

**DEAN MOOR SOLAR FARM**  
**ADEQUACY OF CONSULTATION MILESTONE**  
**PLANNING INSPECTORATE REFERENCE EN010155**  
**PREPARED ON BEHALF OF FVS DEAN MOOR LIMITED**

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# Cumberland Council acceptance of the Adequacy of Consultation document and updates to this document

The Applicant shared the Adequacy of Consultation milestone document with Cumberland Council for comment on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2024. Cumberland Council responded to the Adequacy of Consultation on the 20<sup>th</sup> January 2025, with the following response:

“I can confirm we are satisfied with the findings of the attached document ‘Dean Moor Solar Adequacy of Consultation’”.

Cumberland Council’s full response to the Adequacy of Consultation milestone may be found in appendix 3.3 of this document.

The following changes have been made to this document as a result of, and following, the above acceptance by Cumberland Council:

- Appendix 3.3, which originally contained internal correspondence regarding the SoCC, has been replaced with a new appendix 3.3 which contains the acceptance of the Adequacy of Consultation by Cumberland Council.
- An additional sentence reflecting this has been added to section 3.11: “Cumberland Council notified the Applicant that it found this Adequacy of Consultation Milestone acceptable in their response to this Adequacy of Consultation. The Council’s response may be found at appendix 3.3.”
- An additional section has been added at 2.2.3 to reflect that the Applicant did not engage with the Scottish Borders Council during the statutory consultation. To rectify this omission, the Applicant reached out to Scottish Borders on 3 March 2025, and received confirmation from the Scottish Borders Council on 19 March 2025 that it had no comment to make in relation to the Proposed Development.
- Table 3 in Appendix 3.9 has been updated to reflect the correct categorisation of Local Authorities and include the Scottish Borders Council.
- Formatting inconsistencies have been rectified, including updating the document template, removal of the ‘draft’ watermark, and fixing numbering and formatting issues. Referencing has also been updated to align with the referencing used in application documents.

# **1. Introduction**

## **1.1. Purpose of this document**

- 1.1.1. This Adequacy of Consultation Report ('the Report') has been produced for FVS Dean Moor Limited (the 'Applicant') to support the DCO application for the Dean Moor Solar Farm ('the Proposed Development') on approximately 276.5ha of land located between the villages of Gilgarran and Branthwaite in West Cumbria (the 'Site'), which is situated within the administrative area of Cumberland Council ('the Council').
- 1.1.2. The Proposed Development is defined as a NSIP under Sections 14(1)(a) and 15(2) of the Planning Act 2008 ('PA 2008'), as it comprises the construction or extension of a generating station (Part 3, Section 14(1)(a)) that is within England, does not generate electricity from wind, is not an offshore generating station, and has a capacity of more than 50 MW (Part 3, Section 15(2)).

## **1.2. Overview and Structure of this Report**

- 1.2.1. This Report is divided into the following chapters:
- Chapter 2 Overview of consultation and engagement including a summary of non-statutory consultation, a summary of statutory consultation, and a summary of engagement with landowners;
  - Chapter 3 Development of the Statement of Community Consultation ('SoCC');
  - Chapter 4 Summary of changes to the Proposed Development as a result of statutory consultation responses.

## **1.3. Requirements of the PA 2008**

- 1.3.1. This document underlines how the Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) was developed, consulted on, published, and adhered to in line with the process prescribed in section 47 of the PA 2008, prior to commencing the statutory consultation for the Proposed Development.
- 1.3.2. Section 47 of the PA 2008 states:



- (1) “The applicant must prepare a statement setting out how the applicant proposes to consult, about the proposed application, people living in the vicinity of the land.
- (2) Before preparing the statement, the applicant must consult each local authority that is within section 43(1) about what is to be in the statement.
- (3) The deadline for the receipt by the applicant of a local authority's response to consultation under subsection (2) is the end of the period of 28 days that begins with the day after the day on which the local authority receives the consultation documents.
- (4) In subsection (3) “the consultation documents” means the documents supplied to the local authority by the applicant for the purpose of consulting the local authority under subsection (2).
- (5) In preparing the statement, the applicant must have regard to any response to consultation under subsection (2) that is received by the applicant before the deadline imposed by subsection (3).
- (6) Once the applicant has prepared the statement, the applicant must —
  - (za) make the statement available for inspection by the public in a way that is reasonably convenient for people living in the vicinity of the land;
    - (a) publish in a newspaper circulating in the vicinity of the land a notice stating where and when the statement can be inspected, and
    - (b) publish the statement in such manner as may be prescribed.
- (7) The applicant must carry out consultation in accordance with the proposals set out in the statement.”

## **1.4. Guidance influencing this Report**

### **1.4.1. The Applicant had regard to the following guidance:**

- Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government: Planning Act 2008: guidance on the pre-application process for major infrastructure projects 2013<sup>1</sup>
- Department for Communities and Local Government: Planning Act 2008: Guidance on the pre-application process<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/planning-act-2008-pre-application-stage-for-nationally-significant-infrastructure-projects>;

<sup>2</sup> [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/6630afc53579e7a8f398a9b3/150326 Pre-Application\\_Guidance.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/6630afc53579e7a8f398a9b3/150326_Pre-Application_Guidance.pdf)

1.4.2. The latter guidance was withdrawn on 30 April 2024, partway through the statutory consultation period for Dean Moor Solar Farm (see paragraph 2.2.2 below). Since the guidance changed, the Applicant has sought to ensure adherence to the new guidance regarding pre-application consultation.<sup>3</sup>

1.4.3. The new guidance, which has informed the production of this Report, states at paragraph 025:

“This adequacy of consultation milestone should be early enough to enable applicants to consider how to undertake any additional engagement that may be needed, but sufficiently towards the end of the preapplication stage to assess the adequacy of the consultation that has been done. It is likely therefore to be no later than around 3 months before the intended date of submission of the application.

