



BY EMAIL ONLY to: Alex.Tresadern@pinsentmasons.com

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5 November 2025

Dear Mr Tresadern,

THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM ORDER 2023 – S.I. 734 (“THE ORDER”) AND THE LONGFIELD SOLAR FARM (CORRECTION) ORDER 2023 – S.I. 1241 – PROPOSED NON-MATERIAL CHANGE APPLICATION

REGULATION 7(3) OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011 - WRITTEN CONSENT FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR NOT CONSULTING A PERSON OR AUTHORITY

1. Thank you for your email and letter of 15 October 2025 on behalf of Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited (“the Applicant”). The letter and email of 15 October 2025 provided a description of the proposed non-material changes to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023, the reasons for the proposed changes, the proposed reduced consultee list, and a list of the parties consulted on the original application in respect to the Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 and as corrected by the Longfield Solar Farm (Correction) Order 2023. The letter requested the Secretary of State’s consent under Regulation 7(3) of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011 (as amended) (“the 2011 Regulations”) to a reduced list of consultees.
2. The letter provides the following description of the changes sought:
 - a. *amendment of Work No. 4A in Schedule 1 to authorise installation of a second 400kV cable circuit between the onsite substation and the existing substation extension;*
 - b. *amendment of Article 6 to include modification of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997;*
 - c. *amendment of Requirement 9 in Schedule 2 to require submission of a single site-wide Biodiversity Net Gain Strategy rather than multiple phase-specific strategies; and*
 - d. *amendment of Article 6(4) to clarify that limited overlaps with adjacent minerals planning permissions at Bulls Lodge Quarry are permitted.*

3. The Applicant proposes to consult 15 parties: Anglian Water Services Limited, Boreham Parish Council, Braintree District Council, British Telecommunications Plc, Chelmsford City Council, Environment Agency, Essex and Suffolk Water Limited, Essex County Council, Lord Rayleigh's Farms Limited, National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc, Natural England, Network Rail Infrastructure Limited, Pioneer Aggregates (UK) Limited, Hanson Quarry Products Europe Limited, Vodafone Limited, and UK Power Networks Limited. These parties have been identified because they are host authorities, statutory bodies, or asset owners whose operations or interests may be directly affected by one or more of the proposed non-material changes.
4. The Secretary of State considers that Historic England and the Joint Nature Conservation Committee should be consulted because the Applicant has not provided specific reasons why these consultees should not be consulted. The Secretary of State considers that these consultees may have representations to make in relation to the proposed change.
5. The Secretary of State is satisfied that it is not necessary for other consultees from the Order to be included in the reduced consultee list, as they are not directly affected, either because the proposed amendments will not affect their interests or because their interests relate to a different part of the scheme.
6. Accordingly, the Secretary of State gives written consent for the consultation to proceed in accordance with the details set out above, under regulation 7(3) of the 2011 Regulations.
7. In taking this decision, the Secretary of State acknowledges that notice of the Application will be provided by the Applicant, in line with the requirements in Regulation 6 of the 2011 Regulations.
8. The Secretary of State's written consent in this matter should not be taken as indicating approval for any other aspects of the proposed changes to the Order, which fall to {her/him} for consideration and determination, or whether the proposed changes will ultimately be regarded as material or not.

Yours sincerely,

Kerry Crowhurst-Kozlova

Head of Planning

On behalf of the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero