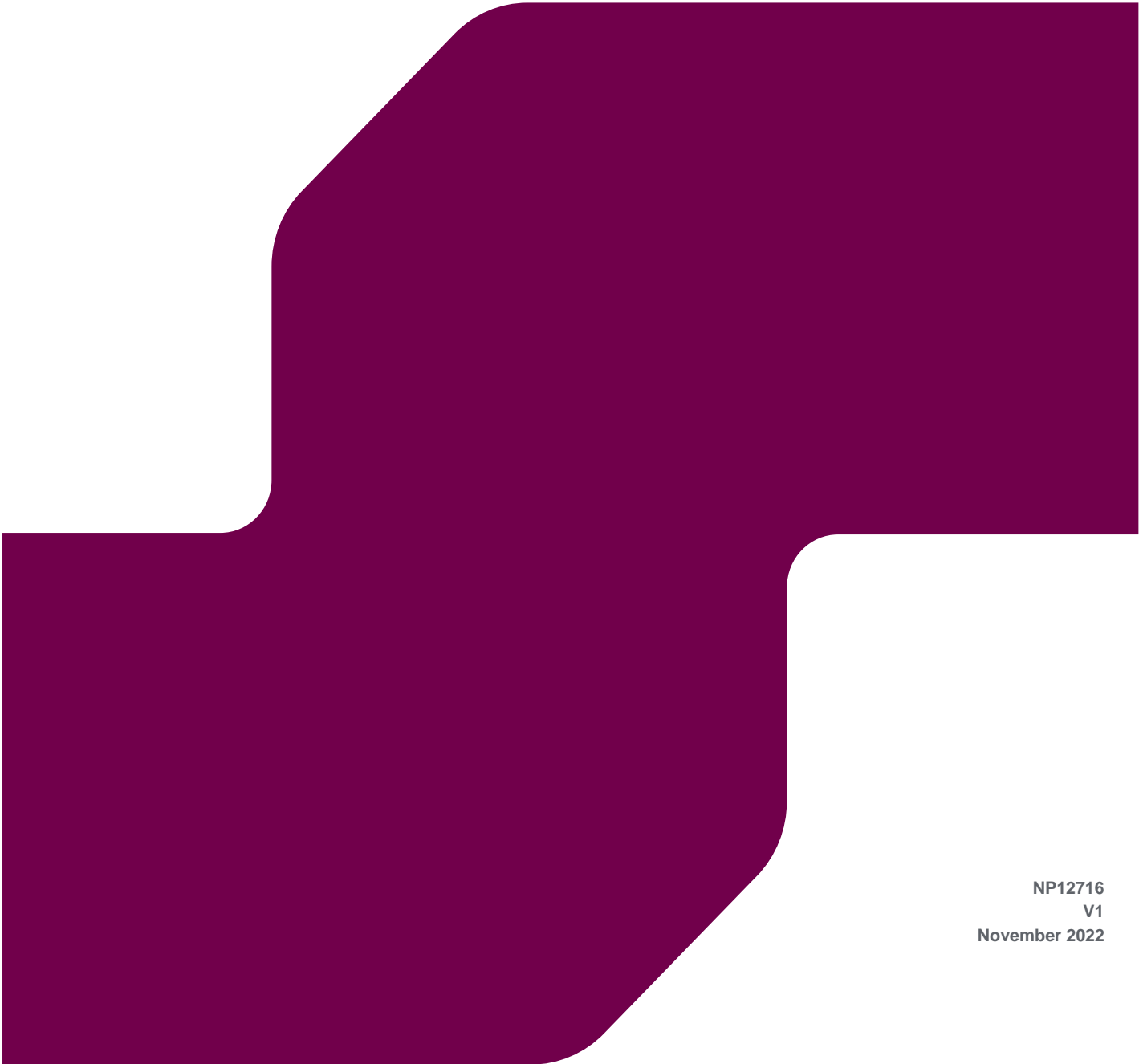


BERDEN HALL FARM SOLAR FARM

Environmental Statement Appendix 1.12 Statement of Expertise



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V1
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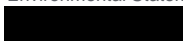
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1 STATEMENT OF EXPERTISE

