
FENWICK SOLAR FARM

**Fenwick Solar Farm
EN010152**

Consultation Report Appendix

Appendix O3: Section 42(1)(d) Responses to Statutory Consultation and the Applicant's responses

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Appendix O3: Section 42(1)(d) Responses to Statutory Consultation and the Applicant's responses

A.1 Section 42(1)(d) Responses to Statutory Consultation and the Applicant's responses

A.1.1 The tables provided below evidence the regard had to responses received to the Applicant's statutory consultation in accordance with Section 49 of PA 2008. Please note that respondent comments are featured here verbatim - spelling and grammar have not been amended. Comments were received both via the consultation feedback form, and via email. Personal details have been redacted.

A.1.2 For more information regarding how consultation feedback was collected and analysed, please refer to **Chapter 4** of the **Consultation Report [EN010152/APP/5.1]**.

Table 1: Section 42(1)(d) Responses to Statutory Consultation and the Applicant's responses

| Statutory consultation under Section 42(1)(d) of the Planning Act 2008 with Prescribed Consultees | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|--|----------------------|--|
| Topic area | Sub-topic | Consultation response | Prescribed Consultee | The Applicant's response (including the regard had to the consultation response) |
| Consultation | Consultation promotion | The comments below are based on the information made available in your letter of 17 April 2024, the Fenwick Solar Farm statutory consultation website and information provided verbally during a Teams call with [omitted] as representatives of Boom Power on the 13 May 2024. | Banks Group | The Applicant notes this comment and thanks the respondent for their cooperation when meeting with the Applicant and for their feedback. |
| Landowner | Individual landowner concerns | During the Teams call representatives of Boom Power explained that the routeing for the grid connection linking the proposed solar farm to the Thorpe Marsh Substation was currently intended to run to the east of the RLB and therefore unlikely to interact with HJB's land. | Banks Group | The Applicant notes that the final route for the connection cable will be subject to detailed design and will consider interfaces with this land as detailed route progresses. |
| Traffic | Access routes | In relation to Marsh Lane, we clarified with the representatives of Boom Power that we do own part of the carriageway and that Marsh Lane forms the primary vehicular access to our land at Thorpe Marsh and is the proposed grid and access corridor for the TMGEHL proposal. We were advised that the inclusion of Marsh Lane within the RLB at this stage was to cover the potential that this route may be used by contractors to gain access to the National Grid Substation. It was again confirmed by Boom Power representatives that Marsh Lane was unlikely to be required for cabling or similar works | Banks Group | The Applicant notes this comment and will engage with Banks Group going forward in the event of any changes to the established interface between their assets and the Scheme. |
| Traffic | Access routes | It is important that HJB land and this access corridor is not adversely affected by any access, construction or grid works proposed or undertaken as part of the Boom Energy scheme, such that the land is free for access by HJB and use by TMGEHL for their development proposals | Banks Group | All access proposals are covered within the Framework Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010152/APP/7.17] . |
| N/A | N/A | On the basis of the information provided to us to date, it appears that that the proposed development and grid route is unlikely to have any adverse impact on our land interests within the RLB. We recognise that developments such as the one being proposed here can however be subject to change as they move forward. | Banks Group | The Applicant notes this comment and will engage with Banks Group going forward in the event of any changes to the established interface between their assets and the Scheme. |

