

# 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: 31st October 2025

Email: @e-lindsey.gov.uk

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

Dear Sir,

## Re: EN 010151 - Beacon Fen Energy Park

### Boston Borough Council's - Deadline Three Submission - 31st October 2025.

The letter sets out Boston Borough Council (BBC) response to the Applicants Deadline 2 submissions for the above Project.

#### Introduction

This letter provides a response at Deadline 3 (31 October 2025) from Boston Borough Council (hereafter 'BBC') on the following Deadline 2 submissions by the Applicant:

- REP2-005 draft DCO.
- REP2-007 Explanatory Memorandum.
- REP2-041 Applicant's comments on LIR.
- REP2 -043 Applicant's comments on WR.

The submission should be read in conjunction with the Council's Written Representation and Local Impact Report submitted at Deadline 1 along with BBC response to ExA Q1.

### **Applicants Comments upon WR and LIR**

BBC notes the Applicants Response to WR (REP2-043) and Applicants Response to LIR (REP2-041) with particular regard to Agricultural Land, Landscape and Visual matters including Mitigation, BNG, Socio Economic and Construction Impacts.

Since the last deadline BBC have held meetings with the Applicant in regard to the above matters. However, these discussions are ongoing and BBC intends to update the ExA at future deadlines and via the SoCG process as further progress is made towards reaching agreement on such matters where possible.

### **Draft DCO**

### **Article 23 Discharge of Requirements**

BBC's concern was that the proposed fee structure at article 23 (2) (a) to (c) would not adequately cover the Councils reasonable costs in fulfilling is obligations. BBC notes the



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update in the discharge of requirement fees and welcomes the changes to Article 24 (which was article 23) and the explanation provided within the Explanatory Memorandum at paragraph 9.1.29 that 'the fee structure and fee amounts now reflect the equivalent drafting in the latest version of the Springwell draft DCO.'

BBC are now happy with the level of fee but wishes to understand the rationale behind which requirements are included in each fee bracket. BBC considers that paragraph 24 (2) (a) should include requirements 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 12, 13, 17, 16 and 19. It is however the intention for further discussions to take place on this matter and/or comments to be made through the SoCG process.

## **Article 44 Lopping and Felling of Trees**

BBC's welcomes the changes to Article 44 (which was article 43) with the addition of paragraph (11) within the draft DCO and the explanation provided within the Explanatory Memorandum at paragraph 8.1.18 that 'the power in Article 44 can and must only be exercised in accordance with the requirements set out in Schedule 2 to the Draft DCO, specifically requirements 7, 8 and 12.'

The Change to article 44 and the explanation within the Explanatory Memorandum clarifies BBC concern here.

## **Schedule 2 Part 1 DCO Requirements**

BBC notes the Applicants' comments with regard to the draft Requirements as set out in Schedule 2 part 1 of the draft DCO in response to BBC concerns and thanks the Applicant for their explanation of the use of 'substantially in accordance with'

Since the last deadline BBC have held meetings with the Applicant in regard to the Content of the Requirements as set out at Schedule 2 Part 1 of the draft DCO in regard to an additional requirement for phasing of development, the use of the phrase substantial in accordance with and additional wording to ensure important matters are specifically referred too and those requirements referenced in the WR. However, these discussions are ongoing and BBC intends to update the ExA at future deadlines and via the SoCG process as further progress is made towards reaching agreement on such matters where possible.

#### Conclusions

BBC have been progressing dialogue with the Applicant on topic areas within the Statement of Common Ground (SoCG). Since the last deadline BBC have held meetings with the Applicant in regard to landscape and visual mitigation measures, BNG, BMVAL, Article 44 and Article 23 of the of the draft DCO and the Requirements of the draft DCO.

There are, however, areas of disagreement remaining but the Applicant's commitment to further discussions with BBC is welcomed and BBC intends on reaching agreement in areas where possible.



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BBC wishes to engage proactively with the Applicant to reduce these areas of concern and seek to achieve the best possible outcomes for the local communities and other sensitive receptors that would be most affected by the impacts of the Project.

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

Yours Faithfully

Joe O'Sullivan Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects Manager