RPS

EIA Management

- 1.1 RPS is a member of the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessments (IEMAs) Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Quality Mark. This means that RPS adheres to the following quality mark commitments.
- EIA Management – We commit to using effective project control and management processes to deliver quality in the EIAs we co-ordinate and the Environmental Statements we produce.
 - EIA Team Capabilities – We commit to ensuring that all our EIA staff have the opportunity to undertake regular and relevant continuing professional development.
 - EIA Regulatory Compliance – We commit to delivering Environmental Statements that meet the requirements established within the appropriate UK EIA Regulations.
 - EIA Context and Influence – We commit to ensuring that all EIAs we co-ordinate are effectively scoped and that we will transparently indicate how the EIA process, and any consultation undertaken, influenced the development proposed and any alternatives considered.
 - EIA Content – We commit to undertaking assessments that include: a robust analysis of the relevant baseline; assessment and transparent evaluation of impact significance; and an effective description of measures designed to monitor and manage significant effects.
 - EIA Presentation – We commit to deliver Environmental Statements that set out environmental information in a transparent and understandable manner.
 - Improving EIA Practice – We commit to enhance the profile of good quality EIA by working with IEMA to deliver a mutually agreed set of activities, on an annual basis, and by making appropriate examples of our work available to the wider EIA community.
- 1.2 Peter Ireland MA, D.Phil managed the EIA and authored the introductory chapters and the chapter on other environmental matters. Peter is a Senior Director at RPS and has more than 30 years' experience managing and/or directing EIA's for a wide range of developments for public and private sector clients, particularly highway infrastructure and energy related projects in sensitive environments including National Parks. He has prepared and given expert witness at a number of planning inquiries and arbitrations on EIA matters. For 5 years he also taught EIA processes and procedures at Anglia Ruskin University in Cambridge.

Topic Authors

Landscape and Visual Effects

- 1.3 Christopher McDermott (Sightline Landscape) has degrees in Botany and Landscape Design and has been a Chartered Landscape Architect and Member of the Landscape Institute for over 35 years. He has been a director of Sightline Landscape since 2013. He is competent in undertaking landscape and visual impact assessments for Environmental Statements for a wide range of development types, often in highly sensitive landscapes, such as National Parks and World Heritage Sites. He has undertaken such work for local authorities, commercial clients, governments and international organisations such as UNESCO.

Historic Environment

- 1.4 This chapter has been prepared by Susana Parker (Archaeology) and Georgie Picket (Built Heritage).
- 1.5 Susana Parker is an Associate Director at RPS and has been a registered professional of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists since 2005 (17 years). Susana is also a professionally registered Practitioner of the Institute for Environmental Management and Assessment. Susana is experienced in writing archaeological and historic environment desk-based assessments and ES chapters, as well as undertaking setting assessments for listed buildings, scheduled monuments, registered parks and gardens and historic battlefields. Susana is experienced in negotiating and implementing appropriate and proportionate scopes of work for mitigation, producing written schemes of investigation, and managing contractors, to enable and discharge of planning conditions in a range of sectors, including education, energy and leisure, and property (residential and commercial).
- 1.6 Georgie Picket is an Associate Director at RPS and a Member of the Royal Town Planning Institute. Georgie has a wide range of experience and has acted on behalf of clients throughout the UK where proposals have the potential to impact the historic built environment. Her experience includes works to listed buildings, new development within Conservation Areas and large-scale development within the setting of numerous heritage assets. Georgie has also prepared Proofs of Evidence for Public Inquiries and submitted written representation Planning Appeals. Her dual planning and heritage qualifications allow her to take a holistic view of development proposals and identify public benefits and potential mitigation strategies.

