

[Sec.21 exemption – Information accessible to the applicant by other means – draft WP1 literature review document previously released under FOI 15722]

From: Reed, Eleanor [Redacted s.40]

Sent: 19 October 2021 17:10

To: Rugg, Ian (E&M - Landscapes, Nature & Forestry) [Redacted s.40]; Holloway, Julie [Redacted s.40]; Shaw, Gill [Redacted s.40]

Cc: Williams, Arwel (E&M - Landscapes, Nature & Forestry) [Redacted s.40]; McCullough, Paul (E&M - Landscapes, Nature & Forestry) [Redacted s.40]; Porter, Helen (E&M - Landscapes, Nature & Forestry) [Redacted s.40]; Hannam, J [Redacted s.40]

Subject: RE: Impact of solar PV sites on land and soil R&D - Version 2 for comment

Hi Ian,

I have gone thorough the revised report and would agree that the majority of comments from the previous version have been considered and are reflected in this new version.

The report provides a good summary of the current understanding of the impact of solar PV on agricultural land and soils. The addition of personal experience from ADAS staff adds additional context to the report which is good to understand.

I would agree with your comments Ian, particularly regarding the need to expand the minerals section.

My only additional comment would be the need for additional clarification in Section 3.1 (pg 6) and again in the Conclusions. The section needs to highlight that the ALC system is the same for England and Wales; but that the currently available mapping differs, so that at present, only the Provisional ALC mapping is available for England.

Comments added to the report (v2) as attached.

Thanks
Eleanor

Dr Eleanor Reed
Senior Environmental Specialist – Soils
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[Redacted s.40]

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- Stay home. Protect the NHS. Save lives.



From: Ian Rugg [Redacted s.40]

Sent: 19 October 2021 11:39

To: Holloway, Julie [Redacted s.40]; Reed, Eleanor [Redacted s.40]; Shaw, Gill [Redacted s.40]

Cc: Arwel Williams [Redacted s.40]; Paul McCullough [Redacted s.40]; Helen Porter [Redacted s.40]; J Hannam [Redacted s.40]

Subject: Impact of solar PV sites on land and soil R&D - Version 2 for comment

Importance: High

Hi Julie, Eleanor and Gill

(ccs for info – Arwel for comment)

(Jack – could be useful for the position statement – this is just WP 1 of 4)

Impact of solar PV sites on land and soil R&D - Version 2 for comment

I have recently got the amended version of the WP1 literature review (Version 2 attached) which includes my comments. I've also included the original review email above for comparison of versions.

I think ADAS have addressed nearly all our comments (I compared V1 and V2 line for line) and I've made very few comments on the V2 doc. My main thoughts are:

- 1 The minerals section (3.4) is a bit thin and needs expanding in the way ADAS have done with Section 3.3 preceding.
- 2 The Exec summary has changed quite a bit but I don't think this is a problem.
- 3 I think nearly all our initial comments have been addressed and there is a good reference section with links.
- 4 There is quite a bit of new material included from Version 1 which is good.
- 5 I'm not sure if the issue the benefits of solar PV sites possibly being short lived is covered. A similar issue is could the benefits of solar PV sites be achieved through set aside or simple land use change. This is likely to be covered in other WPs though.

Overall, I am happy with this version. We need to also remember this is only WP1 and much more detail will come in the remaining WPs.

I would be really grateful for your comments, ideally by end of Thursday this week (!) so I can get back to ADAS as soon as possible. This only took me an hour to review, so I don't anticipate this will take you long. Please call if any problems.

Many thanks

Ian

Ian Rugg M.I. Soil Sci.

[Redacted s.40]

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