

The Clerk
Granborough Parish Council
32 Rectory Close
Marsh Gibbon
OX27 0HT

2 June 2025

Dear Sir/Madam,

Rosefield Solar Farm

Statutory pre-application consultation: 21 May - 16 July 2025

Sections 42 and 43 of the Planning Act 2008: Duty to consult on a proposed application

Overview

We¹ are writing following our letter dated 21 May 2025 inviting you to provide feedback on proposed changes to the layout of Rosefield Solar Farm as part of a targeted, statutory consultation running between 21 May 2025 and 16 July 2025.

Why we are writing to you

As part of this targeted consultation, we published an Addendum to the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR). This was to describe any new or different potential environmental effects resulting from the proposed layout changes in Parcel 3 compared to those reported in the PEIR (published as part of our Phase Two Consultation).

Both the PEIR and PEIR Addendum are available to view at:
www.rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk/document-library.

Like the PEIR, the Addendum represents a snapshot of ongoing environmental survey work and is based on the information available at the time of its production. The final results of all the environmental assessments we have undertaken will be detailed in an Environmental Statement (ES) submitted as part of our Development Consent Order (DCO) application.

Results from recent trial trenching have affected our understanding of potential environmental effects on buried archaeology in the area which is subject to this targeted consultation (Parcel 3). We felt it was important to publish this information in advance of the ES so that it could be considered as part of this consultation. This letter has been sent to consultees who we consider may have an interest in cultural heritage to notify them of this update and share where they can find out more information.

Update to the PEIR Addendum

¹ Rosefield Energyfarm Ltd (company No. 11618221), whose registered office is at Alexander House 1 Mandarin Road, Rainton Bridge Business Park, Houghton Le Spring, Sunderland, England, DH4 5RA.

When a potential effect is identified, we need to understand how much of an impact it would have on the surrounding environment. This is done by assessing its 'significance', which looks at both the scale of change caused by an effect and the sensitivity of the thing it would change.

The PEIR presented our preliminary assessment on cultural heritage. This noted that archaeological trial trenching of some areas (including proposed locations of the Rosefield Substation, Collector Compounds and BESS) would be undertaken prior to and reported within the ES. Results of these assessments would confirm any unknown heritage assets in these areas and inform which measures may be most appropriate to mitigate any potential environmental effects (e.g. preservation in situ, pre-construction archaeological excavation, or changes to our layout).

This work has now been completed in the area proposed to accommodate the Rosefield Substation and Main Collector Compound. In line with our preliminary geophysical surveys (detailed in the PEIR) we have identified settlement activity dating from the Iron Age or Romano-British era in this area. Due to their age, these archaeological remains are classified as having 'medium' sensitivity. This sensitivity, in combination with the 'moderate' scale of change we are proposing as part of our mitigation measures (pre-construction archaeological excavation), has resulted in a significant effect to this asset, which was not reported in the PEIR or PEIR Addendum. There has been no change to what we are proposing in this area.

For the purposes of this targeted consultation, we have updated the PEIR Addendum (see sections 3.3 and 4) to reflect this change of significance. Within the ES, we will signpost to this change in the relevant chapter on cultural heritage, as well as within the Non-Technical Summary. This will ensure that anyone with an interest in cultural heritage will be able to understand and comment on this update as part of the examination. We are also liaising with important stakeholders such as Buckinghamshire Council and Historic England to agree our approach.

More information about the proposed archaeological excavation works, including the draft scope and methodology, will be detailed in an Outline Written Scheme of Investigation submitted as part of our DCO application.

Share your views

As a reminder, this consultation is open between 21 May and 16 July 2025. We would welcome your feedback on the proposed layout changes in this area.

If you wish to submit a consultation response, you must do so by the consultation deadline of 11:59pm on 16 July 2025. You can provide your feedback in the following ways:

- Submitting your comments by email: info@rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk
- Posting your written comments (no stamp required) to: Rosefield Solar Farm, FREEPOST SEC Newgate UK LOCAL

Should you have any questions about the proposed changes, please get in touch with us by email (info@rosefieldsolarfarm.co.uk) or by phoning 0800 861 1097 (Mon-Fri 9am-5pm).

Next steps

Following this consultation, we will consider all the feedback we receive and continue refining our proposals for Rosefield Solar Farm before submitting a DCO application to the Planning Inspectorate later this year. The DCO application will include a Consultation Report, which will set out how we have consulted on Rosefield Solar Farm, summarise the responses received and explain how we have had regard to them.

Any comments received will be considered by Rosefield Energyfarm Limited and any of its appointed agents. Copies may be made available to the Secretary of State, the Planning Inspectorate and other relevant statutory authorities so that feedback can be considered as part of the DCO process.

For those who own an interest in land or are affected by Rosefield Solar Farm, we are under a statutory duty to publish names and addresses as part of our DCO application. Further information on our privacy policy can be found on the EDF Renewables website, www.edf-re.uk/privacy-policy/. The Planning Inspectorate has published details of how it manages comments received in a Privacy Notice available on its website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/planning-inspectorate-privacy-notice/customer-privacy-notice>.

We look forward to receiving your feedback.

Yours sincerely,

Matthew Boulton

Director of Solar, Storage and Private Wire

EDF Renewables UK

