

18<sup>th</sup> November, 2022

North Northamptonshire Council  
Sheerness House  
41 Meadow Road  
Kettering  
Northamptonshire  
NN16 8TL

Re: Application for Planning Permission for a Solar Installation (Domestic) on the Lilford Hall Estate , Northamptonshire, PE8 5SG

To whom it may concern,

This planning application has been prepared in support of an application for full planning permission submitted to North Northamptonshire Council under the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) on behalf of Mr Michael Bloch KC and Mrs Camilla Bloch KC, the Applicants .

The application is submitted to the Council in its capacity as a Local Planning Authority under the Town and Country Planning Act (1990).

The proposal comprises the construction and operation of a solar photovoltaic installation and associated infrastructure, including sub-station, inverters, transformers, fencing, access tracks and landscaping.

The UK Government has committed to meeting a legally binding target of net-zero carbon emissions by 2050 and Northamptonshire County Council has declared a climate emergency. This requires major investment in proven technologies, such as solar and wind, which are supported by planning policy at local and national level. The Proposed Development would help to address this need by generating clean and renewable energy without the need for subsidies.

Planning permission is being sought to operate for 40 years, at which point it would be decommissioned and the land returned to its previous state.

The Proposed Development complies with relevant planning policy and there are significant benefits associated with it. The environmental and technical reports that form part of the planning application submission demonstrate that there would be no unacceptable environmental impacts.

The submission includes a range of environmental reports produced by technical specialists. These findings are present throughout the submitted reports contained and consolidated within a meaningful Planning, Design and Assessment Statement which deliberately takes the form of a Sustainability Appraisal and equally that of an Environmental Assessment, despite neither being required for a project of this nature and scale.

The application submission consists of the following consolidated reports:

- Application Cover Letter;
- Planning, Design and Access Statement;
- Location plans (within this document);
- Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy;
- Site Survey and Analysis;
- Heritage Statement
- Geological and Archaeological Report;
- Historical Assessment;
- Transport and Access Report;
- Landscape and Biodiversity Report;
- Visual Impact Assessment;
- Minerals and Waste Report;
- Glint and Glare Report;
- Photomontages;

The application has been submitted electronically via the Planning Portal and is accompanied by the necessary fee of [REDACTED] payable to the Council.

The Applicants have carried out meaningful pre-application consultations in respect of the Proposed Development and has made changes to help address and mitigate concerns, whilst minimising the impact of the scheme through careful design.

It has been demonstrated that the Proposed Development complies with local and national planning policy and there are significant benefits associated with it. The environmental and technical reports that form part of the planning application submission demonstrate that there would be no unacceptable environmental impacts, and there are a number of added benefits, including habitat creation and biodiversity gains.

These factors, when combined with the significant and urgent need for renewable energy and a secure energy supply, mean that the planning balance (and, in particular, when considered in the context of the tests under Section 38(6) Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004) is weighted significantly in favour of the Proposed Development.

The Applicants therefore respectfully request that planning permission is granted for the Proposed Development and trust that everything has been submitted to allow you to validate the application.

We look forward to receiving confirmation of this in due course and in the meantime, if you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me using the following details.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

Nima J. Staniewick.

Director, Senior Designer & Sustainability Lead Adviser,  
Prosperi Architecture & Design Ltd.

[REDACTED]