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Applicant
National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc

Your Ref:

Our Ref: EN010151

Date: 13 October 2025

Dear Sir/Madam,

The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 – Rule 17

Application by Beacon Fen Energy Park Limited for an order granting development consent for the Beacon Fen Energy Park Project

Request for further information

I am writing to request further information from the applicant and from National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc (NGET) under Rule 17 of the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 (as amended), following from the applicant's response to the Examining Authority (ExA) ISH1 Action point 7 as detailed in page 52 of 65 of the applicant's deadline 1 submission [[REP1-030](#)].

Action point 7 [[EV2-002](#)] asked for the applicant to provide further information setting out the applicant's case for the proposed development, including the proposed Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), particularly in relation to generating capacity of the proposed development, the overall capacity of the proposed BESS, the capacity of the proposed connection to the Bicker Fen substation and how these three factors will interact in relation to the proposed development, particularly in relation to the use of the BESS.

In its response the applicant confirms that the proposed development will have a generation capacity of approximately 400MW AC under the highest expected irradiance levels, that the applicant has secured a 600MW connection to Bicker Fen Substation and that the capacity of the proposed BESS is 600MW.

The ExA then asked the applicant to clarify how likely it would be that the full capacity of the proposed BESS will be used when it appears, according to the applicant's own data, that the proposed development will not generate enough energy to outstrip the proposed grid connection export capacity and therefore not produce energy surplus for the BESS.

In relation to this point, the applicant clarifies that the energy generated by the main solar development over the course of one day will regularly exceed the energy capacity of the

BESS. The applicant goes on to say that the capacity of renewable energy generation has increased in the UK and so have the number of instances of negative prices (when generation outstrips demand) and that, when prices are negative, the solar array will be incentivised to reduce exports to the grid. The applicant then states that, by developing BESS, the proposed development is able to store energy which otherwise would go to waste and export it to the grid later, when it's needed, thus reducing the need for other (generally polluting and fossil fuelled, or expensive, or both) stand-by generating capacity to be ready to meet peak demand.

Following from the above, the ExA then asks the applicant to please confirm, in light of the above, that its approach is to generate renewable energy via the solar panel array, store it in the proposed BESS, and export it to the grid later when demand is higher?

Further to this, the ExA would also like to ask NGET if it has any comments on the applicant's statement and approach set above? And if NGET welcomes this approach, particularly in relation to the incentivisation to reduce exports to the grid?

Responses should be submitted by **deadline 2 (21 October 2025)**.

Other interested parties may also wish to respond to this request.

Yours faithfully,

Andre Pinto

Andre Pinto
Examining Authority

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