBC) and Historic England are asked to comment on this approach and the methodology used. | <p>Having reviewed and reflected on Table 8-4: Significance of Effect we consider the methodology to be a standard methodology which is common to many EIA projects.</p> <p>We understand a negligible significance of effect to be a no impact or a neutral impact which may not require mitigation.</p> <p>The EC Guidance Environmental Impact Assessment of Projects Guidance on the preparation of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (2017) para 1.4 does not refer to no effect and uses the term ‘negligible’ as the lowest end of the scale.</p> |

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| HEN 2.3 | Darlington Borough Council (DBC)<br>Historic England | The ExA asks if DBC or Historic England have any comments they wish to make to ExA's question HEN.2.3. | <p>Our view is that the significance of effect on Bishopton Conservation Area is minor as a result of a low magnitude of change on an asset of medium significance. This remains the case, mitigation has been put forward i.e. interpretation and we are satisfied with this approach.</p> <p>We also maintain that the impact on Scheduled Monument (Motte and bailey castle 400m south east of Bishopton NHLE entry 1008668) is negligible, being a negligible magnitude of change on an asset of high significance. This impact does not have significance for EIA purposes.</p> |
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