
Supplementary Statement

Barkham Solar Farm

Condition 21 – Underground Infrastructure

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This supplementary statement should be read in conjunction with the Condition Discharge Report (Prospus Consulting: 10/12/2024).

The planning application (211081) for the solar farm was supported by a Utilities Appraisal (WSP: 18 March 2021). That report appraised the existing/known utilities crossing the site and how those relate to the proposed development. Following consultation with the various utility providers (full responses included within the appendices of the 2021 WSP report), it concluded:

CONCLUSION

Existing electricity and gas infrastructure and foul sewers have been accommodated within the proposed layout. Diversionary or protection works to other utilities within Barkham Ride could be required depending on their alignment and depth, which should be surveyed at detailed design stage. Such diversionary works are considered routine and will not affect the feasibility of the design.

Therefore there is no reason in relation to constraints posed by existing utilities why the planning permission should be withheld for the proposals.

The various consultation responses received from the utility providers with respect to this current discharge application have been reviewed. They raise no additional information that was not available and included within the original utilities appraisal. It remains the case therefore that the solar farm has been designed with best knowledge of the records contained by the utility companies.

In addition to the utility company records, knowledge of the site has since been supplemented by the CATSurveys (including Ground penetrating radar and electromagnetic locating surveys) and what was observed (or not) during the archaeological trenching across the site.

The construction team will use all information available to best plan for the protection of existing services in accordance with normal working practices under the Construction Design and Management (CDM) Regulations.