

South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue (SYFR) response to ExQ1 (issued 9th May 2025) relevant reference points.

Ref:	Question to:	Question:
1.13.13	South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service	The ExA notes that the applicant has referred to the Draft Guidance on Grid Scale Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) by the National Fire Chiefs Council (the 2024 document) within the fBSMP [APP-205]. Please comment on the appropriateness of using this document instead of the 2022 guidance.
South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue response to Ref 1.13.13		<p>The recent NFCC draft document, is draft and awaiting publication, however it should be acknowledged that this document has been used across the sector and referenced by professionals and members of the public for other recent consultations.</p> <p>Anything referenced from the guidance, where appropriate, should be supported by other documentation or guidance. For example, the spacing to BESS containers. Manufacturers' guidance, testing data, UL certification and NFPA 855, along with any other appropriate guidance should support the siting of containers.</p> <p>SYFR standard response to BESS planning application regarding the guidance of relevant guidance is the following:</p> <p><i>The FRS advises that the guidance in the following documents is considered as part of the design process:</i></p> <p><i>NFCC Grid Battery Energy Storage Systems Planning – Guidance for FRS.</i></p> <p><i>National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 855 Standard for the Installation of Stationary Energy Storage Systems.</i></p> <p><i>FM Global Property Loss Prevention Data Sheets 5-33, as revised January 2024. This particular document includes the changes - .</i> <i>“Changes include the addition of FM Approved off-gas detection and clarification of fire protection recommendations for outdoor containerized BESS”</i></p>
1.13.15	South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service	Please comment on the proposed reduced distance of 3m between BESS units as stipulated within fBSMP [APP-205] paragraph 2.1.23 and that the applicant states they can demonstrate suitable design features for this

<p>South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue response to Ref 1.13.15</p>	<p>Fenwick Solar Farm Project Limited though the proposed Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) have addressed this reduced distance is suitable based on design features. SYFR will continue to consult on this throughout, using up to date information available as the project progresses and further information relating to the specific BESS to be sourced and used has been determined.</p> <p>Testing information and certification should be sought, to determine suitability of spacing.</p>
<p>1.13.16 South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service</p>	<p>Further to the comment made in your relevant representation [RR-009] please comment on the fBSMP [APP-205] in relation to:</p> <p>a) the nature and number of the proposed accesses to the BESS please see Figure 2-3 Indicative Site Layout sheet 5 of 11 [APP-074].</p> <p>b) The volume of water supply proposed.</p> <p>c) The measures to contain fire water.</p>
<p>South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue response to Ref 1.13.16</p>	<p>Within the SoGC, Fenwick Solar Project Limited have addressed the access, water supply and measures to contain fire water.</p> <p>a) The applicant has committed to: <i>“Two access points to the BESS Area have been provided to allow flexibility for emergency services. The access track is suitable for all SYFRS appliances, designed to support their weight and have a width of 8 m which will be maintained over the lifetime of the Scheme. There are no dead-end routes within the Order limits”</i></p> <p>SYFR have provided the applicant with appliance dimensions and weight to ensure appropriate access is given. Access to site is provided at different locations, and track access given around the site.</p> <p>b) The applicant has proposed, “four pressurized water tanks, supplying 720,000 to 976,000 litres of water, are provided to manage fires in the BESS Area” this is in line with the recommendations of the guidance.</p> <p>c) The applicant has made proposals for the management of firewater to prevent impacts to sensitive receptors from contamination.</p> <p>It should be ensured these proposals are provided during construction, if planning was to be granted.</p>
<p>1.13.17 South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service</p>	<p>Please comment on the parameters, risk management and response plan, monitoring provisions and scope of the fBSMP [APP-205].</p>

South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue response to Ref 1.13.17	SYFR has provided the applicant with a detailed response with regards to the development of a Risk Management plan and Emergency Response Plan. The applicant has committed to the development of these, which should be ensured if planning is granted. SYFR will continue to consult and comment on any such proposed plan.
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