Ecology and Nature Conservation

- 1.7 This chapter has been prepared by Matt Fasham, BSc (Hons) Environmental Sciences, MSc Applied Ecology and Conservation, CIEEM, CEnv.
- 1.8 Matt is an ecologist with 25 years' experience working in the professional sector. He is experienced in a range of ecological surveys and has many years' experience of survey design and implementation, ecological impact assessment, ecological mitigation design and ecological management planning. He has worked on a broad range of projects covering small-scale developments to major infrastructure projects and has written ecology chapters for a number of Environmental Statements. Matt holds a Natural England license for great crested newt, is a full member of CIEEM and a Chartered Environmentalist.
- 1.9 The Ecology and Nature Conservation chapter has been reviewed by Mike Barker, BSc (Hons), MSc, FCIEEM, CEnv. Mike has over 30 years' experience, during which time he has secured the skills and technical knowledge required to lead major project works through the UK. He is competent in undertaking ecological impact assessments for Environmental Statements for a wide range of development types, often involving highly protected designated sites and species. Working within the wider RPS team, Mike provides expert ecological support and advice on a range of projects, including residential, commercial, industry and energy schemes, as well as Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects.

Technical Assessment Authors

Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage

- 1.10 Jonathan Morley is the Associate Director for Hydrology on the project. Jonathan has over 14 years' experience, during which time he has secured the skills and technical knowledge required to lead major project works through the UK. Working within the wider RPS team, Jonathan provides expert hydrological, flood risk, drainage and geological support and advice on a range of

projects, including residential, commercial, industry and energy schemes, as well as Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects.

Noise

- 1.11 The noise impact assessment, modelling and report production (Appendix 1.7) was undertaken by Stephen Hale BSc (Hons) and Christina Ioannidou MSc Acoustics MIOA.
- 1.12 Stephen is an Acoustic Consultant and Sound Insulation specialist with over seven years' experience. He has a First-Class Bachelor of Science Degree in Sound Engineering and also has an Institute of Acoustics Certificate of Confidence in Environmental Noise Measurement. He has been a member of the IOA since 2016.
- 1.13 Stephen has provided input into Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) and undertaken noise assessments to support planning applications and discharge planning conditions for a variety of developments including solar farms. He has a Continuous Professional Development (CPD) Record to support this competency and experience. Stephen has been involved BS 4142 noise assessments for both the previous and current 2014 version of BS 4142 and is deemed competent for BS 4142 assessments.
- 1.14 Christina is a Principal Acoustic Consultant and environmental acoustics specialist with more than seven years' experience. She has an Electrical and Computer Engineering Degree Bachelor and Master's Degree and has also a Master's Degree in Engineering Acoustics. She has been a member of the Institute of Acoustics since 2015.
- 1.15 Christina has provided input into Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) since 2015 for residential, industrial, educational and mixed-use developments (including residential, hotel, commercial uses). She has also undertaken noise assessments to support planning applications and discharge planning conditions. She has a Continuous Professional Development (CPD) Record to support this competency and experience. Christina has been involved BS 4142 noise assessments for both the previous and current 2014 version of BS 4142 and is deemed competent for BS 4142 assessments.
- 1.16 Lise W. Tjellesen MSc Acoustics MIOA, was responsible for the review of the report. Lise is Technical Director of the RPS Acoustics Team with 20 years of experience in acoustics. She is a specialist acoustic consultant with a wide range of experience gained in the UK, Denmark and worldwide. She has worked with electroacoustics, psychoacoustics, architectural acoustics, vibrations and environmental acoustics. She has gained particular experience in the fields of architectural acoustics (building and room) working with the construction industry on a variety of projects, including residential, commercial, education, health and entertainment.
- 1.17 Lise is an expert on the subject of room acoustics and room acoustic computer simulations, as well as a leading expert on the emerging field of archaeoacoustics. She has published several papers on the above subjects and on acoustics of offices. Lise has been involved in many BS 4142 noise assessments for both the previous and current 2014 version of BS 4142. She has given evidence at public inquiries where BS 4142 has been the primary assessment methodology. On the basis of Lise's overall experience in acoustics (particularly in relation to environmental noise) combined with particular focus on BS 4142, she is deemed competent for BS 4142 assessments.