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BOROUGH COUNCIL

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

Planning Inspectorate
Temple Quay House
2 The Square
Bristol, BS1 6PN

Date: 12th January 2026
Email: [REDACTED]@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 Six Submission – 12th January 2026.

The letter sets out Boston Borough Council (BBC) response to the Applicants Deadline 5 submissions for the above Project.

Introduction

This letter provides a response at Deadline 6 (12 January 2026) from Boston Borough Council (hereafter 'BBC') on the following Deadline 5 submissions by the Applicant.

- REP5-032 – Outline Soil Management Plan
- REP5-026 – Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan
- REP5-038 – Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment Report

Outline Soil Management Plan

BBC welcomes the Applicants amendments to the Outline Soil Management Plan (OSMP) (REP5-032) that strengthen the Applicants commitment for the reinstatement of Agricultural Land to the baseline soil profile determined by a pre-construction soil survey.

BBC preference would have been for this commitment to also have been included within the wording of Requirement 16 however as BBC are now included as the relevant authority for the discharge of this Requirement it accepts that via the discharge of Requirement process it will be able to ensure the Agricultural Land is reinstated to its baseline soil profile as determined by a pre-construction survey.

Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan

BBC welcomes the Applicants amendments to the Outline Landscape Environmental Management Plan (OLEMP) (REP5-026) that include:

- Commitments to an Ecological Steering Group including funding





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- Commitment to funding towards off site environmental enhancement measures within the Borough.

BBC preference is that the funding element of the Ecological Steering Group and that of the offsite environmental enhancement measures within the Borough is secured via a S106 Agreement rather than Requirement 7.

BBC also consider that the detail of management of and landowner engagement on how the offsite environmental enhancement measures are delivered and managed needs further clarification.

BBC welcomes the strengthening of commitment to:

- the detailed LEMP including Vegetation Removal Plans that must be in accordance with the submitted Vegetation Removal Plans
- the planting detail and the proposed times of such planting and implementation timetable.
- replacement planting that, is removed, dies or becomes seriously damaged or diseased in the first available planting seasons with a specimen of the same species and size as that originally planted

BBC preference would have been for this commitment to also have been included within the wording of Requirement 7 however as BBC are included as the relevant authority for the discharge of this Requirement it accepts that via the discharge of Requirement process it will be able to ensure the required information is in accordance with the submissions.

BBC notes that the Change Request accepted by the ExA introduces new infrastructure (Overhead line and Tower) and a revised OLEMP (CR-016) with a landscape strategy plans (CR-021) as well as revised Vegetation Removal Plans (CR-024).

The Landscape Enhancement Measures included within the Change Request OLEMP (CR-016) and Change Request Landscape Strategy Plans (CR-021) at the existing Bicker Fen Substation are not included within the D5 OLEMP (REP5-026). BBC therefore requests that the OLEMP is updated to avoid confusion and understands that the Applicant will submit an updated OLEMP.

The Landscape Strategy Plan also references areas where vegetation is to be temporarily removed or temporarily lain to aggregate and, in both cases, reinstated. There is also reference to a restoration plan.

BBC's consultation response to the Applicant in respect of the Change Request requested confirmation of the submission of and how a Vegetation Reinstatement Method Statement, in the event that Work No. 5C and 5D are temporarily be lain to hardstanding, be secured in the dDCO. BBC understands a commitment is to included within the OLEMP and secured by Requirement within the dDCO.





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Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment Report

Paragraph 4.8.2 of the ES Addendum (CR-029) in respect of the Change Request confirms additional vegetation loss as 1010 sq m of tree/scrub cover and 20 m length of hedgerow however table 3 of the Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment Report (REP5-038) doesn't appear to take account of the loss. BBC therefore seek clarity from the Applicant whether the BNG Assessment Report is to be updated to take account of the additional loss as a result of the Change Request.

Conclusions

BBC have been progressing dialogue with the Applicant on topic areas within the Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) and intends on reaching agreement in areas where possible. There are, however, areas of disagreement remaining.

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

[Redacted Signature]

[Redacted Name]

Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects Manager