“The adequacy of consultation milestone should be recorded by the applicant and submitted to the Planning Inspectorate as a short statement of the elements of consultation which have been carried out compared with the components set out in the Programme Document and the SoCC. The statement should include the views and any relevant supporting material from local authorities if available.”

1.4.4. The Report is not a statutory requirement, but the Applicant understands the importance of receiving Planning Inspectorate feedback early enough to remedy any gaps ahead of application submission.

1.4.5. Under section 55(4)(b) of the PA 2008, at the acceptance stage, the Planning Inspectorate will have regard to representations made by local authority consultees about the adequacy of consultation.

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<sup>3</sup> Planning Act 2008: Pre-application stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects, <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/planning-act-2008-pre-application-stage-for-nationally-significant-infrastructure-projects>

1.4.6. The Applicant has taken a proactive approach to pre-application engagement with consultees and local communities which has helped the Applicant understand concerns and shape proposals ahead of submission. This Report provides an overview of the engagement and consultation activity to date and how it has met with the requirements the PA 2008.

## 2. Overview of consultation and engagement

2.0.1. This chapter of the Report provides an overview of all pre-application consultation engagement activities conducted by the Applicant, prior to the submission of an application for development consent.

2.0.2. Table 2.1 below summarises the consultation activities undertaken by the Applicant, the date when the activities were undertaken, and where further details of those activities will be found within the Consultation Report.

**Table 2.1: Summary of consultation activities**

Consultation Activity	Date Undertaken
Site visits with landowners and neighbours	Autumn 2023 and Spring 2024
Engagement with host Local Planning Authority regarding approach to engagement and introducing the Proposed Development	Summer 2023 – Winter 2023
Project launch to members of the public (including website, press and media activity)	Summer 2023
Non-statutory consultation	Autumn 2023
Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) consultation	Summer 2023 – Winter 2023
Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) development and consultation	Autumn 2023 – Winter 2023
Statutory consultation	Spring 2024
Engagement between statutory consultation and application submission	May 2024 – March 2025

2.0.3. As highlighted in the table above, the main stages of consultation undertaken for Dean Moor Solar Farm were:

- **Non-statutory consultation:** A non-statutory consultation period was held in Autumn 2023, between 3 October and 3 November. This introduced the Proposed Development to local stakeholders and provided an early opportunity to input into the evolving concept design. During the non-statutory consultation period, 22 responses were received.
- **Statutory consultation:** A statutory consultation period was held in Spring 2024, from 11 March 2024 until 26 April (and later extended as described in paragraph 2.2.2). The consultation set out the further details of the Proposed Development, including changes made since the non-statutory consultation, along with a Preliminary Environmental

Information Report ('PEIR') which presented the preliminary findings of the environmental impact assessment of the Proposed Development.

## 2.1. Summary of non-statutory consultation

- 2.1.1. Early engagement began in August 2023. The non-statutory consultation began on 3 October 2023, and ran for 31 days to 3 November 2023.
- 2.1.2. This introduced the Proposed Development to local stakeholders, and provided an early opportunity to input into the evolving concept design. During the non-statutory consultation period.
- 2.1.3. In total, 22 responses were received during the non-statutory consultation, with responses made by the Applicant in the Non-Statutory Consultation Report (this document will be appended to the Consultation Report).
- 2.1.4. An early draft of the SoCC ('draft SoCC') (appendix 1.1) was prepared in September 2023, ahead of the non-statutory consultation period. While this was not a requirement for the non-statutory consultation, it helped inform the approach taken by the Applicant and ensured local stakeholders were able to consult on the proposals effectively, ahead of the statutory consultation. This is further discussed in Chapter 3 of this Report.
- 2.1.5. Table 2.2 below demonstrates the steps taken by the Applicant during the non-statutory consultation.

**Table 2.2: Overview of early engagement and non-statutory consultation**

Step	Date
Launch of the project website	03/08/2023
Press release announcing the consultation issued to local media	04/08/2023
Consultation leaflet posted to the local community	03/10/2023
Launch of the non-statutory consultation	03/10/2023
In-person public consultation event	17/10/2023
In-person public consultation event	18/10/2023
Virtual consultation event	19/10/2023
Virtual consultation event	30/10/2023
End of non-statutory consultation period	03/11/2023

- 2.1.6. Table 2.3 below outlines the key changes to the Proposed Development, which were implemented as a result of the feedback received during the non-

statutory consultation. These were later presented in the PEIR at the statutory consultation.

2.1.7. Full details of the changes made to the Proposed Development as a result of non-statutory consultation feedback will be provided in the Non-Statutory Consultation Report (which will be appended to the Consultation Report).

