



Adequacy of Consultation Representation Proforma

Under *Section 55(4)(b) of the Planning Act 2008* (as amended) (PA2008) the Planning Inspectorate, on behalf of the Secretary of State, must take any adequacy of consultation representation (AoCR) received from a local authority consultee into account when deciding whether to accept an application for development consent, and this will be published should the application be accepted for examination.

An AoCR is defined in s55(5) in PA2008 as “a representation about whether the applicant complied, in relation to that proposed application, with the applicant’s duties under sections 42, 47 and 48”.

Project name	Beacon Fen Energy Park
Date of request	9 April 2025
Deadline for AOCR	23 April 2025
Return to	BeaconFen@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Please complete the proforma outlining your AoCR on the above NSIP.

Local Authority	Lincolnshire County Council
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In the opinion of the local authority, has the applicant complied with the legislative requirements listed below?

Please note that this is specifically about the statutory consultation(s) undertaken.

Assessment of Compliance - Required	
S42 Duty to consult	Yes
S47 Duty to consult local authority	Yes
S48 Duty to publicise	Yes

If you would like to give more detail on any of the above, please do so below.

Please keep it as succinct as possible and refer to facts and evidence related to consultation, rather than the merits of the application.



Additional comments - <i>Not compulsory</i>	
S42 Duty to consult	<p>There has been engagement between the Beacon Fen project team and LCC throughout the pre-application process. The Applicant commenced early engagement with LCC from February 2023. Regular meetings with the project team and LCC's planning lead have taken place during the pre-application process, occurring approximately every one or two months. There have also been a number of technical meetings and engagement with other specialist council officers in relation to highway, public rights of way and archaeology (including site visits to observe the trenching works) matters. LCC's landscape consultants have also been consulted on the selection of viewpoints and photomontage locations.</p> <p>The applicant conducted a period of non-statutory engagement which ran from May to June 2023.</p> <p>The County Council responded to the EIA Scoping Request from the Planning Inspectorate and raised issues relating to waste and accidents and disasters proposed to be scoped out.</p> <p>Lincolnshire County Council is a host authority to the Beacon Fen Energy Park scheme. The Council received notification of the statutory consultation on 16 January 2024. The consultation ran from 22 January 2024 to 3 March 2024 and allowed six weeks for consultation responses rather than the minimum 28-day period.</p>
S47 Duty to consult local authority	<p>The applicant produced a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC). Lincolnshire County Council has been given the opportunity to review and provide feedback on the draft SoCC, and our feedback was considered prior to the commencement of statutory consultation (PEIR) in January 2024.</p> <p>The applicant held several public consultation events during the consultation period and offered various methods for responses to be received, in accordance with the SoCC.</p>
S48 Duty to publicise	<p>The applicant has publicised the scheme in line with S48.</p>



Any other comments	<p>Lincolnshire County Council considers that Beacon Fen Energy Park has carried out adequate pre-application consultation in line with Sections 42, 47 and 48 of the 2008 Planning Act.</p> <p>LCC provided a response to the Adequacy of Consultation Milestone request from the applicant on 6 December 2024. Following this response the applicant met with the Council's planning lead on 15 January 2025 and provided a fuller project update and progress on scheme design. A further meeting to discuss the draft DCO in respect of Highway matters was held with the Council's planning lead and Highway Officers on 5 March 2025.</p>
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