



# Fosse Green Energy

EN010154

7.5 Grid Connection Statement

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Planning Act 2008 (as amended)

Regulation 6

Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed  
Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (as  
amended)

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18 July 2025

## Planning Act 2008

### The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulation 2009 (as amended)

Fosse Green Energy  
Development Consent Order 202[ ]

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#### **7.5 Grid Connection Statement**

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# 1. Introduction

- 1.1.1 This Grid Connection Statement (the 'Statement') relates to an application made by Fosse Green Energy Limited (the 'Applicant') to the Secretary of State via the Planning Inspectorate (the 'Inspectorate') under the Planning Act 2008 ('PA 2008') (Ref. 1) for a Development Consent Order (DCO). The DCO would grant consent for the Fosse Green Energy development (hereafter referred to as the 'Proposed Development').
- 1.1.2 The Proposed Development will comprise the construction, operation (including maintenance), and decommissioning of a ground-mounted solar photovoltaic (PV) electricity generating station with battery storage; Onsite Substation and associated infrastructure to generate, and export and import electricity; and areas of landscaping and biodiversity enhancement. The Proposed Development will export and import electricity to the national electricity transmission network. The Proposed Development includes Solar PV arrays, access provision, Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), Onsite Substation, underground cabling; and areas of landscaping and biodiversity enhancement. The Proposed Development also includes a 400kV underground Cable Route Corridor of approximately 10km in length connecting the Onsite Substation to the proposed National Grid substation near Navenby, which is the subject of a separate application by National Grid under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. A full description of the Proposed Development is included in **Chapter 3: The Proposed Development** of the Environmental Statement (ES) [EN010154/APP/6.1].
- 1.1.3 The Proposed Development is defined under the PA 2008 as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) as it comprises a generating station in England with a capacity exceeding 50 megawatts (MW). It therefore requires development consent by way of a DCO.
- 1.1.4 The DCO application is submitted to the Inspectorate, with the decision whether to grant a DCO being made by the Secretary of State pursuant to the PA 2008.
- 1.1.5 This Statement has been prepared on behalf of the Applicant to support the DCO application and should be read in conjunction with the other documents submitted with the DCO application.

## 1.2 Purpose and Structure of this Statement

- 1.2.1 This Statement is part of a suite of documents which must accompany the DCO application pursuant to Section 55 of the PA 2008 (Ref. 1) and Regulations 5 and 6 of the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (APFP Regulations) (Ref. 2).

1.2.2 It has been prepared in accordance with Regulation 6(1)(a)(i) of the APFP Regulations (Ref. 2) which requires an applicant for a DCO in respect of a generating station to provide a statement of who will be responsible for designing and building the connection to the electricity grid.

1.2.3 This Statement is therefore structured as follows:

- a. Section 1: Introduction;
- b. Section 2: Grid Connection Agreement;
- c. Section 3: Elements of the Grid Connection works for the Grid Connection Cable;
- d. Section 4: Responsibilities for Designing and Building the Grid Connection;
- e. Section 5: Acquisition of Land Rights for the Grid Connection;
- f. Section 6: Consent for the Grid Connection; and
- g. Section 7: Conclusion.

## 1.3 Works Numbers

1.3.1 Works numbers (Work No.s) are referred to throughout this Statement. These refer to the works describing the authorised development set out in Schedule 1 of the **Draft Development Consent Order [EN010154/APP/3.1]**. The **Draft Development Consent Order [EN010154/APP/3.1]** should be referred to for the specific terminology and full details of each work number.

1.3.2 The location of each of the work numbers is shown on the **Works Plans [EN010154/APP/2.2]**.

1.3.3 The works numbers which are relevant to the Grid Connection Cable are as follows:

- a. Works No. 4 – Onsite Substation
- b. Works No. 5a – HV Cable Route
- c. Works No. 5b – HV Connection Works

1.3.4 The above works will form the infrastructure that is used to export the electricity generated by Works No. 1 (the ground mounted solar photovoltaic generating station) to the connection point at the proposed National Grid substation near Navenby.

