



TERLING AND FAIRSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk: Frankie Killby

3 Pilgrims Court, Cuckoo Hill, Bures, Essex CO8 5LF

Tel: 01787 227700 · *Email:* clerk@terlingandfairsteadpc.co.uk · www.terlingandfairstead.org.uk

2nd December 2020

Katherine King
Senior EIA Advisor
Major Casework Directorate
The Planning Inspectorate
Temple Quay House
2 The Square
Bristol
BS1 6PN

Dear Ms King

Re: Longfield Solar Farm, Essex (Ref EN010118 LSF)

Thank you for your letter of 6th November 2020.

The Parish Council (PC) has now considered the EIA Scoping Opinion and enclose our responses.

- In reviewing the consultation proposals, the Parish Council recognises that solar energy development can help meet targets for reducing carbon emissions, reduce reliance on fossil fuels and provide local energy security.
- It is recognised that the EIA is submitted to the Secretary of State under the Rochdale Envelop principles and there is limited detailed information regarding the environmental impact at this stage, and further information is needed from detailed studies ahead of a judgement being made.



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- The Parish Council welcomes the opportunity to engage further with the proposal and supports the need for further assessment to be undertaken prior to any submission of the DCO application. This includes reviewing the Agricultural Land Classification (ALC), landscape and visual impact, biodiversity and nature conservation, flood risk and drainage, impacts of noise, vibration, glint and glare, impact on land changes, traffic and transport studies, impact on the historic environment, cumulative impacts and socio-economic impacts and community gain. The Parish Council has fundamental concerns and reservations as to the size, scale and massing of the proposals land take, certain elements proposed especially the battery storage buildings/compounds, sub-stations, transformers and DC/AC converter houses.
- The consultation response requests further, more detailed information is provided at future consultations in respect of the community benefits and wider benefits of the electricity generation, what the temporary features are, how the site will be delivered, access points/routes detail, site design and impact on the wider local area. In addition, more details regarding the reasons for the scale, location of the proposal, potential traffic impacts, mitigation and decommissioning are sought. The Parish Council also seeks the applicant to demonstrate the connect between their proposals in our community and alternative locations and sources of electric supply.



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- As the proposal (and its buffer zones) is mostly contained within the parish, the Parish Council also welcomes the opportunity to comment on the draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) and the proposals for consulting local people, stakeholders and communities on future statutory consultations. The applicant has posted to the wider community an information booklet and questionnaire and requested that comments are returned to the applicant's agent by 14th December 2020. There are differences between the EIA and the booklet and the Parish Council brings these to your attention in the attached submission. (For ease of reference we also attach a copy of the booklet).

We note that in the Planning Inspectorate attendance note of 4th September 2020, the Inspectorate highlighted to the applicant the risks of having both informal Scoping and a Statutory consultation running in parallel.

I would be grateful if you would confirm receipt of this letter and its contents.

Yours sincerely

FRANKIE KILLBY

PARISH CLERK

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Enc: 1. Terling & Fairstead Council Response to EIA Scoping Opinion

Enc: 2. Longfield Solar Farm Consultation Booklet