

By email to:

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Date: 23 February 2026

Dear Sir/Madam

Application by Beacon Fen Energy Park Limited for an Order granting Development Consent for the Beacon Fen Energy Park Project

This letter sets out Lincolnshire County Council's (LCC) comments on the Rule 17 request for further information dated 18 February 2026.

- **the ExA invites all LHAs to comment on Art.51.**

During the examination the Host Local Authorities (HLA's) encouraged the Applicant to identify opportunities to deliver ecological enhancements and biodiversity net gain (BNG) at the Bicker Fen substation which falls within Boston Borough Council's administrative area. Without such a commitment, the majority of ecological enhancement and BNG would be delivered around the solar array area which lies in North Kesteven's administrative area. LCC understands that the future management of land at Bicker Fen substation will be outside of the Applicant's control and considers that funding for a tree planting scheme restricted to Boston Borough Council's administrative area will help to ensure that ecological enhancements and BNG are delivered equitably across all involved HLA areas.

- **how will funding be secured for the delivery of proposals developed by the Beacon Fen ecological steering group and the Stepping Out programme (or successor), considering**

that Art.50 states in paragraph (2) that the monies secured in Art.50 (1)(a), (b) and (c) are for reasonable costs of representatives being part of the Beacon Fen ecological steering group only?

LCC considers that the delivery of ecological mitigation, enhancements and BNG is an integral part of the proposed development and will be secured via the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (REP7-025), Biodiversity Net Gain Strategy (REP7-032) and Requirements 7 and 8 of the draft DCO (REP7-004). It will be the responsibility of the Applicant to ensure that appropriate funding is available to deliver these enhancements along with the rest of the proposed development. The role of the Ecological Steering Group (ESG) will be to provide oversight of the delivery of the secured ecological mitigation, enhancements and BNG, provide advice on how best to address any problems encountered and to identify opportunities for strategic synergies with other projects in the area. Funding for the ESG is therefore required to cover the costs of involvement in the group rather than delivery.

Yours faithfully,

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of Neil McBride.

For Neil McBride
Head of Planning