

**Screening Opinion for the proposed Solar Farm at Ten Acre Lane , Thorpe , Egham  
In consideration of criteria in Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations F55.32.004**

Part One of Three

Is the proposed development listed in Schedule One		No
Is the proposed development listed in Schedule Two		Yes -- 3a
Is the proposed development above the thresholds in the EIA Regulations	<u>Detail</u> Area of works exceeds 0.5 hectare	Yes
Is the proposed development above the indicative thresholds in Circular 2/99  (3a generally describes power stations. There is no clear definition for solar farms available)	<u>Detail</u> EIA will normally be required for power station which require approval from the Secretary of State at the Department of Trade and Industry (i.e. those with a thermal output of more than 50mw)	No
	<u>Detail</u> EIA is unlikely to be required for smaller new conventional power stations. The main considerations are likely to be the level of emissions to air , arrangements for the transport of fuel and any visual impact	Likely effects/No-Likely-effects
Is the proposed development in or adjacent to a sensitive area as defined in Regulation 2		Yes/No
Is the proposal in or adjacent to other sensitive areas:  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local designations</li> <li>• Protected species</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Contaminated land</li> <li>• Public health</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Possible Contaminated Land</li> </ul>	
Other possible consents/consenting bodies		
<p>Consideration:</p> <p>It is the Council's opinion that the proposed development to which this screening opinion relates is: Schedule 2 development within the meaning of the Town and Country Planning (Environment Impact Assessment) (England and Wales) Regulation 1999 (SI 1999 No293) which is considered likely to have significant effects on the environment for the reasons set out in Part 3 of this opinion.</p> <p>Accordingly, subject to any direction of the Secretary of State to the contrary, four copies of an Environmental Statement must accompany the planning application in support of this proposal.</p> <p>It is also suggested that in scoping the ES the applicant consult Natural England in order to ensure the ES provided, will be sufficient to meet the information requirement for an "appropriate assessment" under Regulation 48, 49 and 54 of the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &amp;c.) Regulations 1994.</p>		
Dated: 11/4/2011		K Henckel
Signed: C Hanrahan		1-4-11.

**B. Description of proposed development**

Part 2 of 3

**Site Visit**

A site visit has not been undertaken in connection with this case.

**Location of proposed development**

Ten Acre Lane , Thorpe , Egham, Surrey , TW20 8TD

**Physical proposed development**

Proposed solar farm, comprising the erection of solar arrays , equipment housing , fencing and ancillary equipment . Continued use of land for agricultural purposes (grazing and/or wild meadow). The size of the development is 40 acres to generate 5MW of power per annum

C. Consideration of possible impacts on the environment		
Issue	Comments	Part 3 of 3 Significant ✓ x ?
Air Quality and climatic factors	A solar reduction farm will contribute to a reduction in atmospheric pollution and in turn contribute to a reduction in climate change	x
Archaeology and Historic Buildings	Council maps indicate the site contains no archaeology or historic buildings. The site of the proposed development is adjacent to a conservation area	x
<b>Contaminated land</b>	<b>Council maps indicate the possibility of contaminated land within and adjacent to the site of the proposed development</b>	✓
<b>Cumulative impacts</b>	<b>Possible cumulative effect between contaminated land, ecology and the source protection zone</b>	?
<b>Ecology</b>	<b>The site is currently open land</b>	?
Geology and soils	The site of the proposed development comprises of superficial sand , gravel and silt deposits	x
<b>Landscape and visual</b>	<b>The site of the proposed development is currently open land. Development on this site would change the landscape at this location</b>	✓
<b>Noise, light and vibration</b>	<b>The site currently emits no noise light or vibration. The site could potentially emit noise light and vibration during construction. It is unknown what noise light and vibration the site will emit during use of the proposed development</b>	?
Traffic, transport and highways	The site is unlikely to increase traffic through the proposed development	x
Waste	The site will potentially generate and store waste	x
Water	Council maps indicate the site contains no hydrology or inland water. The site of the proposed development is within 100m of flood zone 2 and inland water. The site of the proposed development is within a source protection zone	?