## 2. Grid Connection Agreement

- 2.1.1 The Applicant submitted an application for the grid connection and received a grid connection offer from National Grid Electricity System Operator Limited (NESO) to connect the Proposed Development to the National Electricity Transmission System (NETS) at the proposed National Grid substation near Navenby. NESO are the system operator for the NETS, and as such are the body within National Grid able to make connection offers. National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET) operate as transmission owners, and as such NGET are the body within National Grid responsible for owning and operating the proposed National Grid substation near Navenby that the Proposed Development will connect to once it is consented and constructed, should the Proposed Development receive consent.
- 2.1.2 The grid connection offer (a Bilateral Connection Agreement (BCA)) to the Applicant was originally received on 09 September 2022 and this was accepted by the Applicant on 24 November 2022. The BCA is for the export and import of up to 240 MW, with an agreed connection date of 30 May 2033. The applicant intends to negotiate an advancement in the connection queue post consent.
- 2.1.3 Engagement with NESO has continued since 2021 and discussions are ongoing at the time of the submission of this Application.
- 2.1.4 NGET has confirmed that space within the proposed National Grid substation near Navenby will be available and the Applicant has been allocated a connection bay. All works to the proposed National Grid substation near Navenby to accommodate the Proposed Development connection would be undertaken by the Applicant in coordination with National Grid requirements and are anticipated to include the installation of a switchgear and associated infrastructure which will connect the 400kV electricity supplied by the Proposed Development to facilitate the efficient transmission of power onto the electricity transmission network, as described in Work No. 5B at Schedule 1 of the **Draft Development Consent Order [EN010154/APP/3.1]**. All infrastructure within the proposed National Grid substation near Navenby would remain under National Grid's control.
- 2.1.5 The Applicant therefore confirms that the electricity generated by Work No. 1 will be exported to the NETS via the proposed National Grid substation near Navenby, owned and operated by NGET.

## 3. Elements of the Grid Connection

### 3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 Electricity generated and imported by the Proposed Development will be exported and imported to the NETS via cabling located within the Cable Corridor (**Work No. 5a**). This cabling will connect the Onsite Substation (**Work No. 4**) to the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation (with **Work No. 5b** comprising the HV connections works at the proposed Navenby Substation).
- 3.1.2 The locations of the Works areas are shown on the **Works Plans [EN010154/APP/2.2]**, and the proposed location of the National Grid Navenby Substation is shown on sheet 16 of the **Works Plans [EN010154/APP/2.2]**.
- 3.1.3 The following sections summarise the elements required for the grid connection for the Proposed Development. A description of how these elements will be constructed is provided in **Chapter 3: The Proposed Development** of the ES **[EN010154/APP/6.1]**.

### 3.2 Onsite Substation (Work No. 4)

- 3.2.1 There will be one Onsite Substation (**Work No. 4**) which will convert energy created by **Work No.1** to 400kV for onward transmission to the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation via cabling along the Cable Corridor (**Work No. 5a**).
- 3.2.2 The Onsite Substation will be collocated within a compound which will include:
  - a. substation, transformers, 400kV air insulated switchgear, switch room buildings and ancillary equipment including reactive power units;
  - b. control building housing offices, storage, welfare facilities, parking areas and access;
  - c. workshop, store and ancillary structures;
  - d. monitoring and control systems for this Works No. 4 and Works No. 1 housed within the control building in Works No. 4(b) or located separately in their own containers or control rooms; and
  - e. harmonic filters.

### 3.3 Cable Corridor (Work No. 5a)

- 3.3.1 The Cable Corridor (**Work No. 5a**) will contain one new 400kV cable circuit which will each comprise three 400kV cables plus auxiliary cables (e.g. bare copper earth cable and optical fibre and communication cables) running underground in ducting to connect the Onsite Substation (**Work No. 4**) with the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation.

