

28 February 2023

Polly Harris-Gorf
Case Officer
Priory Rd
Spalding
PE11 2XE

Dear Polly Harris-Gorf,

H04-0849-22: Proposed development of a photovoltaic solar array, grid connection, access improvement works & ancillary development on land at Bicker Fen, Boston and South Holland

Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust find the submission of the Skylark Habitat Management Plan to be of sufficient detail and quality for us to **lift our holding objection on this application**. We appreciate that our comments were taken on board by the applicant and the requested plans have been implemented to limit the negative effect of this development on ground nesting birds.

We would ask that the developers of this project consider the multitude of solar developments, and the cumulative impacts that are generally not being discussed or strategically planned by the sector, the national representative body or individual developers. As a Trust we support renewable energy production, but we want it delivered in an integrated and strategic manner, which is currently not happening with the onshore solar sector.

Therefore, we would appreciate a more cohesive approach within the sector moving forward and suggest attendance to a workshop we plan to host in 2023. We hope the developers of this project are willing to work with their competitors in a more strategic and integrated manner in regards to such issues as ground nesting birds and ensuring the supply of local provenance seed mixes.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment on this application. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries or need clarification regarding the comments provided.

Yours sincerely

Beth Fox
Conservation Officer

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