**Table 2.3: Changes made as a result of non-statutory feedback**

Feedback	Change
<b>Requests for improved public accessibility to Site:</b>  "There needs to be areas of scenic access that need to replace what will be lost."  "Historic paths across the site follow the old mineral paths and we would wish to see these restored."  "Paths around the Potato Pot windfarm. Footpath across the site."  "Cleared access tracks through the site - popular walkway with local community, potential issues with access to the site as the landowner has denied access."	It is anticipated two permissive paths will be established within the Site, and the layout of the Proposed Development will not impede any existing informal routes that may continue to be used or which may be formally adopted as PRow by the Council.
<b>Landscaping:</b>  "The site is so clearly visible from Dean Cross and the Pica road"  "This is going to be ugly and will ruin the nature of the area"	The updated Concept Layout which was assessed in the PEIR included additional landscape buffers including screening through planting, and also siting of panels to make use of natural screening through topography. This mitigation would reduce the potential visual impact on neighbouring residents and road users.
<b>Community Benefit</b>  "Education opportunity for local schools. Potential Field trip."  "Good site, expand country wildlife site."  "Investment in local environment improvements"  "Installation of EV (pay as you go) charging points in each village affected. Dean Church would be interested in the installation of solar panels in the church	Following the first round of informal public consultation, the Applicant has sought to engage with additional partners and groups to enable us to provide a wider community benefits package which contributes towards causes, issues, and projects which public feedback has emphasised. This is therefore being established in addition to the initial £500,000 fund.



yard or on the church owned village hall roof.”	
“Friends of Pica’ is a charity that aims to enhance the community of Pica, it is currently seeking funding for a play park in the village.”	

## 2.2. Summary of statutory consultation

2.2.1. The Applicant conducted a period of statutory consultation on the Proposed Development from 11 March 2024 until 26 April 2024 (later extended as noted in paragraph 2.2.2 below). In accordance with the SoCC, the Applicant held three in-person consultation events, and two webinars.

2.2.2. The consultation period was extended as a result of an error with posting letters to statutory consultees; as a result, some consultees were granted an extension to 3 and 16 May 2024. Further details of this extension will be found in Chapter 5 of the Consultation Report.

2.2.3. In February 2025, it was identified that the Scottish Borders Council also shares a boundary with the Council, and as such it is also a category ‘A’ consultee. As the Scottish Borders was not consulted during the statutory consultation, but it should have been, and to rectify this omission the Applicant reached out on 3 March 2025 to inform the Scottish Borders Council of the error and to seek a response. On 19 March 2025 the Scottish Borders Council confirmed that it had no comment to make in relation to the Proposed Development. The Applicant notified the Inspectorate of the Scottish Borders Council’s response on 20 March 2025.

2.2.4. Table 2.4 below demonstrates the steps taken by the Applicant during the statutory consultation. More detail on these steps will be provided in Chapter 5 of the Consultation Report.

**Table 2.4: Overview of statutory consultation**

Step	Date
Press release announcing the consultation issued to local media	06/03/24
Consultation leaflet posted to the local community	08/03/24
Section 46 notice issued to PINS	08/03/24
Section 47 notice	11/03/24
Section 48 notice	11/03/24
Launch of the statutory consultation	11/03/24
Publication of the SoCC, the PEIR, consultation booklet, feedback questionnaire and supporting materials	11/03/24
Opening of and placement of documents in the deposit location	11/03/24
In-person public consultation event	19/03/24
In-person public consultation event	20/03/24
In-person public consultation event	21/03/24
Virtual consultation event	16/04/24
Virtual consultation event	18/04/24
End of statutory consultation period	26/04/24
Extension of statutory consultation period for consultees affected by mailout error	16/05/24

### 2.3. Summary of engagement with landowners

- 2.3.1. The Applicant undertook inquiries to identify affected landowners, those with interests in land, and those with a potentially relevant claim, and included affected interests covered by both on-road and off-road cable route options.
- 2.3.2. These thorough inquiries continued throughout the pre-application period to ensure that all relevant persons with an interest in land ('PiLs') are engaged with and consulted about the Proposed Development.
- 2.3.3. A land interest questionnaire (appendix 2.1) was sent out to PiLs, accompanied by a cover letter (appendix 2.2). This also included a set of land ownership plans showing the extent of land within the Order limits that the Applicant believed the PiLs to have an interest in. Any new information provided by the land interest questionnaires were recorded on the land referencing database. Attempts to chase any non-respondents were also made to ensure the Applicant was identifying all affected landowners and PiLs.
- 2.3.4. As part of the statutory consultation, site notices were placed on site for unregistered land parcels. These were monitored weekly over the consultation



period via an app (Collector app) which was used to store photos as evidence of the site notices being there during the statutory consultation period.

2.3.5. Any changes in ownership or new interests have been identified, consulted, and engaged with accordingly. This effort has been complemented by the ongoing engagement conducted by the Applicant, which will be outlined in Chapter 7 of the Consultation Report. Additionally, periodic Land Registry updates and validation checks on data have been conducted, both prior to critical program milestones and on an ongoing basis.

2.3.6. Prior to the submission of the development consent application, title refreshes of the HMLR data will continue to be made, with the final update to take place 28 days before submission to capture any changes in land ownership. Engagement will be made via a land interest questionnaire, following the usual process.

### 3. Development of the SoCC

- 3.0.1. The Applicant strongly believes that having a two-stage approach to consultation increased efficiency for respondents and clarity for communities as it allowed for an additional, more tailored outreach process, and ensured that the statutory consultation was more accessible.
- 3.0.2. An early draft of the SoCC ('draft SoCC') (appendix 1.1) was prepared in September 2023, ahead of the non-statutory consultation period. While this was not a requirement for the non-statutory consultation, it helped inform the approach taken by the Applicant and ensured local stakeholders were able to consult on the proposals effectively, ahead of the statutory consultation.
- 3.0.3. The Applicant's development of a draft SoCC considered advice and best practice from then-Department for Communities and Local Government and Planning Inspectorate ('PINS') guidance for pre-application consultation.<sup>4</sup> This guidance was withdrawn following the publication of new guidance regarding pre-application consultation on 30 April 2024, partway through the extended statutory consultation period for the Proposed Development. Since the guidance changed, the Applicant has sought to ensure adherence to the new guidance regarding pre-application consultation.<sup>5</sup>
- 3.0.4. The SoCC provided information regarding the Proposed Development and the Applicant, the Environmental Impact Assessment, the statutory consultation process and how the public could contribute their views during the DCO process.