- 3.3.2 A cable trench to lay these cable circuits in the ground will be excavated. The depth of cable installation is dependent upon many factors such as ground conditions and what is encountered along the route. This includes the need to undertake utility surveys to inform positioning to avoid assets. Trenchless crossings are also proposed where above ground constraints are present such as watercourses. The requirements of the trench design for cable laying are set out in the **Proposed Development Parameters [EN010154/APP/7.4]**.
- 3.3.3 A typical working corridor width of 30 m - 40m (narrowed where there are localised constraints such as hedges), which includes the cable trench, soil and spoil laydown, working area and haul road (with passing places) is expected to be required. There will also be up to seven temporary construction compounds at strategic locations within Cable Corridor. As is typical for cable installation projects, the haul road will be up to a maximum of 5m wide and will run directly on the subsoil surface with temporary track matting used where required; it will not be stoned.

## 3.4 Works at the National Grid Navenby Substation

- 3.4.1 NGET has a legal obligation to provide the Proposed Development and other energy generators with a connection to the National Electricity Transmission System (NETS). Following grid connection applications by several energy generators, including Springwell Solar and Fosse Green Energy, National Grid concluded that it would not be possible to connect all applications to existing regional substations and that a network upgrade would be required, in the form of the proposed Navenby Substation. NGET confirmed that the proposed substation is not due to Fosse Green Energy alone, but the wider demand for connection in the area.
- 3.4.2 The Proposed Development will be connected to the proposed National Grid substation near Navenby. This substation will be the basis of a planning application by NGET under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. At the time of writing of this report the application for the rights to construction and operate the proposed Navenby Substation is expected to be submitted in late 2025. It is currently expected that the application will be determined in Spring 2026. Subject to approval, NGET has informed the Applicant that construction work is expected to begin mid/late 2026 with a currently anticipated completion date in late 2029. This is 3.5 years ahead of the connection date for Fosse Green Energy.
- 3.4.3 Given the generally supportive national and local policy position, and on the basis that NGET take a responsible approach to siting, design and mitigation, following the Horlock Rules, there are no obvious reasons known to the Applicant why consent for the Navenby substation and associated overhead lines to connect it into the national grid would be withheld. NGET has stated to the Applicant that should consent not be granted the fall back is to appeal any such refusal to the Secretary of State and await determination.

- 3.4.4 NGET has confirmed that space within the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation will be available, and the Applicant has been assigned a bay in the substation. All works to the National Grid Navenby Substation to accommodate the Proposed Development's connection would be undertaken by the Applicant and will include upgrade and modification works such as the installation of a switchgear and associated infrastructure which will connect the 400kV electricity supplied by the Proposed Development to facilitate the efficient transmission of power onto the electricity transmission network. These works are expected to comprise the termination of the underground Grid Connection Infrastructure cables to above-ground cable sealing ends, the connection of the sealing ends to busbars within the new substation at Navenby, and the installation of related infrastructure including disconnectors, switches and instrument transformers. Detailed design of the generator bay works will depend on the substation design chosen by NGET
- 3.4.5 All infrastructure within the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation would remain under National Grid's control and the Applicant is only seeking the acquisition of rights over this area in order to carry out the required connection works (Work 5B).

## 4. Responsibilities for Designing and Building the Grid Connection

### 4.1 Responsibilities of the Applicant

- 4.1.1 The Applicant and its appointed contractors will be responsible for designing and constructing the elements described in section 3.2 and 3.3. Works at the proposed National Grid substation near Navenby (Section 3.4) to accommodate the Proposed Development connection would be undertaken by the Applicant. The Proposed Development will deliver the Grid Connection Cable into a designated bay of the National Grid substation near Navenby. NGET has suggested that the Proposed Development will connect into a new bay built by NGET in the northern part of the Navenby Substation, however in the absence of this being formally confirmed at this stage it is necessary for Work No. 5b to have the flexibility for HV connection works anywhere within the land designated for the proposed Navenby Substation (to modify and upgrade NGET infrastructure for the Proposed Development).
- 4.1.2 The Applicant will be responsible for the ongoing ownership, management and maintenance of the Onsite Substation and the new 400kV underground cable circuit within the Cable Corridor.

