



19 June 2026

Sent electronically

Dear Lucy Rutter-Dowd,

PL/2026/03088 National Trust Estates, High Street, Avebury, SN8 1RF

Thank you for consulting the Stonehenge and Avebury World Heritage Site (WHS) Coordination Unit on this full planning permission application for the installation of two solar powered parking terminals, associated solar power set up and four wooden signposts.

This application takes place within the Avebury part of the Stonehenge, Avebury and Associated Sites WHS. The role of the WHS Coordination Unit is to monitor the impact of all development on the Attributes of Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) as inscribed by UNESCO to maintain the Integrity and Authenticity of the WHS and its setting. For full details of OUV please refer to the Stonehenge, Avebury and Associated Sites WHS Management Plan (2015)¹.

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) recognises at paragraph 202 that WHS are among assets of the highest significance and Policy 59 in the Wiltshire Core Strategy underlines that precedence should be given to the protection of the WHS and its setting.

A description of setting can be found in Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) 'Setting of the Stonehenge, Avebury and Associated Sites World Heritage Site'², adopted by Wiltshire Council in October 2025.

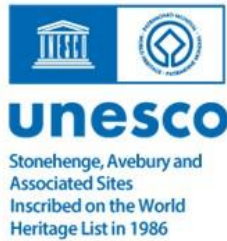
We have focused our assessment on the 4m column with solar panel and starlink satellite, as the other aspects of the proposal present no perceptible change. Introducing a modern feature into the landscape has the potential to impact the setting of individual monuments and be perceptible in the periphery of significant long ranging views within the landscape.

The setting assessment of impact to designated assets is welcomed. The Heritage Setting Assessment describes how:

- The proposal lies 200 m south-west of Avebury Henge and stone circles (NHLE: 1015546) and would not be directly visible from within the stone circles. Any views would be limited, fleeting and filtered by vegetation, and experienced within an existing context of modern infrastructure. As a result the proposed development would give rise to a minor change in the setting of Avebury Henge and Stone Circles.
- The proposed development in the car park lies approximately 800m north the Round Barrow Cemetery at Waden Hill (NHLE: 1008216) and would be perceived at a long distance within the context of existing modern car park infrastructure resulting in a minimal visual presence.

¹ [Stonehenge and Avebury WHS Management Plan 2015](#)

² [Setting of the Stonehenge, Avebury and Associated Sites World Heritage Site Supplementary Planning Document \(2025\)](#)



In our assessment we note that the location has been selected to minimise impact in a topographically low point, with tree planting around much of the car park's boundaries. The proposal is not within the direct line of sight of, and would not impact the spatial relationships between, the prehistoric monuments of the WHS, and as such does not impact Attribute 5 of OUV. Where experienced in tangential or in long range views, the slim nature of the column and its brown nonreflective finish mean that its perceptibility will be minor. Due to the solar panel's limited size, non-reflective glass screen, and orientation side-on to the henge, there is none to minimal risk of impact from glint and glare.

In Summary

The proposal presents the potential for a minor change to the setting the Scheduled Monuments identified in the Heritage Setting Assessment through the introduction of a modern feature within the landscape.

However, with the screening of trees, the slim nature and recessive colour of the column, and reversible nature of the proposal, it is our assessment that this change presents none to negligible impact to the WHS's Attributes of OUV and as such we have no further comment on this application.

For comment regarding buried archaeology, please consult with Wiltshire Council Archaeology Service.

Yours sincerely,

Claire Selman, Partnership Manager

Stonehenge & Avebury World Heritage Site Coordination Unit

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