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**FAO:** Ms Katie Fowler

**Our ref:** NH/23/00828

**Your ref:** 23/00285/FUL

**Site:** Chelmsford Road Rawreth Essex

**Proposal:** Installation of a solar farm with battery storage and associated infrastructure land south of National Grid

Dear Katie

Thank you for your email of 26 April 2023 about the consultation referenced above. National Highways was appointed by the Secretary of State for Transport as a strategic highway company under the provisions of the Infrastructure Act 2015 and is the highway authority, traffic authority and street authority for the Strategic Road Network (SRN). The SRN is a critical national asset and as such we work to ensure that it operates and is managed in the public interest, both in respect of current activities and needs as well as in providing effective stewardship of its long-term operation and integrity.

National Highways are interested in whether there would be any adverse safety implications or material increase in queues and delays on the SRN as a result of the proposed development, in this case on the M25.

We are satisfied that, due to its distance from the network, this development will not materially affect the safety, reliability and/or operation of the strategic road network (the tests set out in DfT Circular 01/2022, and MHCLG NPPF 2021 paragraphs 110-113) in this location and its vicinity. Accordingly, we offer No Objection as set out in the attached National Highways Planning Response.

If you have any questions about our response, please feel free to contact us via [planningse@nationalhighways.co.uk](mailto:planningse@nationalhighways.co.uk).

Kind regards

Diana

**Diana Ngobi, Assistant Spatial Planner**

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