

Newark & Sherwood District Council
Castle House Great North Road
Newark
Nottinghamshire
NG24 1BY

Our ref: LT/2023/128166/04-L01
Your ref: 23/01837/FULM
Date: 19 December 2024

Dear Sir/Madam,

**PROPOSED GROUND MOUNTED PHOTO VOLTAIC SOLAR FARM AND BATTERY
ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM WITH ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENT,
INFRASTRUCTURE, GRID CONNECTION AND ANCILLARY WORK**

LAND TO THE WEST OF MAIN STREET KELHAM

Thank you for re-consulting the Environment Agency (EA) on this application. We are pleased to see that the area of the solar farm which overlapped with the flood compensation area (FCA) has been amended and no longer contains solar panels.

Environment Agency position

We withdraw our holding objection, dated 12 November 2024. Please consider the following advisory comments.

The solar farm scheme includes the provision of new access from the A617. This access intersects the FCA for the A46 Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) - currently in examination. For the FCA to function correctly this new access must not be a barrier to flood waters entering the FCA. Best practice design for this access would be a clear span bridge, with its soffit level set a minimum of 300mm above the 1 in 100 year plus climate change flood height. The detailed design of the bridge, allowing for water entry, falls under the scope of the A46 NSIP and is the responsibility of National Highways as the applicant to provide. We raise this point for the avoidance of doubt regarding the EAs design expectation for the new access, which we will regulate in our role as a consultee in the planning process towards the A46 NSIP.

Advisory

The applicant is advised that were there any waste generated through the activity, for example broken/ discarded solar panels, that this waste be classified correctly as per the WM3 waste classification guidance and disposed of appropriately by sending it to an authorised waste treatment facility with the correct waste transfer documentation. The applicant is advised to plan and incorporate effective drainage to manage the rainwater that drains from the panels and appears as runoff over the downgradient cells. The applicant is advised to consider the vegetation cover that would minimise effect of the farm on total volumes of runoff or peak discharge rates, for example well maintained grass. The applicant is advised to consider taking measures to reduce soil compaction increasing runoff and erosion.

Environment Agency
npa - Bridgford Point Scarrington Road, West Bridgford, NG2 5BR.
Customer services line: 03708 506 506
www.gov.uk/environment-agency

Cont/d..

Yours faithfully,

Mr Joshua Milsom
Planning Advisor