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<sup>4</sup> [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/6630afc53579e7a8f398a9b3/150326\\_Pre-Application\\_Guidance.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/6630afc53579e7a8f398a9b3/150326_Pre-Application_Guidance.pdf) Note: This publication was withdrawn on 30 April 2024.

<sup>5</sup> Planning Act 2008: Pre-application stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects, <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/planning-act-2008-pre-application-stage-for-nationally-significant-infrastructure-projects>

3.0.5. The main content of the draft SoCC gave an overview of the statutory consultation (11 March 2024 – 26 April 2024, later extended as explained in paragraph 2.2.2) including:

- What was being consulted on and who was being consulted;
- The groups being consulted, including under-represented or seldom-heard groups;
- The primary methods for consultation, including wider engagement and advertisement of the Proposed Development.

3.0.6. The purpose of the draft SoCC was to demonstrate how the Applicant would engage with communities likely to be affected by the Proposed Development.

3.0.7. The strategy outlined in the draft SoCC ensured the statutory consultation was effective as well as appropriate and proportionate to the local area. Moreover, it also ensured compliance with the statutory requirements and associated guidance as outlined above.

### 3.1. Consultation on the draft SoCC

3.1.1. The Applicant identified Cumberland Council (the ‘Council’) as the relevant host local authority under section 43(1) of the PA 2008. In compliance with section 47(2) of the PA 2008, the Applicant reached out to the Council for consultation on the draft SoCC.

3.1.2. The Applicant shared an initial draft SoCC with the Council on 26 October 2023, ahead of formal consultation on the SoCC. A copy of this draft SoCC can be found in appendix 1.1.

3.1.3. The Council made the following comment, which the Applicant received on 10 November 2023 (full comments will be set out within the Consultation Report):

**Table 3.1: Informal Council feedback on the draft SoCC**

Comment from the Council	Change made as a result of feedback
a reference to ‘Cumbria Council’ which needed altering to say ‘Cumberland Council’	This reference was fixed by the Applicant in the published iteration of the SoCC.
‘very comprehensive with nothing further to add.’	

3.1.4. Following receipt of this feedback, the Applicant independently identified additional areas for improvement as a result of engagement throughout the non-statutory consultation, and through discussion with local councillors and other stakeholders. Therefore the following additional changes were made to the draft SoCC following receipt of feedback from the Council:

- Consultation Zone 1 was expanded to include more local households, who might be proximate to the proposed construction route. Figure 2 on page 19 of the 2024 SoCC reflects the updated Zone.
- Locations and dates of the statutory public consultation events were added to the SoCC following the Council's feedback, as these were subsequently confirmed by the Applicant.
- Deposit locations for consultation materials were added.

3.1.5. The Applicant shared an updated draft of the SoCC, incorporating the changes described above, with the Council on 20 November 2023 for formal consultation. A copy of the updated draft SoCC can be found in appendix 3.1. The Council were given 28 days to respond, and therefore the consultation period ran up to 19 December 2023.

3.1.6. The Applicant received the following comments on 30 November 2023 and 5 December 2023:

**Table 3.2: Formal Council feedback on the draft SoCC**

Date received	Comment from the Council	Change made as a result of feedback
30/11/2023	Just one thing I did notice on page 23 right hand column bullet point 5. This describes the consultation process in zone 2 but bullet point five mentions "inviting residents of consultation <b>zone 1</b> to book individual appointments" Not sure that is a typo. Do they intend to offer individual appointments in zone 2?	The Applicant updated the typo as flagged. Individual appointments were not offered to zone 2.
05/11/2023	suggestion that the relevant Community Panels form part of the consultation group	Community Panels were informally outreached by the Applicant (further details will be set out in the Consultation Report), but no response was received.

- 3.1.7. The Applicant published the final SoCC in March 2024. This final SoCC can be found in appendix 3.2.
- 3.1.8. Following consultation with the Council in November-December 2023, the Applicant updated the SOCC to reflect the agreed extension to Zone 1 but did not update the SoCC in relation to Zone 2. The published SoCC therefore included the Applicant's initial (and superseded) commitment to send consultation information to addresses in Zone 2. This had the result that within the SoCC, Zone 2 was still noted as having the same arrangements as Zone 1 despite the Applicant and Council having agreed otherwise.
- 3.1.9. The following actions were undertaken to inform the residents living in Zone 2, based on the Applicant's agreement with the Council (although not in accordance with the unamended SoCC):
- 3.1.10. The following actions were undertaken to inform the residents living in Zone 2:
- The entirety of Zone 2 was covered by online advertising via Facebook/Instagram, to the effect that these adverts had an estimated reach of 9,114 accounts across both Zone 1 and Zone 2;
  - Zone 2 was also covered by newspapers which contained notices of the proposed application; and
  - Two of the consultation events, at Hunday Manor and Distington Community Hall, were held within Zone 2 while the third event, at Dean Kirkstile Hall, was held in Zone 1.
- 3.1.11. The Applicant considers that it did consult fully with the residents living in Zone 2, although not fully in accordance with the published SoCC. All residents had the opportunity to respond to the consultation. Residents of Zone 2 were effectively consulted, as of the 15 responses to consultation received, five responses were identified as being from residents in Zone 2. The Council notified the Applicant that it found this Adequacy of Consultation Milestone acceptable, and the Council's response may be found at appendix 3.3.

