

**APPLICATION FOR A DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER FOR THE
PROPOSED BEACON FEN ENERGY PARK (APPLICATION
REFERENCE: EN010151)**

**NOTIFICATION OF PRELIMINARY MEETING, ISSUE SPECIFIC
HEARING AND OPEN-FLOOR HEARING**

**RULE 13(6) INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (EXAMINATION
PROCEDURE) RULES 2010**

SECTIONS 91 AND 93 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008

Notice is hereby given that, at the dates, times and locations set out below, the Issue Specific and Open Floor Hearings will be held by the Examining Authority (on behalf of the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero ('the 'Secretary of State')) for the examination of the application made by Beacon Fen Energy Park Limited (company number 13347752) of Stirling Square, 5-7 Carlton Gardens, London, England, SW1Y 5AD ('the Applicant') for a Development Consent Order ('DCO') under Sections 14(1)(a), 15(2) and 37 of the Planning Act 2008 ('the Application').

The Application seeks development consent for the construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of a ground-mounted solar photovoltaic ('PV') electricity generation and battery energy storage system ('BESS'), together with associated grid connection infrastructure (the 'Proposed Development'), at an area sited approximately 6.5 km northeast of the village of Sleaford and 2.5 km north of Heckington (the 'Site'). The Site is situated within the administrative areas of North Kesteven District Council, Boston Borough Council and Lincolnshire County Council.

The Application was submitted to the Secretary of State via the Planning Inspectorate on 7 April 2025 and was accepted for examination on 1 May 2025. The Examining Authority was appointed by the Planning Inspectorate, on behalf of the Secretary of State, on 10 July 2025 and provided notification on 12 August 2025 of the date of the Preliminary Meeting. The Application has been given the reference number EN010151 which should be quoted in correspondence with the Planning Inspectorate.

Hearing	Date	Time	Venue
Preliminary Meeting	Tuesday 23 September 2025 (AM)	Virtual registration process from: 09:30.	Virtual means using

		Virtual hearing starts: 10:00.	Microsoft Teams.
Open Floor Hearing 1 (OFH1)	Tuesday 23 September 2025 (PM)	Virtual registration process from: 14:30. Virtual hearing starts: 15:00.	Virtual means using Microsoft Teams.
Issue Specific Hearing 1 (ISH1)	Wednesday 24 September 2025 and Thursday 25 September 2025 (if required)	Virtual registration process from: 09:30. Virtual hearing starts: 10:00.	Virtual means using Microsoft Teams.

Interested Parties wishing to speak at a Hearing(s) listed above must register by completing the event participation form by Tuesday 16 September 2025. If you require assistance to register your attendance, please contact the Planning Inspectorate by calling 0303 444 5000 or by email at beaconfen@planninginspectorate.gov.uk and quote the Application reference number: EN010151.

Details regarding how to speak at the Hearings are set out in the Examining Authority's Rule 6 notification available via the Beacon Fen Energy Park Project Information page of the Planning Inspectorate's website (the 'Project Information Page'): <https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010151>

At the direction of the Examining Authority, the above Hearings will be held as virtual only events, and it will be possible to join them via any standard internet browser or alternatively by telephone dial-in. Full instructions on how to join online or by telephone will be provided in advance to those who have registered to speak.

A link to the livestream of the hearings, for those who wish to watch but not speak, will be published beforehand on the Project Information Page. The Hearings will be recorded, and the recordings will be published on the Project Information Page as soon as practicable after each Hearing has taken place.

Further information regarding the Hearings, the examination of the Application, the full timetable, and how and when to make written submissions will also be available on the Beacon Fen Energy Park page

of the Planning Inspectorate's website (link above), or by contacting the Planning Inspectorate (details above).

Summary of the Proposed Development

The Proposed Development comprises the construction, operation (including maintenance), and decommissioning of solar PV arrays and BESS, together with associated infrastructure and an underground cable connection and associated works to the existing Bicker Fen Substation on the National Electricity Transmission System. The Proposed Development would have an electricity generation capacity of approximately 400 megawatts ('MW'), with a 600MW BESS.

The Site is made up of the Solar Array Area (comprising the solar PV and BESS infrastructure) the Cable Route Corridor (comprising the electrical connection from the Solar Array Area to the Bicker Fen Substation) and the Bespoke Access Corridor (for a bespoke access road from the A17 to the Solar Array Area). The Site extends to approximately 758 hectares, of which the Solar Array Area measures approximately 529 hectares. A map showing the location of the Proposed Development can be viewed on the Project Information Page at the following link: <https://nsip-documents.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/published-documents/EN010151-000317-2.1%20Location%20Plan.pdf>

The Application is required because the Project is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project pursuant to sections 14(1)(a) and 15(1) and (2) of the Planning Act 2008, as an onshore generating station in England with a capacity exceeding 50 MW. As such, the decision whether to grant development consent will be made by the Secretary of State.

The DCO, if made, would authorise the compulsory acquisition of land, interests in land and rights over land, and the powers to use land permanently and temporarily. The DCO would also authorise alterations to the layout of streets, the construction of accesses to the Proposed Development, the temporary closure and creation and enhancement of public rights of ways, street works, removal of hedgerows, and the application, disapplication and modification of legislation.

Environmental Impact Assessment

The Proposed Development is Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) development, as defined by the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental

Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 and accordingly an Environmental Statement (ES) accompanies the Application.

Application form and accompanying documents

The Application form and the accompanying documents, plans and maps, including the ES, non-technical summary of the ES, and draft DCO are available to view electronically and download, free of charge, under the 'Documents' tab on the Project Information Page: <https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010151/documents>

The Application documents will be available to view online at least until the Secretary of State makes a decision on whether or not to grant the DCO.

If you require alternative methods for inspecting the Application Documents, please contact the Applicant via the details below.

The full suite of Application Documents can be made available in paper format on request at a cost of £5,000. For any bespoke or specific requests (for example in large print, audio or braille formats) please contact the Applicant. Copies of individual documents are available on request and a reasonable copying charge may apply.

Applicant's Contact Details

The Applicant can be contacted by using the following details:

Freephone: 03300 571943

Email: info@beaconfenenergypark.co.uk

Freepost: FREEPOST BEACON FEN ENERGY PARK (this will be slower than the above methods)

Any details you provide to the Applicant will be subject to its privacy policy linked here: <https://www.beaconfenenergypark.co.uk/privacy-policy/> and will be treated confidentially and processed and handled in accordance with the relevant data protection legislation.

Beacon Fen Energy Park Limited

August 2025