| Statutory consultation under Section 42(1)(d) of the Planning Act 2008 with Prescribed Consultees | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|
| Topic area | Sub-topic | Consultation response | Prescribed Consultee | The Applicant's response (including the regard had to the consultation response) |
| Consultation | Further consultation | We therefore request that if any amendments to the proposed development are made resulting in a change or clarification of the position outlined to us during the Teams meeting which results in potential interaction on the access road and / or our landholding that will affect HJB, we and TMGEHL be notified and given the opportunity to provide comment accordingly. | Banks Group | The Applicant notes this comment and will engage with Banks Group going forward in the event of any changes to the Scheme which result in a change to the position discussed with Banks Group in their previous meeting with the Applicant. |
| N/A | N/A | To the extent that HJB are not promoting the proposed development on our land, I can confirm, as landowners, we support and endorse the response to this consultation you have received from TMGEHL / West Burton Energy. | Banks Group | The Applicant notes this comment and thanks the respondent for their feedback. |
| General / other | No comment | Good evening Thank you for confirming. On the basis that you do not hold details of any bp interests identified within the Scheme, we now consider this enquiry closed. | BP Exploration Company Limited | The Applicant notes this comment and thanks the respondent for their feedback. |
| Construction impacts | Interfacing schemes / infrastructure | The underground cable seems like a lot of unnecessary expense, and disruption, when there are pylons within the scheme. | Landowner (ON0008) | There are two options being considered for connecting to the national grid. These are: a. Grid Connection Corridor option – this is an underground corridor in which three 400 kV cables single core AC cables would run for approximately 6.3 km from the from the On-Site Substation to the Existing National Grid Thorpe Marsh Substation. b. Grid Connection Line Drop option – this is where the On-Site Substation would be connected to existing overhead power lines within the Solar PV Site. This option would comprise of below ground cables connecting the On-Site Substation to a new Cable Sealing End Compound at the base of an existing on-site 400 kV overhead line tower within Field SE2. The feasibility of connecting the On-Site Substation via a line drop from existing overhead power lines running north south across the east of the Solar PV Site is being explored. The determination of this option's viability will only be possible after the DCO Application has been granted due to National Grid timelines/workload. Should the Grid Connection Line Drop option be feasible, this would supersede the requirement for Grid Connection Cables exiting the Solar PV site and the Grid Connection Line Drop Cables would be confined to the Solar PV Site; in this event, the associated working areas within the Grid Connection Corridor would no longer form part of the Order Limits or Scheme. |
| Construction impacts | Interfacing schemes / infrastructure | Has a cable route along the railway has been considered. Wires on the outside of the railway poles would balance the weight of the wires cantilevered over the track. | Landowner (ON0008) | Section 3-10 and Table 3-4 of Chapter 3 (Alternatives and Design Evolution) Volume I of the Environmental Statement [EN010152/APP/6.1] summarises the main factors that have determined the selection of the Grid Connection Corridor from the southern extent of the Solar PV Site to the Existing National Grid Thorpe Marsh Substation. The Corridor has been the subject of refinement at different design stages and undergone multi- disciplinary inputs in arriving at the current corridor. |

