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TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

FULL

Reference: H16-0871-24 **Date of Decision:** 8th July 2025

Applicant: EDF Renewables
Alexander House
1 Mandarin Road
Rainton Bridge Business Park
Houghton Le Spring
DH4 5RA

Location: Land Adj Pilgrim'S Pride Limited Fulney Lane North Spalding Lincolnshire

Description: Change of use of agricultural land and development for Solar array of up to 1.64 MWp and associated infrastructure including connection to Pilgrim's Pride Factory adjacent north

South Holland District Council, in pursuance of the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended), hereby give notice that permission has been GRANTED (or equivalent) for the development referred to above, subject to the following condition(s):

- 1 The development must be begun not later than the expiration of three years beginning with the date of this permission.

Reason: As required by Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended by the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

- 2 The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the following approved plans and/or documents:

Drawing 1- Site Location Plan
PILGR-SPALD-401 Rev A - Standard Detail - Deer Fencing/CCTV
PILGR-SPALD-402 Rev A - Standard Detail - Access Gate
PILGR-SPALD-400 Rev B - Standard Detail - PV Array Section
PILGR-SPALD-404 Rev A - Standard Detail - Ring Main Unit

PILGR-SPALD-405 Rev A - Standard Detail - Transformer Station
PILGR-SPALD-ENV-02 - Landscape Mitigation Plan
BIOC 22 -131 | V1.3 - Ecological Impact Assessment
Design and Access Statement - Envams (September, 2024)
June 2024 V2.1 - Landscape and Visual Assessment
June 2024 Version 1.0 - Noise Impact Assessment
12238A Issue 2 - Solar Photovoltaic Glint and Glare Study
B I O C 2 2-1 3 1 | V1 .1 - Biodiversity Net Gain Statement & Assessment
GB01T22186 - Transport Assessment

Reason: For the avoidance of doubt and in the interests of proper planning.

- 3 The development shall adhere to the pre agreed arrangement with the District Network Operator (DNO) to restrict any exports and the energy generated by the Solar Arrays shall be for the purposes of Pilgrims Pride (or any successors), outlined in blue on the site location plan. Only when surplus energy is generated, shall energy be exported into the grid. The LPA retain the right at any time, during the lifetime of this development to request relevant data from the operator to demonstrate that this is the case.

Reason: To define the terms of the permission, in the interest of BMV and Flood Risk.
This Condition is imposed in accordance with Policies 1 & 31 of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan, 2019.

- 4 Notwithstanding the approved plans, no development shall take place until a site plan showing the numbers and location of solar arrays (not exceeding 1.64MWp) has been submitted to and approved in writing with the LPA. The scheme shall be built out and retained in accordance with those agreed details.

Reason: In the interest of archaeology.
This Condition is imposed in accordance with Policy 29 of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan, 2019.

- 5 The development hereby approved shall be carried out in accordance with the Ecological Impact Assessment (biodiverse) at all times.

Reason: In the interests of protected species.
This Condition is imposed in accordance with Policy 28 of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan, 2019.

- 6 No development shall take place until a Construction Ecological Management Plan has first been submitted to and agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The management plan approved shall thereafter be adhered to during the course of construction activities.

Reason: In the interests of protected species.
This Condition is imposed in accordance with Policy 28 of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan, 2019.

- 7 The development hereby permitted shall not commence until a biodiversity gain plan has been submitted to and approved in writing, by the Local Planning Authority. The development shall then be carried out in accordance with the details as approved.

Reason: To comply with Schedule 7A of the Town and Country Planning Act (1990, as amended).

This Condition is imposed in accordance with Schedule 7A of the Town and Country Planning Act (1990, as amended) and Policy 28 of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan, 2019.

- 8 Prior to any vegetation clearance (defined as the deliberate removal of any semi-natural vegetative habitat e.g., grassland, trees, and native shrubs); or prior to the commencement of any development hereby permitted (whichever comes first); a written 30-year Habitat Management and Maintenance Plan (HMMP) for the Site in question shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

The approved HMMP shall be strictly adhered to and implemented in full for its duration and shall contain:

A) Aims, objectives and targets for management, including habitat target conditions matching the Statutory Biodiversity Metric submitted with the application.