### **3.2. Section 47 Publication of the SoCC**

- 3.2.1. The production and publication of an SoCC after consultation with the host local authority is required under sections 47(1) and (2) of the PA 2008. The applicant is required to have regard for any responses received at that consultation before finalising the SoCC, under section 47(5).
- 3.2.2. An applicant must publish and make an SoCC available to the public in accordance with section 47(6) of the PA 2008.
- 3.2.3. Section 47(7) of the PA 2008 requires that consultation is carried out in accordance with the proposals contained in the SoCC.
- 3.2.4. The SoCC as published identified commitments made by the Applicant in relation to carrying out the community consultation under section 47 of the PA 2008.
- 3.2.5. Consultation was carried out in accordance with the published SoCC. Table 3.3 below sets out a summary of the commitments made and how these were adhered to.
- 3.2.6. As required by section 47(1) of the PA 2008, the Applicant consulted those people who live within the vicinity of the Proposed Development. Local individuals, communities, and various other groups and organisations were invited to participate in the consultation (appendix 3.4). As per s47(1), “the Applicant must prepare a statement setting out how the applicant proposes to consult, about the proposed application, people living in the vicinity of the land.”
- 3.2.7. The Applicant identified four distinct Consultation Zones, as set out in the SoCC. These were identified as follows:
- Zone 1: Any person or group likely to be directly impacted by the proposed Dean Moor Solar Farm by virtue of their living or working in



proximity to the site. This was defined by a minimum 1km distance from the proposed site boundary.

- Zone 2: Any person or group living in proximity to the site, but outside of Zone 1. This zone is defined by the boundaries of the parishes of Dean, Arlecdon & Frizington, Distington, and Winscales.
- Zone 3: People living and working in the host local authority area of the Council outside of consultation Zones 1 and 2.
- Zone 4: Neighbouring district, county and unitary authorities within the administrative areas of:
  - Westmorland and Furness Council
  - Lancaster District Council
  - North Yorkshire Council
  - Northumberland Council

3.2.8. Invitations to project briefings were sent to all local political stakeholders, including ward councillors, Council leadership, MPs, and parish councils on 8 March 2024. These were accompanied by copies of the consultation booklets and questionnaires, and an invitation to attend the statutory consultation events. Examples of these letters can be found in appendix 3.5.

3.2.9. On 23 August 2023 the Applicant met with the Council. The Applicant held a follow-up briefing, which occurred on 15 May 2024. This meeting gave an updated overview of the proposals, as well as feedback from the statutory consultation. The presentation given during this briefing may be found at appendix 3.6.

3.2.10. The Applicant fulfilled its s.47(6)(a) obligations by publishing notices in the following local and national newspapers (appendix 3.7):

- The News & Star
- The Times and Star
- The Times
- The Whitehaven News
- London Gazette

3.2.11. The Applicant also circulated adverts via the Meta Business Suite (Facebook, Instagram) for 45 days beginning on 11 March 2024, to fulfil its s.47(6)(a) obligations. These adverts included the date, times, and locations of all five consultation events. Further details may be found in Appendix 3.8.

## **Engagement with seldom heard groups**

3.2.12. The Applicant took steps to ensure various different groups could engage with the consultation, and provide feedback in different ways, demonstrating a commitment to inclusivity. Further details on this engagement will be provided in the Consultation Report, but it included:

- Direct mailing of consultation leaflets to all addresses within Zone 1, advertising the locations of paper copies of all documents and the ability to provide feedback via post for older residents and geographically isolated communities;
- Provision of conventional communications channels including a freepost address, a freephone telephone number, and a project email address;
- Alternative copies of documents, including dementia-friendly, Braille, and large print versions were available upon request;
- Consultation events were held at various locations in Zone 1 and Zone 2, to enable access;
- Online events were held to address the needs of people with limited mobility, as well as those from further afield;
- Online Facebook/Instagram adverts were implemented to encourage attendance at consultation events and feedback form completion. Further details will be found in the Consultation Report, adverts may be found in Appendix 3.8.

3.2.13. As a result of this outreach, the Applicant engaged with the Cumbria Deaf Association, and provided a one-hour private session before the start of the consultation event at Hunday Manor, on Thursday 21 March 2024. Members of the project team were available to provide additional information and answer any questions, via a British Sign Language interpreter provided by the Cumbria Deaf Association.

## **3.3. Adherence to the SoCC**

3.3.1. To adhere to Section 47(7) of the PA 2008,



“(7) The applicant must carry out consultation in accordance with the proposals set out in the statement.”

