

SP Kerr BA LLM

Solicitor

Clerk to the Board

CC Braby ACMA, CGMA

Treasurer to the Board

L Cairns

BEng(Hons)

Engineer to the Board

Captain NA Jardine MNI

Harbour Master/Manager

My Ref LHB/ LC/18b
Yr Ref APP/14/00360
Ask for Mr L Cairns
Date 23 April 2014

Dear Mrs Crawford

Land north of Manor Farm buildings, Manor Road, Hayling Island

Screening opinion.

I refer to your letter dated 8th April 2014 and the detailed drawings viewed on the Havant Borough Council website concerning the above planning application.

The Board's Environment Officer and Planning Sub Committee have considered this screening opinion and make the following comments:

- The Solent Brent Goose and Wader Strategy (2010) lists fields H49a, H49b and H49c (which comprise the area of the proposed solar park) as being "uncertain" for waders and "uncertain" for Brent Geese. I recommend that these fields are surveyed during the winter months (October - March) to determine whether these fields represent an important feeding or roosting ground for Langstone Harbour's SPA bird species, and thus whether the installation of a solar farm is likely to have a negative impact upon the features of the SPA/Ramsar site. Any such survey should be undertaken by a trained ornithologist.
- The fields immediately west of the proposed solar farm are used by thousands of Brent Geese and hundreds of waders (such as Curlew) throughout the winter. I recommend that an assessment to determine whether the presence of a solar farm with respect to flight path interruptions or compromised line of sight is likely to negatively impact feeding and roosting Brent Geese and waders in these adjacent fields.
- Should the proposal proceed to the construction phase, I recommend that a screening hedgerow, comprising native British hedgerow species, should be planted along the western site boundary. This should be planted before construction begins, to allow maturation of the hedgerow plants thereby producing an effective screen from the birds on the adjacent fields from disturbing activity such as maintenance of the panels.
- I recommend that no construction work should take place between October and March to avoid disturbance to feeding/roosting birds on adjacent fields

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Pauline', written in a cursive style.

Engineer to the Board

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(FAO Mrs B Crawford)
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