B) Details of the phasing and implementation of the habitats

C) Details of the management operations necessary to achieving aims and objectives.

D) Preparation of a works schedule, including timescales for habitat clearance and habitat creation and/or enhancement.

E) Details of the monitoring needed to measure the effectiveness of management and details of an assessment as to whether the target condition is achieved within the time to target period specified within the approved metric.

F) Details of the persons responsible for the implementation and monitoring.

G) Mechanisms of adaptive management and remedial measures to account for changes in the work schedule to achieve required targets.

H) Reporting on the delivery of on-site gains on years 1, 2, 5, 10, 20 and 30 following the implementation of the habitats in accordance with the above details.

Reason: To meet the requirements in delivering the Mandatory Biodiversity Net Gain and to ensure net gain in biodiversity is provided on site.

This Condition is imposed in accordance with Schedule 7A of the Town and Country Planning Act (1990, as amended) and Policy 28 of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan, 2019.

- 9 No development shall take place until a written scheme of archaeological investigation has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. This scheme should include the following and should be in accordance with the archaeological brief supplied by the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment advisor on behalf of the Local Planning Authority:

1. An assessment of significance and proposed mitigation strategy (i.e. preservation by record, preservation in situ or a mix of these elements).
2. A methodology and timetable of site investigation and recording
3. Provision for site analysis
4. Provision for publication and dissemination of analysis and records
5. Provision for archive deposition
6. Nomination of a competent person/organisation to undertake the work
7. The scheme to be in accordance with the Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook.

The archaeological site work shall only be undertaken in accordance with the approved written scheme.

Reason: To ensure the preparation and implementation of an appropriate scheme of archaeological mitigation in accordance with Section 16 of the National Planning Policy Framework, December 2024. This issue is integral to the development and therefore full details need to be finalised prior to the commencement of works.

This Condition is imposed in accordance with Policy 29 of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan, 2019.

- 10 The applicant shall notify the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Department in writing of the intention to commence at least fourteen days before the start of archaeological work required in connection with Condition 9 above in order to facilitate adequate monitoring arrangements.

Reason: To ensure satisfactory archaeological investigation and retrieval of archaeological finds in accordance with Section 16 of the National Planning Policy Framework, December 2024.

This Condition is imposed in accordance with Policy 29 of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan, 2019.

- 11 A copy of the final report required in connection with Condition 9 above shall be submitted to the Local Planning Authority and the Lincolnshire Historic Environment Record, within three months of the work being carried out.

The material and paper archive required as part of the written scheme of investigation shall be deposited with an appropriate archive in accordance with guidelines published in The Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook.

Reason: To ensure satisfactory arrangements are made for the recording of possible archaeological remains in accordance with Section 16 of the National Planning Policy Framework, December 2024.

This Condition is imposed in accordance with Policy 29 of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan, 2019.

- 12 Prior to the first use of this site noise ratings for the transformer unit shall be submitted to and approved by the LPA. If any mitigation is required, these methods shall be implemented prior to the first use and retained for the lifetime of the development.

Reason: In the interests of amenity.

This Condition is imposed in accordance with Policy 30 of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan, 2019 and Section 14 of the National Planning Policy Framework, December 2024.

- 13 Before any development beyond oversite is commenced, full details of the means of surface water disposal shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The details so approved shall be implemented in full before the development hereby permitted is first brought into use and retained thereafter for the life time of the permission.

Reason: To ensure that the site is adequately drained, to avoid pollution, and to prevent increased risk of flooding.

This Condition is imposed in accordance with Policies 2, 3 and 30 of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan, 2019 and Section 14 of the National Planning Policy Framework, December 2024.

- 14 The development hereby permitted shall be undertaken in accordance with a Construction Management Plan and Method Statement that shall first be submitted to, and approved in writing by, the Local Planning Authority.