3.3.2. The below table outlines the commitments made in the SoCC and evidence of the Applicant’s compliance:

**Table 3.3: Adequacy of consultation compliance**

SoCC reference (Chapter)	Commitment made in the SoCC	Evidence of compliance
12. Who will we consult?  Page 18, paragraph 1	<i>We will consult widely in accordance with this SoCC and encourage participation in the consultation from any person or group who may be directly impacted by the proposed Dean Moor Solar Farm. We have defined a series of 'zones of consultation' for the purpose of consulting with the local community under section 47 of the PA 2008.</i>	Outreach was made to all parties as listed in the SoCC on 11 March 2024. Outreach directed viewers to the consultation materials placed on the website, at local deposit locations, and via the email, freephone and freepost address.  The consultation zones were developed with Cumberland Council. Zone 1 extended to a minimum of 1km from the site, Zone 2 incorporated all site and neighbouring Parish Council boundaries, and Zone 3 constituted Cumberland Council area.
12. Who will we consult?  Page 18, paragraph 4	<i>The launch dates for each stage of consultation will be announced and published at least 10 days before the start of that consultation stage.</i>	The statutory consultation was announced on the website on 26 February 2024 and advertised in local newspapers from 28 February 2024. The consultation then began at least 10 days afterward, on 11 March 2024.
12. Who will we consult?  Page 21, paragraph 1	<i>We will also consult and continue our engagement with a range of other statutory consultees as required by section 42 and section 48 of the PA 2008 and regulation 13 of the EIA Regulations, and additional organisations that we recognise to have an interest in the proposed Dean Moor Solar Farm. These groups include, but are not limited to:</i>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Economic interest groups and organisations such as local enterprise partnerships (LEPs) and chambers of commerce</i></li> <li><i>Heritage consultees including Historic England and the National Trust</i></li> </ul>	To comply with the obligation to consult as stipulated in section 42(1)(a) of the PA 2008, the Applicant assembled a list of relevant statutory consultees. The prescribed consultees are outlined in column 1 of Schedule 1 to the APFP Regulations. The Applicant assessed the relevance of each consultee to the Proposed Development based on columns 2 and 3 of Schedule 1. A cautious approach was adopted, ensuring that a consultee was not excluded unless there was a

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Environmental consultees including Natural England and the Environment Agency</i></li> <li>• <i>Infrastructure providers such as National Highways and National Grid</i></li> <li>• <i>Conservation groups such as the RSPB, CPRE Cumbria, and the Cumbria Wildlife Trust</i></li> </ul>	<p>substantiated reason for doing so. The definitive list of consultees who were actively consulted can be located in appendix 3.9.</p> <p>Emails were sent to identified potential interest groups in advance of the statutory consultation period on 9 March 2024.</p> <p>Letters were also sent to statutory consultees in advance of the statutory consultation period on 9 March.</p> <p>These emails and letters included details of the consultation period, the consultation website and documents therein (including the PEIR), and the contact details for providing feedback to the project team.</p> <p>Owing to an issue with the addressing of the letters, which removed a portion of the address, letters were sent out again to addressees where the problem was identified on 18 March. These letters were sent out by Royal Mail, 1<sup>st</sup> Class Tracked post and were issued with a cover letter which explained the reason the letters were being re-issued.</p> <p>Further letters were issued on 3 April where confirmation was not provided of receipt of the letters sent on the 12<sup>th</sup> March, or the 18<sup>th</sup> March. These letters were sent by Royal Mail, 1<sup>st</sup> Class Tracked post, and were issued with a cover letter which confirmed an extension to the statutory consultation period to 3 May 2024 to ensure sufficient time to consider the proposals. For select consultees, letters were issued to a different address to the previous letters, either an address available online</p>
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		<p>for the consultee, or the registered Companies House address, where an alternative address was used previously. Cover letters were enclosed to explain why an additional letter has been issued, and why a different address was used, where necessary.</p> <p>Additional letters were further issued by Royal Mail, 1<sup>st</sup> Class on 15 April to select consultees where proof of delivery could not be confirmed. These letters did not need to be signed for to ensure that someone did not need to be present to receive the letters. These letters were issued with a cover letter which granted an extension to 16 May.</p>
<p>12. Who will we consult?</p> <p>Page 21, Paragraph 1</p>	<p><i>We are hosting different formats of free-to-use communications channels to ensure our consultation is as accessible as possible. These formats include email, phone and post.</i></p>	<p>Interested parties were able to contact the project team via a dedicated email address at <a href="mailto:info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com">info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com</a>, by phone at 0800 041 8643, and by post at FREEPOST: DEAN MOOR SOLAR FARM with a target and typical response time of less than 5 working days. These inboxes were all monitored 9am-5pm Mon-Fri. Responses received outside of this period were incorporated into the feedback database at the earliest available opportunity.</p>
<p>12. Who will we consult?</p>	<p><i>Identified seldom heard groups include:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Age UK West Cumbria</i></li> <li>• <i>Cumbria Deaf Association</i></li> <li>• <i>Triple A (All About Autism)</i></li> <li>• <i>Autism Support Allerdale and Copeland</i></li> <li>• <i>The WI Cumbria-Westmorland Federation</i></li> </ul>	<p>The listed groups were all contacted on 11 March 2024, with a copy of the brochure and feedback form. Further details will be available in the Consultation Report.</p>

Page 21, Paragraph 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Allerdale Disability Association</i></li> <li>• <i>Owl Blue Cumbria</i></li> <li>• <i>Cumbria Young Farmers Clubs</i></li> <li>• <i>West Cumbria Society for the Blind England</i></li> <li>• <i>Anti Racist Cumbria</i></li> </ul>	
<p>13. How will we be consulting?</p> <p>Zone 1: How we will publicise consultation within this zone</p>	<i>Writing to all addresses within consultation zone 1</i>	Consultation brochures were sent to all addresses within Zone 1 on 11 March 2024, along with a copy of the feedback form. Further details will be available in the Consultation Report.
<p>13. How will we be consulting?</p> <p>(Zone 1, Zone 2, Zone 3)</p>	<i>Writing to elected representatives at a parish, Cumbria Council electoral division, and Parliamentary level, as well as community groups, within the zone with details of the consultation</i>	Elected representatives were contacted with a copy of the brochure and feedback form on 11 March 2024, inviting them to the statutory consultation events and offering them a one-to-one briefing. Further details will be available in the Consultation Report.
<p>13. How will we be consulting?</p> <p>(Zone 1, Zone 2)</p>	<i>Sharing a consultation information pack including Q&amp;As and a poster with local authorities, parish councils and community groups within the zone to allow them to promote the consultation through existing communications channels</i>	An information pack including the PEIR, Non-Technical Summary, Guide to the Statutory Consultation, Consultation Brochures (Including Q&As), Consultation Feedback Forms, and posters was provided at the start of the consultation and made available upon request. Further details will be available in the Consultation Report.
<p>13. How will we be consulting?</p>	<i>Publicising the consultation in the following newspapers circulating in the consultation zone: the News and Star, the Whitehaven News, and the Times and Star</i>	Statutory notices advertising the statutory consultation were placed in the listed newspapers on 11 March 2024.