### 4.2 Responsibilities of National Grid Electricity Transmission

- 4.2.1 NGET will be responsible for designing and building all non-contestable works (works that will be undertaken by National Grid). NGET is proposing to construct and operate a new substation at Navenby.
- 4.2.2 Any requirements to facilitate this connection at the National Grid Navenby Substation will be implemented by the Applicant and are included as part of Work No. 5b. These works are expected to comprise the termination of the underground Grid Connection Infrastructure cables to above-ground cable sealing ends, the connection of the sealing ends to busbars within the new substation at Navenby, and the installation of related infrastructure including disconnectors, switches and instrument transformers. Detailed design of the generator bay works will depend on the substation design chosen by NGET

## 5. Acquisition of land rights required for the grid connection

- 5.1.1 Negotiations for the purchase of land, rights and interests are ongoing in respect of any new rights required for the Proposed Development, where voluntary agreement has not yet been reached. It is necessary for the Applicant to seek compulsory acquisition powers to secure such land, rights and interests and to ensure that any third-party interests or encumbrances affecting such land, rights and interests may be acquired, overridden or extinguished pursuant to the Draft Development Consent Order, thereby ensuring that the Proposed Development can be constructed, operated and maintained. Negotiation of the relevant agreements across the cable corridor are underway with relevant landowners and are progressing positively.
- 5.1.2 The Applicant nevertheless remains committed to obtaining necessary land and rights by negotiation where possible and discussions with landowners remains ongoing.
- 5.1.3 The Applicant is not seeking any rights through Compulsory Acquisition powers that would restrict the Navenby Substation from being built. As explained above, all infrastructure within the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation would remain under National Grid's control and the Applicant is only seeking the acquisition of rights over this area in order to carry out the required connection works (Work 5b). The Applicant is continuing to work with NGET to seek to agree protective provisions and hopes they will be in an agreed position before the close of the Examination.
- 5.1.4 The status of negotiations at the time of the DCO application submission is reported in the **Statement of Reasons [EN010154/APP/4.1]**.

## 6. Consent for the Grid Connection

- 6.1.1 The Grid Connection, comprising the Onsite Substation (**Work No. 4**), the Cable Corridor (**Work No. 5a**), and the HV Connection Works at the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation (**Work No. 5b**), forms part of the Proposed Development for which development consent is being sought via the DCO application.
- 6.1.2 The Applicant has accepted a grid connection offer from NGET which stipulates the works required to connect to the Proposed Development to the proposed National Grid substation near Navenby. These works are explained in section 3 of this Statement.
- 6.1.3 As such, if the same terms as those set out in the **Draft Development Consent Order [EN010154/APP/3.1]** are granted, development consent to deliver the Grid Connection will have been secured. NGET is responsible for securing planning permission and any consents for the proposed Navenby Substation, the current status of which is set out in section 3.4.

## 7. Conclusion

- 7.1.1 The Applicant is required to submit a statement pursuant to Regulation 6(1)(a)(i) of the APFP Regulations, stating who will be responsible for designing and building the connection to the electricity grid.
- 7.1.2 It is considered that this Statement provides confirmation to the Secretary of State of the requirement above, namely:
  - a. The Applicant has received a grid connection offer from NESO to connect the Proposed Development to the NETS, and this offer has been accepted;
  - b. A connection to the proposed National Grid substation near Navenby will be provided via a 400kV underground cable circuit from the Onsite Substation (Work No. 4) shown on Sheet 6 of the Works Plans [EN010154/APP/2.2]. The 400kV underground cable circuit is shown as Work No.5a on sheets 6, 10-16 of the Works Plans [EN010154/APP/2.2];
  - c. The Applicant will be responsible for designing and building the Onsite Substation (Works No.4), laying the cable within the Cable Corridor (Works No. 5a), and HV connection works within the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation relevant to the Proposed Development (Works No. 5b).
  - d. NGET will be responsible for obtaining planning permissions for and the construction and operation of Navenby Substation;
  - e. The Applicant has, or will have, the ability to procure the necessary land and rights in order to accommodate the Cable Corridor; and
  - f. As set out in the **Draft Development Consent Order [EN010154/APP/3.1]**, the Grid Connection forms part of the Proposed Development for which development consent is being sought.

## 8. References

Ref. 1 HM Government (2008). Planning Act 2008. Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/29/contents>

Ref. 2 HM Government (2009). The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009. Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2009/2264/contents/made>