



Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government

Nick Beddoe
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Planning
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Kingston House
Blackbrook Park Avenue
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Please ask for: Dave Moseley
Tel: Email Only
Email: Dave.moseley@communities.gov.uk
Your ref:
Our ref: PCU/EIASCR/D1265/3259906

Date: 19 November 2020

Dear Mr Beddoe

**Request for a Screening Direction
Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations
2017
Proposed solar farm development on land at North Farm near Spetisbury,
Dorset**

I refer to your request dated 21 September, made under 6(10) of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017(S.I. 2017/571) ("the 2017 Regulations") for the Secretary of State's screening direction on the matter of whether or not the above development is 'EIA development' within the meaning of the 2017 Regulations.

The above development falls within the description at paragraph 3a of Schedule 2 to the 2017 Regulations (Industrial installations for the production of electricity, steam and hot water).Therefore, the Secretary of State considers the proposal to be 'Schedule 2 development' within the meaning of the 2017 Regulations.

In preparing this screening direction, the Secretary of State has had regard to Planning Practice Guidance.

However, having taken into account the selection criteria in Schedule 3 to the 2017 Regulations the Secretary of State does not consider that the proposal is likely to have significant effects on the environment, see the attached written statement which gives the reasons for direction as required by 5(6) of the EIA Regulations.

Accordingly, in exercise of the powers conferred on him by regulation 7(5) of the 2017 Regulations the Secretary of State hereby directs that the proposed development described in your request and the documents submitted with it, **is not 'EIA development'** within the meaning of the 2017 Regulations.

Any permitted development rights which your client's proposal may enjoy under the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015 (SI 596) as amended are therefore unaffected.

You will bear in mind that the Secretary of State's opinion on the likelihood of the development having significant environmental effects is reached only for the purposes of this direction.

I am sending a copy of this letter and the written statement to Dorset Council.

Yours sincerely

Dave Moseley

Dave Moseley
Senior Planning Casework Manager
(This decision was made by officials on behalf of the Secretary of State under delegated powers)