(Zone 1, Zone 2, Zone 3)		Further details will be provided in the Consultation Report.
13. How will we be consulting?  (Zone 1, Zone 2, Zone 3)	<i>Publicising the consultation to regional and local broadcasters including BBC Radio Cumbria, BBC Look North (North East and Cumbria), BBC North West</i>	This was undertaken in advance of the start of the consultation period (11 March). Further details will be available in the Consultation Report.
13. How will we be consulting?  (Zone 1, Zone 2, Zone 3, Zone 4)	<i>Advertising the consultation via Facebook advertisements</i>	Facebook adverts were placed from 11 March 2024 – 26 April 2024, for the duration of the statutory consultation period. Further details will be available in the Consultation Report.
13. How will we be consulting?  (Zone 1, Zone 2, Zone 3, Zone 4)	<i>Publishing details of the consultation online at <b><a href="http://www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com/">www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com/</a></b></i>	Details of the statutory consultation were published on the project website. Documents published to the website will be listed in the Consultation Report.
13. How will we be consulting?  (Zone 1)	<i>Sending a letter providing at an early stage introduction to the proposals and the contact details of the project team.</i>	This was undertaken on 4 August 2023, in advance of the start of the consultation period. Further details will be available in the Consultation Report.
13. How will we be consulting?  (Zone 1)	<i>Sending a copy of a consultation booklet providing a non-technical overview of the proposed Dean Moor Solar Farm, the EIA process, the consultation and planning process, how to take part in the consultation, and proposed next steps to all addresses in consultation zone 1</i>	Copies of the consultation booklet were sent by Royal Mail to all households in Zone 1 on 11 March 2024, advertising the statutory consultation and with details of

		the proposals. Further details will be available in the Consultation Report.
13. How will we be consulting?  (Zone 1, Zone 2, Zone 3, Zone 4)	<i>Hosting webinars which will include a presentation regarding the proposals and an opportunity to ask questions.</i>	Two webinars occurred during the statutory consultation period, on Tuesday 16 April 6pm-7pm, and Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> April 6pm-7pm.
13. How will we be consulting?  (Zone 1, Zone 2, Zone 3)	<i>Inviting elected representatives to take part in briefings through a digital meeting</i>	Local representatives were offered one-to-one briefings accompanying their invitation to the consultation. The Applicant received several responses, details of which will be included in the Consultation Report.
13. How will we be consulting?  (Zone 1)	<i>Inviting residents of consultation zone 1 to book an individual appointment to discuss the proposals by telephone or in person at an appropriate venue</i>	This was undertaken in advance of the start of the consultation period and during the consultation. Further details will be available in the Consultation Report.
13. How will we be consulting?  (Zone 1)	<i>Contacting community and voluntary organisations within consultation zone 1 to offer direct engagement</i>	Local organisations within Zone 1 were invited to have direct meetings with the project team in advance of the consultation period. Further details will be available in the Consultation Report.
13. How will we be consulting?	<i>Publication of consultation information online at the consultation website</i>	This was undertaken on 10 March 2024, in advance of the start of the consultation period.

(Zone 1, Zone 2, Zone 3, Zone 4)		
13. How will we be consulting?  (Zone 1)	<i>Provision of copies of the Preliminary Environmental Information Report for review, as well as copies of the consultation booklet and questionnaire, at deposit points in the local area. The PEIR will also be available on the project website.</i>	Materials were deposited at the locations identified in the SoCC on the first day of the consultation: Distington Library, Frizington Library, Workington Library, and St Oswalds Church at Dean. Materials were deposited where possible in advance of 9.00 am. Where this was not possible (Distington Library, Frizington Library) materials were delivered at those locations opening times in the first day of consultation.
13. How will we be consulting?  (Zone 2)	Writing to all addresses within consultation zone 2	<p>This was identified as a error within the published SoCC by the Applicant. The Applicant notified Cumberland Council of this error on 6<sup>th</sup> August 2024.</p> <p>Changes were agreed with the Council to make clear that the Applicant would <u>not</u> be writing to residents in Zone 2. The SoCC, as published, was not changed, so it contained the commitment to write to parties in Zone 2. However the Applicant consulted as agreed with the Council, and therefore did not write to addresses in Zone 2.</p> <p>The following actions were undertaken to inform the residents living in Zone 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The entirety of Zone 2 was covered by online advertising via Facebook/Instagram, to the effect that these adverts had an estimated reach of 9,114 accounts across both Zone 1 and Zone 2;.</li> </ul>



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Zone 2 was also covered by newspapers which contained notices of the proposed application; and</li> <li>Two of the consultation events, at Hunday Manor and Distington Community Hall, were held within Zone 2 while the third event, at Dean Kirkstile Hall, was held in Zone 1.</li> </ul> <p>The Applicant did, therefore, consult fully with the residents living in Zone 2, the issue being that this was not fully in accordance with the published SoCC. All residents had the opportunity to respond to the consultation. Of the 15 responses to consultation received, five responses were from residents in Zone 2.</p>
13. How will we be consulting? (Zone 3)	Writing to all division councillors at Cumberland Council and Westmorland and Furness Council.	This was undertaken on 11 March 2024, at the start of the consultation period.
13. How will we be consulting? (Zone 4)	<i>Writing to the Leader and Chief Executive of local authorities within the zone</i>	This was undertaken on 11 March 2024, at the start of the consultation period.
15. Public information events	<p><i>Statutory events (11th March 2024 - 26th April 2024)</i></p> <p><i>We will be conducting statutory consultation events in Spring 2024. Dates and locations of events may be found below.</i></p>	Consultation events were held at the times and locations as listed. Details on how the events were advertised will be found in the Consultation Report.

