

Dealt with by: Environmental Health

Our Ref: SMD/2021/0791

Direct Dial: (01538) 395400

Email:

Date: 17th January 2022

MEMORANDUM: PLANNING CONSULTATION
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LOCATION	Wood Farm Red Road Alton
PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT	Free-standing PV Panels on associated land of Wood Farm, Red Road, Alton (Two rows of Panels 20x2m at 1.4m Height from Ground)

Potential Areas of Environmental Concern

1. Noise :
 - a. During construction/demolition, b. noise from plant and machinery associated with operation of a solar farm.
2. Glare from solar farm.

General Comments –

The primary environmental health concerns with this development will be noise during construction/demolition phase, noise from associated plant and machinery during the operational phase and glare. The construction noise impacts can be addressed through a timing condition.

Noise issues caused by solar farms are not significant but it would be important that the nearest noise sensitive properties are considered when plant is being selected and installed. The primary noise arising during the operational phase will be associated with the inverter plant. The predicted noise caused by the inverter is not supplied but typically this is not significant but it is recommended that any plant and machinery used under this permission is suitably operated and maintained so that noise does not cause adverse impacts to neighbouring properties in this rural area. (Condition advised)

The solar farm should be sufficiently screened so as not to cause glare to all nearby neighbouring properties. It would be advisable that a condition is placed on the permission to ensure where there is potential for glare to impact on neighbouring properties that mitigation steps are taken in the form of screening to prevent this problem.

Recommendation –

The Environmental Health Department have no objections subject to condition.

1. Construction and demolition works: Time of operations

Unless prior permission has been obtained in writing from the Local Planning Authority, all noisy activities shall be restricted to the following times of operations.

- **08:00 - 18:00 hours (Monday to Friday);**
- **08:00 - 13:00 hours (Saturday)**
- **No working is permitted on Sundays or Bank Holidays.**

In this instance a noisy activity is defined as any activity (for instance, but not restricted to, building construction/demolition operations, refurbishing and landscaping) which generates noise that is audible at the site boundary.

Reason: *To avoid the risk of disturbance to neighbouring dwellings from noise during unsocial hours.*

2. Noise from Fixed Plant/Machinery

The machinery, plant or equipment including installed or operated in connection with the carrying out of this permission shall be so enclosed and/or attenuated that the noise generated by the operation of the machinery shall not increase the background noise levels during day time expressed as LA90 [1hour] (day time 07:00-23:00 hours) and/or (b) LA90 [15 mins] during night time (night time 23:00-07:00 hours) at any adjoining noise sensitive locations or premises in separate occupation above that prevailing when the machinery is not operating. Noise measurements for the purpose of this condition shall be pursuant to BS 4142:2014. The details and location of any plant or machinery to be installed under this permission should be submitted to and approved of in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: *To ensure that the reasonable residential amenities of adjoining properties are adequately protected from noise pollution.*

Advisory:

Any approved noise scheme and measurements should pay due regard to British Standard BS8233: Sound insulation and noise reduction for buildings (Code of Practice), BS4142:2014 Methods for rating and assessing industrial or commercial sound and/or the Building Regulations 2010 Document E or other appropriate guidance.

Regards

Environmental Health