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Email Only

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DATE: 16th July 2024

Dear Ms Evans

Reference: DM/25/1361

Proposal: Solar and BESS

Location: Land Southwest of Picts Lane, Bolney with cable route to Bolney Substation, Wineham Lane

I refer to your letter and submissions received 27th May 2025 regarding the above site requesting the Council's formal Screening Opinion for the Proposed Development.

The Council is required to determine whether an application for the above development should be accompanied by an Environmental Impact Assessment in accordance with Regulation 6 of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017.

The NPPF Planning Practice Guidance on Environmental Impact Assessment, Annex: Indicative Screening Thresholds (Paragraph 057 Reference ID: 4-057-2070720 Revision Date: 20072017 and paragraph 058 Reference ID: 4-058-20150326 Revision Date: 26032015) give indicative criteria and thresholds to consider for EIA screening. For part 3 (a) industrial installations for the production of electricity, steam and hot water (unless included in Schedule 1) the indicative threshold states: "*Thermal output of more than 50 MW. Small stations using novel forms of generation should be considered carefully.*"

The guidance advises that the key issues to consider are the "*Level of emissions to air, arrangements for the transport of fuel and any visual impact.*". These issues have been considered in the applicant's submitted EIA Screening Matrix and other supporting documents which have been assessed by the Council. The proposal is not considered to result in significant effects in respect of these issues insofar as the proposal affects land within the Mid Sussex District Council area. It is only the indicative cable/grid connection route to Bolney Substation that is proposed to be within the Mid Sussex District Council area.

The Proposed Development is not considered to have significant environmental effects.

In the opinion of the Local Planning Authority, having taken into account the criteria in Schedule 3 of the 2017 Regulations, the Proposed Development, while constituting a Schedule 2 development, would not be likely to have a significant effect on the environment by virtue of the factors such as its characteristics, location and characteristics of potential impacts.

Accordingly the Local Authority directs that the development above is not EIA development insofar as it affects land within the Mid Sussex District Council area. Consequently no Environment Impact Assessment is required to be submitted with any planning application

Planning Services Division
Ann Biggs
Assistant Director Planning and Sustainable Economy

submitted to Mid Sussex District Council for the above development.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further queries.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'AB', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ann Biggs
Assistant Director Planning and Sustainable Economy