

# B O S T O N BOROUGH COUNCIL

Municipal Buildings, West Street, Boston, Lincolnshire, PE21 8QR

Planning Inspectorate Temple Quay House 2 The Square Bristol, BS1 6PN Date: 12th September 2025

Email: @e-lindsey.gov.uk

Our ref: B/25/0225 Your ref: EN 010151

Dear Sir,

Re: EN 010151 - Beacon Fen Energy Park - Planning Act 2008 - Section 88& 89 and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure Rules) 2010 - Rules 6, 9 and 13. Procedural Deadline A - Response to Rule 6 Letter

The letter sets out the response of Boston Borough Council (BBC) to the Rule 6 Letter published by the Examining Authority (ExA) on the 12<sup>th</sup> August 2025 (PD-003). It is acknowledged that the deadline for comments upon this letter is the Pre-Examination Procedural Deadline of 16 September 2025. This response provides comment on the following matters raised in the letter:

- Draft Examination Timetable.
- Initial Assessment of Principal Issues (IAPI).
- Attendance at Preliminary Meeting/Hearings; and
- Accompanied Site Inspections (ASI) and suggestions for locations to visit.

### **Draft Examination Timetable**

The draft timetable is set out in Annex D of the Rule 6 letter. Although BCC is committed to being engaged in the process and providing resources to cover the commitments of the Examination deadlines, officer resources will be constrained. In light of the above, BBC wishes to raise a point about the draft timetable:

• **Timetabling** - BBC requests that Deadline 5 is extended from 29<sup>th</sup> December 2025 to 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026. This deadline primarily relates to responses to the ExA Written Questions (ExQ2), Answering written questions will be a labour-intensive task (for all parties) and clashes with the Christmas holidays.

BBC requests that the ExA takes the above into consideration when finalising the Examination timetable.

### **Initial Assessment Principal Issues**

BBC notes the list of IAPI presented in Annex C of the Rule 6 letter and understands that it is not a comprehensive or exclusive list of the issues. BBC is broadly in agreement with this list.



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### **Attendance at Preliminary Meeting/Hearings**

BBC wish to attend the PM virtually and will be available to answer the questions raised by the ExA, the OFH1 virtually, but do not wish to speak under any agenda items and the ISH1 virtually and will be available to answer the questions raised by the ExA.

## Locations for an accompanied site inspection

BBC note the unaccompanied site visit undertaken 24<sup>th</sup> July 2025 and the note of USI (PD-002). However, BBC wants to make the following observations on locations for the potential ASI. These would all be available from public land, except that around the Triton Knoll access road.

The locations have been suggested to provide the ExA with a clearer understanding of the issues of concern raised by BBC through the RR particularly the effect of vegetation removal and to better gauge baseline conditions. BBC is happy to provide further details on locations if required.

- Crossing point of the cable corridor at South Forty Foot Drain into the Borough on Timms' Drove at Grid Reference X 519927; Y 341761.
- PROW 2/1 runs adjacent to the existing Substation at Grid Reference X 520206, Y 338486.
- Substation extension Site to the southwest of Bicker Fen Substation on Vicarage Drove at Grid Reference X 519471 Y 338326.
- Triton Knoll access road from the A17 to Bicker Fen Substation viewing the Construction Compound in proximity to White House Farm at Grid Reference X 520027, Y 339137 and the closest residential properties to the Substation and cable corridor.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the case officer Joe O'Sullivan. Many Thanks

Yours Faithfully

Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects Manager