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|---|---------------------------|--|----------------------|--|
| Topic area | Sub-topic | Consultation response | Prescribed Consultee | The Applicant's response (including the regard had to the consultation response) |
| Socioeconomic | Loss of agricultural land | As a farmer I think farm should be used for farming not solar farms | Landowner (ON0017) | <p>The change from arable agriculture to grassland is temporary, as the land can be returned to arable farming upon decommissioning of the solar farm. The temporary shift from arable to grassland is predicted to result in positive changes to soil structure and soil carbon content. It can also be used for sheep grazing. The change of agricultural land into wildlife habitat is likely to lead to a significant benefit to ecology as reported in Chapter 8 (Ecology) Volume I of the Environmental Statement [EN010152/APP/6.1]. Information about management of the decommission process can be found in the Framework Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan [EN010152/APP/7.9] - this is secured in the draft DCO [EN010152/APP/3.1].</p> <p>As set out in Chapter 12 (Socio-economics) Volume I of the Environmental Statement [EN010152/APP/6.1], 7% of the solar PV site has been identified as Best and Most Versatile Land (BMV land which land is a strategic national resource with protection in planning policy). Impacts on this land will be almost entirely temporary and reversible after operation.</p> <p>Prior to start of construction, a Soil Management Plan will be published (as outlined in the Framework Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010152/APP/7.7], submitted as Framework Soil Management Plan (SMP) [EN010152/APP/7.10]); this will ensure soils are not degraded and farming activities can re-commence following completion of the construction works.</p> |
| Consultation | Further Consultation | The current masterplan shows that my land will be impacted by an access route. I understand the rationale for this as it is the shortest distance and on a straight road with good visibility, but at this stage I have not been provided with detail of how this will impact on my land. Until I receive more detail and proposed terms, I am unable to comment on whether to support this proposal | Landowner (ON0033) | <p>The Applicant is required to comply with the conditions of the Planning Act 2008 when providing information to consultees identified as affected landowners. The Applicant has endeavoured to provide a sufficient degree of information to landowners whose assets are affected by the Scheme throughout the statutory consultation process. If the respondent wishes to review the methodology used by the project Land Referencing team, they are welcome to review Appendix P1-P4 Land Referencing methodology and questionnaires/site notices, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010152/APP/5.2].</p> <p>Furthermore, the Applicant will continue the engagement process with affected landowners throughout the remainder of the DCO process, sharing further information about the effects of the Scheme proposals on landowner's assets as the proposals develop.</p> |
| Traffic | Access routes | How wide is the access track proposed to be and how is it proposed to be used? | Landowner (ON0033) | <p>The accesses will be designed in line with DMRB guidance. Further details of the access are provided in the Framework Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010152/APP/7.17], Section 4.</p> |
| Traffic | Access routes | There is little information on access road construction ("compacted stone tracks with graded slopes"). I would want to know where the stone is coming from and its quality, as well as the process for preparing the land before the stone is laid. My preference is that SJS Agriplant are contracted to construct the access track. | Landowner (ON0033) | <p>Chapter 2 (The Scheme) Volume I of the Environmental Statement [EN010152/APP/6.1] provides information on the creation of internal access tracks within the Solar PV Site with examples provided.</p> <p>As outlined in the Framework Site Waste Management Plan (FSWMP) [EN010152/APP/7.18] the Principal Contractor must maintain a record of all materials that come on to site. The quantity of reused, recycled and secondary aggregate must be recorded, alongside details of the supplier, the producing facility and records that demonstrate that the material meets all relevant technical and regulatory requirements.</p> |

| Statutory consultation under Section 42(1)(d) of the Planning Act 2008 with Prescribed Consultees | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|----------------------|---|
| Topic area | Sub-topic | Consultation response | Prescribed Consultee | The Applicant's response (including the regard had to the consultation response) |
| Consultation | Further Consultation | I have not yet been provided with details of how this project will impact on my land and as such it is difficult to provide comment. | Landowner (ON0033) | The Applicant is required to comply with the conditions of the Planning Act 2008 when providing information to consultees identified as affected landowners. The Applicant has endeavoured to provide a sufficient degree of information to landowners whose assets are affected by the Scheme throughout the statutory consultation process. If the respondent wishes to review the methodology used by the project Land Referencing team, they are welcome to review Appendix P1-P4 Land Referencing methodology and questionnaires/site notices, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010152/APP/5.2] . Furthermore, the Applicant will continue the engagement process with affected landowners throughout the remainder of the DCO process, sharing further information about the effects of the Scheme proposals on landowner's assets as the proposals develop. |
| General / Other | No preference expressed | At this stage I cannot fully support the scheme because of the lack of details, however I am equally not against the project until I get further details around terms of occupation, construction methodology, reinstatement provisions etc. | Landowner (ON0033) | The Applicant is required to comply with the conditions of the Planning Act 2008 when providing information to consultees identified as affected landowners. The Applicant has endeavoured to provide a sufficient degree of information to landowners whose assets are affected by the Scheme throughout the statutory consultation process. If the respondent wishes to review the methodology used by the project Land Referencing team, they are welcome to review Appendix P1-P4 Land Referencing methodology and questionnaires/site notices, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010152/APP/5.2] . Furthermore, the Applicant will continue the engagement process with affected landowners throughout the remainder of the DCO process, sharing further information about the effects of the Scheme proposals on landowner's assets as the proposals develop. |
| Landowner | Landowner | Should my access be used, the land should remain in my ownership. | Landowner (ON0033) | The Applicant notes this comment. |
| Construction impacts | Interfacing schemes / infrastructure | West Burton Energy ("WBE") is the owner and operator of the 1,330MW transmission connected, West Burton Combined Cycle Gas Fired Power Station and the adjacent 49.9MW battery storage project located in Nottinghamshire. WBE acquired the development rights and a land option for a total of 1.45GW battery energy storage system ("BESS") project at Thorpe Marsh from HJB (via its UK Transition Power Holdings entity) in October 2023. This project is named Thorpe Marsh Green Energy Hub Limited ("TMGEH"). The facility will be constructed on the land adjacent (to the west) of National Grid's 400kV substation and Northern Power Grid's 66kV substation. We are aiming to connect into the 400kV substation by the end of 2027 and to Northern Power Grid's around 2028. | West Burton Energy | The Applicant notes this comment. The Applicant will continue dialogue with West Burton Energy throughout the DCO process and through to operation of the Scheme, should the proposal be consented. |

