

# Springwell Solar Farm

## Environmental Statement

### Appendix 15.2: WFD Engagement

Volume 3

EN010149/APP/6.3  
November 2024  
Springwell Energyfarm Ltd

APFP Regulation 5(2)(a)  
Planning Act 2008  
Infrastructure Planning  
(Applications: Prescribed Forms  
and Procedure) Regulations 2009



[REDACTED]

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**From:** LN Planning <LNplanning@environment-agency.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 30 April 2024 11:48  
[REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Springwell - Environment Agency Meeting

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for sending us the additional information for the proposed Solar Farm.

We have reviewed the meeting slides (dated 07 March 2024) and the Water Framework Directive Waterbodies Technical Note (dated 25 March 2024, reference 680582-L2 (00)) and provide the following answers to the questions raised and information to help support you in planning and designing the development:

## 1. Meeting slide questions

### Section 42 Response

Question: There are some areas of development in Flood Zone, will this change the response?

Answer: Whilst there are some areas of development within the Flood Zone, the type of development is acceptable. All essential infrastructure is located outside of the Flood Zone, therefore there is no change to our previous response.

### Flood Map for Planning

Question: Are proposals acceptable to the EA?

Answer: Yes, the development is acceptable.

### Flood Data Request

Question: Are JFLOW flood depths acceptable given the low risk nature of solar panels?

Answer: The use of JFlow depths for this development is acceptable. Whilst JFlow data is inaccurate, there is adequate freeboard in the height the panels are raised by which would not change even if local modelling was to be undertaken.

### Water Framework Directive – Advice Note Eighteen

Question: Can the EA provide guidance on the approach to the WFD and what the desired deliverables are in accordance with Advice Note 18?

Answer: Your approach to the WFD seems appropriate for surface waters and we agree with your conclusion that no WFD Screening, Scoping or Assessment is required.

### BESS Design Principles

Question: Can the Environment Agency provide any guidance or recommendations for what they require to see to evidence that firewater runoff has been fully considered and mitigated within the design?

Answer: Your proposals seem appropriate. We recommend that you consider the guidance provided in the Planning Practice Guidance on Renewable and low carbon energy provides guidance for Battery Energy Storage Systems that can be found [here](#). This links to Guidance from the National Fire Chiefs Council on Grid Scale Battery Energy Storage System Planning - Guidance for Fire & Rescue Services (FRS) that can be found [here](#).

## 2. Water Framework Directive Technical Note

Your approach to the WFD seems appropriate for surface waters and we agree with your conclusion that no WFD Screening, Scoping or Assessment is required.

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me using the details below.

Thanks

[REDACTED]  
**Lincolnshire & Northamptonshire Area**

**Environment Agency** | Nene House, Pytchley Lodge Road, Kettering, NN15 6JQ

[REDACTED]

**Check out the [LNA Sustainable Places SharePoint](#) page for planning news, training and performance updates all in one place.**

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[REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 27, 2024 7:03 PM

[REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Springwell - Environment Agency Meeting

[REDACTED]

I hope you are well.

Thank you for your time during the meeting held a few weeks ago.

As discussed during the meeting, we have produced a short technical note to assist with your review in relation to the potential requirement for a Water Framework Directive Assessment. Apologies for the delay in getting this issued over to you.

Please also find attached the slides shared during the meeting.

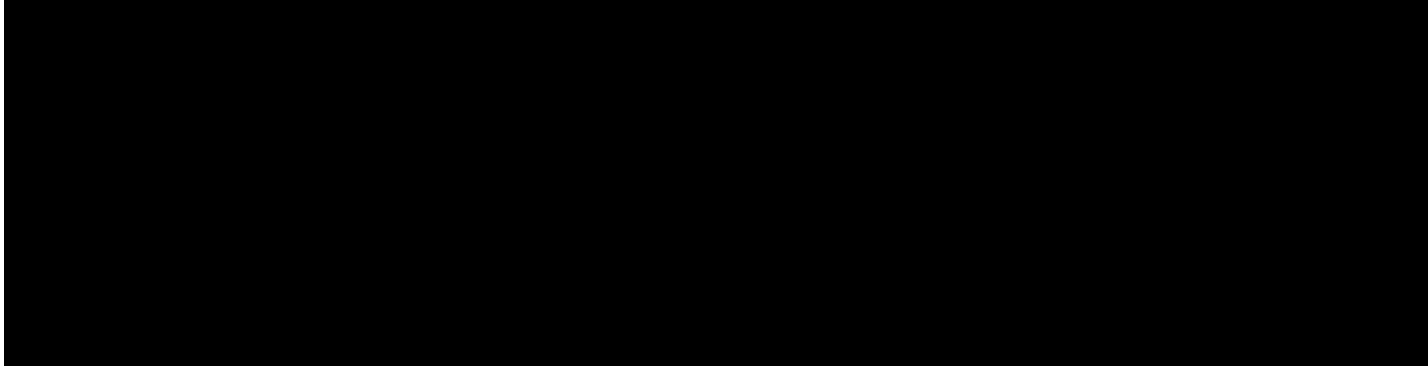
We would appreciate if you are able to review the questions discussed in the meeting slides, particularly in relation to the approach to BESS firewater to confirm if there are any further requirements that may need to be considered in our design.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any queries or wish to discuss the technical note in further detail.

I hope you have a lovely easter weekend.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]



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