

7000 Acres

7000 Acres Response to the Tillbridge Solar Application on the subject of:

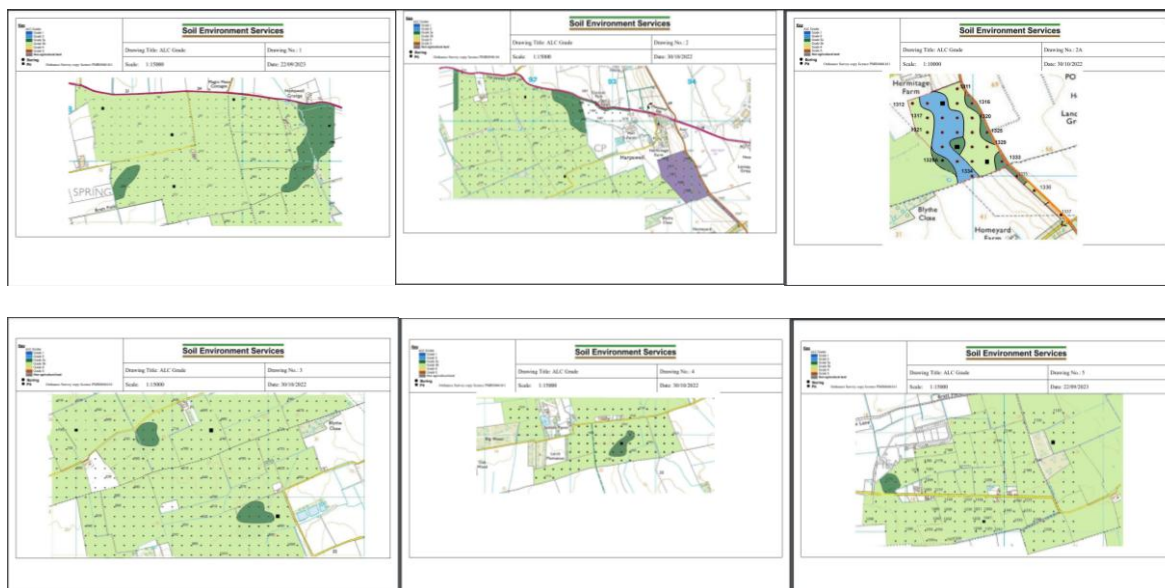
Agricultural Land Classification (ALC), Pits and Boreholes

Deadline 2 Submission – 14th November 2024

ALC:– Pits and Boreholes

The Agricultural Land Classification survey for the Tillbridge Solar Farm has been carried out by Soil Environment Services and a report submitted in September 2023. Within the report they have included site maps indicating the locations of the Pits that they have dug for sampling of the soils.

The results shown on the maps indicate that 16 pits were dug at Observation Points 19, 25, 100, 109, 256, 398, 558, 702, 713, 938, 1077, 1154, 1314, 1327, 1332 and 1347.



Within the APPENDIX A Survey profile data sheet the letter 'P' in the second column of the data table refers to an observation point at which a pit has been undertaken. Analysis of this data indicates that 60 pits were dug at Observation Points 25, 68, 109, 148, 168, 248, 255, 268, 348, 368, 388, 408, 428, 448, 468, 488, 508, 528, 548, 568, 588, 608, 628, 648, 668, 688, 708, 728, 748, 768, 788, 808, 828, 848, 888, 908, 928, 948, 968, 988, 1008, 1028, 1048, 1068, 1088, 1108, 1128, 1148, 1188, 1208, 1228, 1234, 1248, 1288, 1308, 1314, 1327, 1328, 1332 and 1348.

Only 5 pits at Observation Points 25, 109, 1314, 1327, 1332 appear in both lists, therefore 66 are wrongly indicated in one or other lists.

Inspection of this survey data identifies a series of repeated number sequences which makes questionable the accuracy of recording. This further makes questionable the accuracy of all of the data recorded in the ALC report and the use of this report and the resulting statistics generated from it.

We request that the originator of the ALC report should revisit the data used to generate the report and adjust it accordingly to report a truthful representation of the soils in the proposed solar farm site. When adjusted we further request that Natural England, the statutory consultee in the planning process, reviews the adjusted report and provides guidance on its content and suitability of the results for further use in the development analysis.