| Statutory consultation under Section 42(1)(d) of the Planning Act 2008 with Prescribed Consultees | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|--|
| Topic area | Sub-topic | Consultation response | Prescribed Consultee | The Applicant's response (including the regard had to the consultation response) |
| Consultation | Consultation materials | On the basis of your letter/pack and our call, our understanding is that Boom Power's current plans in relation to the Fenwick Solar Farm development are to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit planning in Q424; • Begin construction in 2030; • Begin commercial operations in 2032; and • Connect to the National Grid substation via the north-east of the "redline" around the National grid substation - avoiding West Circuit Rd. | West Burton Energy | The Applicant notes this comment and thanks West Burton Energy for their cooperation when meeting with the Applicant and for their feedback. Regarding programme timings, subject to being granted development consent and following a final investment decision, the earliest construction could start is in 2028. Construction of the Solar PV Site and Grid Connection Cables is anticipated to start in tandem. The Grid Connection Cables would require approximately 12 months, and the construction of the Solar PV Site would require an estimated 24 months, with the operation and maintenance phase anticipated to commence in 2030. |
| Construction impacts | Interfacing schemes / infrastructure | For our Thorpe Marsh BESS connections (one 400kV to National Grid and one 66kV to Northern Power Grid), the underground electrical cable routes will be west-east along Ash Field Road, until West Circuit Road where it will turn to run north-south alongside West Circuit Road, until a suitable point to turn west-east again to connect into the substations. This also is our main access route to the project. | West Burton Energy | The Applicant notes this comment. The Applicant will liaise with West Burton Energy to ensure compatibility of grid connection cables and access once further details of their proposals are known. Standard protective provisions for the benefit of electricity, gas, water and sewerage undertakers are included within the draft DCO, which would operate to protect apparatus existing at the point which the Scheme is constructed. |
| Construction impacts | Interfacing schemes / infrastructure | On the basis of the above, the Fenwick Solar Farm development activity will not have any direct impact on the TMGEH BESS project. | West Burton Energy | The Applicant notes this comment and will engage with West Burton Energy going forward in the event of any changes to the established interface between their assets and the Scheme. |
| Consultation | Further consultation | However, if for any reason your plans change and BOOM Power considers using this route (the west side of your redline boundary) for any cabling works, then your connection cable would likely cross / run very close to the TMGEH electrical connections. In these circumstances we would ask that Boom Power: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contacts WBE/TMGEH and HJB to discuss your plans further; • Avoids any adverse effects on the Thorpe Marsh development; • Designs its electrical connection so as not to interfere with the TMGEH cables and electrical integrity (during both construction and operations/maintenance); and • Ensures that the access road the road remains usable 24/7/365 | West Burton Energy | The Applicant notes this comment and will engage with West Burton Energy going forward in the event of any changes to the established interface between their assets and the Scheme. |
| Consultation | Further consultation | As agreed on our call, we should in any case remain in touch regarding each other's plans. We thank you for the opportunity to submit a response and wish you every success in your development. | West Burton Energy | The Applicant notes this comment and will remain in contact with West Burton Energy going forward. |



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