The Construction Management Plan and Method Statement shall indicate measures to mitigate against the adverse impacts of vehicle movements and vehicle parking and shall include;

- the phasing of the development to include access construction;
- the parking of vehicles of site operatives and visitors;
- the loading and unloading of plant and materials;
- the storage of plant and materials used in constructing the development;
- wheel washing facilities;
- Prevention of mud of the highway
- a strategy stating how surface water run off on and from the development will be managed during construction

Reason: In the interests of the safety and free passage of those using the adjacent public highway and to ensure that the permitted development is adequately drained without creating or increasing flood risk to land or property adjacent to, or downstream of, the permitted development during construction.

This Condition is imposed in accordance with Policies 2, 3 and 4 of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan, 2019.

- 15 The scheme of landscaping and tree planting shown on dwg. no. PILGR-SPALD-ENV-02 shall be carried out and completed in its entirety within 12 months of the start of the permission. All trees, shrubs and bushes shall be maintained by the owner or owners of the land on which they are situated for the period of five years beginning with the date of completion of the scheme and during that period all losses, in the opinion of the Local Planning Authority, shall be made good as and when necessary.

Reason: To ensure that the development is adequately landscaped, in the interests of its visual amenity and that of the area in which it is set.

This Condition is imposed in accordance with Policies 2 and 3 of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan, 2019.

- 16 Within 1 month of the date of first export of electricity, confirmation shall be given in writing to the local planning authority of the date of first export to the Pilgrims Pride. The development hereby permitted shall cease on or before the expiry of a 40-year period from the date of the first export of electricity and the Local Planning Authority shall be notified of the cessation of electricity generation and storage in writing no later than 5 working days after the event. The land shall thereafter be restored to its former condition as agricultural land in accordance with a scheme of decommissioning work (the Decommissioning Scheme).

Reason: To define the terms of the permission and to protect the best and most versatile agricultural land.

This Condition is imposed in accordance with Policies 1, 2 and 3 of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan, 2019.

- 17 The Decommissioning Scheme shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority no later than 6 months prior to decommissioning and shall include provision for the dismantling and removal from the site of the solar PV panels, frames, foundations, inverter housings and all associated structures, storage facilities and fencing as well as measures to protect ecology during this period (through a decommissioning ecological management plan). The decommissioning shall be carried out strictly in accordance with the approved scheme.

Reason: To protect the best and most versatile agricultural land.

This Condition is imposed in accordance with Policies 1, 2 and 3 of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan, 2019

- 18 In the event the site ceases to generate and store electricity for supply to Pilgrims Pride, or its successor, for a period of 12 months, an Early Decommissioning Scheme shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority, no later than 3 months from the end of the 12-month period. The scheme shall include the same provisions referred to in Condition 4 and the decommissioning shall be carried out strictly in accordance with the approved scheme.

Reason: To protect the best and most versatile agricultural land

This Condition is imposed in accordance with Policies 1, 2 and 3 of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan, 2019.

- 19 A detailed scheme of construction management to minimise disturbance during the construction process through noise, dust, vibration and smoke shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority before the development commences and the construction process shall be carried out in accordance with the scheme so approved.

Reason: In the interests of the amenity of local residents. This issue is integral to the development and therefore full details need to be finalised prior to the commencement of works. This Condition is imposed in accordance with Policies 2 and 3 of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan, 2019.

- 20 Details of the precautions to be taken to prevent the deposit of mud on public highways by vehicles travelling from the site during construction of the development shall be submitted

to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority before the development commences. These facilities shall include the provision of wheel washing facilities where considered necessary by the Local Planning Authority. These precautions shall be made available before commencement of the construction of the development and be kept available and in full working order until such time as the Local Planning Authority agrees in writing to their withdrawal or the completion of the development.

Reason: In the interests of highway safety during the construction process. This issue is integral to the development and therefore full details need to be finalised prior to the commencement of works. This Condition is imposed in accordance with Policy 3 of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan, 2019.

- 21 Prior to their installation details of any external illumination of buildings and areas of the site including details of luminance and fields of illumination shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The scheme shall be developed in accordance with those agreed details. There shall be no external illumination other than that so approved.

Reason: In the interests of ecology and in the interests of the visual amenity of the overall development, to prevent light pollution and to ensure that the development is adequately lit.

This Condition is imposed in accordance with Policies 2, 3, 28 and 30 of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan, 2019.

