



Department for
Energy Security
& Net Zero

Rt Hon Ed Miliband MP
Secretary of State
Department for Energy Security & Net Zero
55 Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HP

Dr Roz Savage MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

www.gov.uk

Our ref: MCB2024/16282

6 February 2025

Dear Roz,

Thank you for your letters of 30 September and 14 July regarding Lime Down Solar Farm. I sincerely apologise for the delay in my response.

The application for development consent for the proposed Lime Down Solar Project is expected to be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate ("PINS") in the first Quarter of 2025. Proposals are at the pre-application stage of the planning process under the Planning Act 2008. This stage of the process, including the consultation process, is developer led. The initial round of consultation closed on 26 April 2024. The second stage of consultation is expected to be early in 2025.

With the above in mind, I encourage you and your constituents to continue to provide your views on the proposed Lime Down Solar Project through the consultation process and to utilise these opportunities to share your views with the developer – Island Green Power. Responding to an Applicant's pre-application consultation is the best time to influence a project, whether you agree, disagree, or believe it could be improved.

Once the pre-application stage is completed and the application is officially received by the PINS, it has 28 days to review the application and to decide whether to accept it for Examination. When making this decision, the PINS considers whether an Applicant has complied with the pre-application procedure. If the application is accepted for Examination, those with an interest in a proposal can register as an Interested Party and raise their views on the proposal during the Examination.

In taking the decision on any development consent application, I will follow the relevant requirements in the Planning Act 2008 and have regard to a wide range of matters relevant to the decision. Given my quasi-judicial role in taking decisions on applications for development consent for energy infrastructure, it would not be appropriate to comment on specific matters related to the proposals, as this could be seen as prejudicing the decision-making process.

Thank you again for taking the time to write.

Yours ever,

RT HON ED MILIBAND MP
Secretary of State for Energy Security & Net Zero