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Our Reference: 24/00161/FUL
Date: 4 June 2025

Andrew Mott
By Email



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Dear Sir/Madam

Reference Number: 24/00161/FUL

Applicant: Exagen Development Ltd

Development: Construction, operation and subsequent decommissioning of a renewable energy park comprising ground mounted 49.9MW Solar PV with co-located battery energy storage system (BESS) at the point of connection, together with associated infrastructure, access, landscaping and cabling.

Location: Land West Of Bradmore Road And North of Wysall Road Land West of Wysall Wysall

Town and County Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017.

Request for Screening Opinion in respect of a Construction, operation and subsequent decommissioning of a renewable energy park comprising ground mounted Solar PV with co-located battery energy storage system (BESS) at the point of connection, together with associated infrastructure, access, landscaping and cabling.

The reason for this decision (statement as required under Reg. 5(5) of the EIA Regulations 2017) is that the development proposals have been assessed in relation to the selection criteria for screening Schedule 2 development as set out in Schedule 3 of the EIA Regulations 2017. It is considered that the Borough Council has sufficient information to allow it to adopt a screening opinion in respect of the proposed development identified above. I can confirm that, based on the information submitted the Local Planning Authority is of the opinion that the submission of an Environmental Statement in connection with this development at this time is **not required**.

The Local Planning Authority has taken into account the size and nature of the proposed development, the location of the potential development site and the likely impact of the proposal on the character and appearance of the area, the potential increase in traffic, the potential effects on biodiversity, heritage assets, hydrology (including flood risk), land contamination, noise and air quality, and the potential cumulative impacts on the local area.

It is not considered that the proposed development constitutes Schedule 1 development as defined in the Regulations.

It is considered that the development falls within the Schedule 2 list of developments under category 3 – Energy Industry, part a) Industrial installations for the production of electricity, steam and hot water. The scale of the development exceeds that set out in Column 2 and therefore the proposal requires screening and the Borough Council must take into account the criteria in Schedule 3 of the 2017 Regulations.

Schedule 3 set outs the criteria against which developments should be assessed to establish

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whether the proposal is likely to have significant effects on the environment, having regard to;

- Characteristics of development
- Location of development
- Characteristics of potential impacts

It is not considered that the site is located within a sensitive area for the purposes of Environmental Assessment as set out in the Regulations.

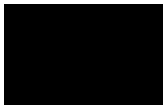
To assist consideration of this screening opinion, the Borough Council has used the screening checklist as recommended by the National Planning Practice Guidance on Environmental Impact Assessments.

Having considered the above it is not considered that the proposal constitutes EIA development, the reasons for coming to this decision are set out in the attached Screening Checklist.

This screening opinion relates only to the EIA regulations and does not imply that a favourable recommendation or decision will be forthcoming. I am sure that you are aware that the Council is able, in exceptional cases, to request an EIA at a later stage should it subsequently become evident that such a proposal does require such an accompanying submission.

Should you have any further queries at this stage please do not hesitate to contact the case officer (Gareth Elliott) on the above number.

Yours sincerely

A black rectangular box used to redact the signature of the Team Manager.

Team Manager – Area Planning (West)