- 22 Prior to their installation, details of the proposed boundary treatments, other than those approved by this permission, including a schedule of fencing levels, heights and materials, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority, and the details so approved shall be implemented in full before the development is first brought into use and retained thereafter.

Note: Where levels are raised above existing ground levels, the submission shall be supported by cross-sectional drawings showing the relationship with adjoining uses and buildings to enable the Local Planning Authority to be satisfied that sufficient mitigation measures will be in place.

Reason: In the interests of the character and appearance of the development and the amenity of the area in which it is set including the amenity of nearby occupiers. This Condition is imposed in accordance with Policies 2 and 3 of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan, 2019.

- 23 Notwithstanding the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015 (or any Order revoking and re-enacting that Order with or without modification) no buildings, structures, fences, gates, posts, solar panels, hardstandings, footings, platforms, pavements, bunding, earthworks or other engineering operations shall be constructed, installed, or carried out on site other than in accordance with the details on the approved drawings or details provided to discharge conditions relating to this permission.

Reason: In the interests of the character, landscape and for the amenity of local residents.. This Condition is imposed in accordance with Policies 1, 2 and 3 of the South

Notes:

The Local Planning Authority has acted positively and proactively in determining this application by assessing it against all material considerations, including national guidance, planning policies and representations that have been received during the public consultation exercise, and by identifying matters of concern within the application and negotiating, with the Applicant, acceptable amendments to the proposal to address those concerns. As a result, the Local Planning Authority has been able to grant planning permission for an acceptable proposal.

This decision notice, the relevant accompanying report and the determined plans can be viewed online at <http://planning.sholland.gov.uk/OcellaWeb/planningSearch>

Should unexpected contamination be discovered on the site at any time, the applicant is advised to stop development and to contact the District Council's Environmental Protection department immediately.

The applicant is reminded that it is an offence under the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981 (as amended) to kill, injure, or take (handle) any protected species occupying a place of shelter or protection and also to take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird while that nest is in use or being built. If evidence of bats is found before or whilst the work is carried out you are advised to contact Natural England at their Lincoln office (telephone 03000 603900).

Biodiversity Net Gain

The applicant's attention is drawn to the following Biodiversity Net Gain requirement.

The effect of Paragraph 13 of Schedule 7A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 is that planning permission is deemed to have been granted subject to the "biodiversity gain condition". The effect of this "biodiversity gain condition" is that development granted by this notice must not begin unless:

- (a) a Biodiversity Gain Plan has been submitted to the planning authority, and
- (b) the planning authority has approved the plan, or
- (c) the development is exempt from the biodiversity gain condition.

The planning authority, for the purposes of determining whether to approve a Biodiversity Gain Plan if one is required in respect of this permission would be South Holland District Council.

This permission will require the submission and approval of a Biodiversity Gain Plan and Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan (HMMP before development is begun). This is over and above the information submitted and considered as part of this application, and will be required before development is begun, because none of the statutory exemptions

or transitional arrangements listed below are considered to apply.

For guidance on the contents, in respect of the details that must be submitted and agreed by the Local Planning Authority, prior to the commencement of the consented development, please see the GOV.uk website and Planning Practice Guidance.

Statutory exemptions and transitional arrangements

There are statutory exemptions and transitional arrangements which mean that the biodiversity gain condition does not always apply. These can be found at Paragraph: 003 Reference ID: 74-003-20240214 of the Planning Practice Guidance, which can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/biodiversity-net-gain>.

For clarity, the Local Planning Authority do not consider that any of the exemptions apply in this case. As such, the development hereby permitted will be subject to the biodiversity gain condition.

Irreplaceable habitat

If the onsite habitat includes irreplaceable habitat (within the meaning of the Biodiversity Gain Requirements (Irreplaceable Habitat) Regulations 2024) there are additional requirements for the content and approval of Biodiversity Gain Plans.

For clarity the LPA do Not consider that irreplaceable habitats are present at this site.

The Biodiversity Gain Plan must include, in addition to information about steps taken or to be taken to minimise any adverse effect of the development on the habitat, information on arrangements for compensation for any impact the development has on the biodiversity of the irreplaceable habitat.

The planning authority can only approve a Biodiversity Gain Plan if satisfied that the adverse effect of the development on the biodiversity of the irreplaceable habitat is minimised and appropriate arrangements have been made for the purpose of compensating for any impact which do not include the use of biodiversity credits.

Effect of Section 73(2D) of the 1990 Act

Under Section 73(2D) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) where

(a) a biodiversity gain plan was approved in relation to the previous planning permission ("the earlier biodiversity gain plan"), and

(b) the conditions subject to which the planning permission is granted:

(i) do not affect the post-development value of the onsite habitat as specified in the earlier biodiversity gain plan, and

(ii) in the case of planning permission for a development where all or any part of the onsite habitat is irreplaceable habitat within the meaning of regulations made under paragraph

18 of Schedule 7A, do not change the effect of the development on the biodiversity of that onsite habitat (including any arrangements made to compensate for any such effect) as specified in the earlier biodiversity gain plan.

- the earlier biodiversity gain plan is regarded as approved for the purposes of paragraph 13 of Schedule 7A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) in relation to the planning permission.



Phil Norman
Assistant Director - Planning and Strategic Infrastructure
South Holland District Council

BUILDING REGULATIONS:

This decision refers only to planning permission as granted under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. The works that you are proposing may also require Building Regulations and this planning permission does not give authority under Building Regulations to commence work. Please contact the Building Control section for further information on 01775 764557 or bcadmin@sholland.gov.uk

RIGHTS OF APPEAL

Appeals to the Secretary of State

If you are aggrieved by the decision of your Local Planning Authority to refuse permission for the proposed development or grant consent subject to conditions, then you can appeal to the Secretary of State under Section 78 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 or Section 20 of the Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.

Timescales for appealing

The deadlines for appeals are calculated from the **date of decision** and are as follows for the types of applications below:

12 Weeks	6 Months	8 Weeks
Householder Applications	Planning Permission	Consent to Display Adverts
Minor Commercial Development	Listed Building Consent	
Agricultural Determinations	Other Prior Approval Applications	
Householder Prior Approval Applications		

<https://www.gov.uk/appeal-householder-planning-decision>

<https://www.gov.uk/appeal-planning-decision>

If you intend to submit an appeal that you would like examined by inquiry then you must notify the Local Planning Authority and Planning Inspectorate (inquiryappeals@planning-inspectorate.gov.uk) at least 10 days before submitting the appeal. Further details are on GOV.UK.

Enforcement Notices

If an enforcement notice was served prior to the planning application being determined then the deadline for appealing is 28 days from the date of the **planning refusal**.

If an enforcement notice is served after the planning application is determined then the deadline for appealing is 28 days from the date of the **enforcement notice OR the timescales stated above for each application type** from the date of the planning refusal - whichever is sooner.

Appeals can be made online at: <https://www.gov.uk/planning-inspectorate>. If you are unable to access the online appeal form, please contact the Planning Inspectorate to obtain a paper copy of the appeal form on tel: 0303 444 5000.

The Secretary of State can allow a longer period for giving notice of an appeal but will not normally be prepared to use this power unless there are special circumstances which excuse the delay in

giving notice of appeal.

The Secretary of State need not consider an appeal if it seems to the Secretary of State that the Local Planning Authority could not have granted planning permission for the proposed development or could not have granted it without the conditions they imposed, having regard to the statutory requirements, to the provisions of any development order and to any directions given under the order.

Purchase Notices

If either the Local Planning Authority or the Secretary of State refuses permission to develop land or grant it subject to conditions the owner may claim that he can neither put the land to a reasonably beneficial use in its existing state nor can he render the land capable of a reasonably beneficial use by the carrying out of any development which has been or would be permitted.

In these circumstances the owner may serve a purchase notice on the Council in whose area the land is situated. This notice will require the Council to purchase his interest in the land in accordance with the provisions of the Part VI of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 or Section 32 of the Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.

Compensation

In certain circumstances compensation may be claimed from the Local Planning Authority if permission is refused or granted subject to conditions by the Secretary of State on appeal or on reference of the application to him.

These circumstances are set out in Section 114 and related provisions of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and Section 27 of the Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.