	<p><i>IN-PERSON:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Tuesday 19th March 2pm-6pm, Distington Community Centre, Church Rd, Distington, Workington CA14 5TE</i></li> <li>• <i>Wednesday 20th March 2pm-7pm, Dean Kirkstile Hall, Dean, Workington CA14 4TH</i></li> <li>• <i>Thursday 21st March 2pm-7pm, Hunday Manor, Workington CA14 4JF</i></li> </ul> <p><i>WEBINAR:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Tuesday 16th April, 6pm - 7pm</i></li> <li>• <i>Thursday 18th April, 6pm - 7pm</i></li> </ul>	<p>A recording of the Tuesday 16 April webinar may be found on the project website at <a href="https://www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com/public-consultation">https://www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com/public-consultation</a>.</p>
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## **4. Summary of changes to the scheme as a result of statutory consultation responses**

- 4.1.1. The below section outlines the summary of key matters raised by stakeholders to the statutory consultation, and the design response made by the Applicant.
- 4.1.2. The principal changes to the design which were made in response to the consultation, in order of key themes raised during the consultation, are summarised below.

### **Landscape and Visual**

- 4.1.3. The closest neighbouring residents, parish councils, and the Council raised the impacts on views from nearby dwellings during the non-statutory and statutory consultation. Additional landscape buffers and screening to reduce these impacts has been incorporated within the Proposed Development.
- 4.1.4. The Lake District National Park Authority (LDNPA) and Dean and Distington Parish Council raised the impact on long distance views from the nearest fells within the Lake District National Park. LDNPA welcomed that the Proposed Development avoided solar arrays within higher ground within the Site. This higher ground continues to be set aside for green infrastructure enhancements within the Proposed Development (that has not changed after the Statutory Consultation).
- 4.1.5. In addition, LDNPA suggested additional planting within the Site to address the impact on long distance views. The Proposed Development now features blocks and corridors of screening which will break up the impacts on long distance views, particularly to those viewpoints at the closest fells.

### **Biodiversity**

- 4.1.6. The Council has indicated that improving water quality in the Marron and Derwent Rivers is an area which the Council is developing its strategy and policies to address. The Proposed Development will generally contribute to improved water quality through the reduction in intensity of grazing, which will

reduce nutrients from sheep manure entering the watercourse (the principal current use of the Site is sheep farming).

- 4.1.7. The Proposed Development will also be introducing planting and green corridors along the existing watercourses on the Site. This will also intercept nutrients before they enter the watercourse, benefitting water quality. However, given the scale of the Proposed Development, and the scale of the issue with water quality associated with farming in Cumbria as a whole, the Proposed Development would not deliver an improvement which is significant at the county level.
- 4.1.8. The Proposed Development is located partly within a County Wildlife Site ('CWS'), which Cumbria Wildlife Trust ('CWT') is responsible for managing. CWT responded to the statutory consultation, and the Applicant met with CWT during the consultation to discuss the Applicant's approach to biodiversity net gain and plans for the CWS. CWT welcomed the proposed improvements to biodiversity within the CWS. However, it expressed concerns about the impact of solar development within the CWS. The presence of solar arrays or other development within the CWS has been minimised within the proposed Works Areas.
- 4.1.9. In addition, a large area of the Site which overlaps with the CWS will be set aside for green infrastructure and biodiversity enhancement purposes. In the limited areas where solar arrays may be located within the CWS, the Proposed Development is proposing to enhance the existing grassland, delivering a general improvement in biodiversity in these areas. The Applicant has agreed to work closely with CWT to agree the appropriate grazing management and BNG arrangements for those parts of the Site within the CWS, post-consent.
- 4.1.10. The Environment Agency responded to the consultation to request more clarity on the outline biodiversity enhancements which were described during the statutory consultation. In particular, it requested more detail on the enhancements for watercourses and wetlands on Site, and in terms of the improvements to the CWS. The details of the biodiversity enhancements,

including how the Proposed Development will deliver biodiversity net gain, will be described in Chapter 8– Biodiversity and Appendix 8.7 - Biodiversity Net Gain of the ES the final DCO submission.

- 4.1.11. Neighbouring residents raised the presence and potential ecological value of a pond within the Site, located south of the Potato Pot Wind Farm, . This anecdotally included the regular presence of native species of bird, including swans. The Proposed Development will deliver improvements to this existing pond and to watercourses on Site as part of the proposed biodiversity enhancements.

### **Highways and Access**

- 4.1.12. Nearby residents raised the matter of safety for vehicles turning at the junction between Gilgarran Road and Branthwaite Edge Road. The public and Local Highways Authority accident data indicated that there are historic issues with safety on the Branthwaite Edge Road. The Applicant has allowed for vegetation clearance to ensure appropriate visibility for construction traffic using this junction within the Order Limits which are proposed. Although this is not envisaged, if the existing junction needed to be improved, this could be achieved through agreement with the Local Highways Authority post consent.
- 4.1.13. The Local Highway Authority indicated a preference to avoid or minimise construction traffic using the Gilgarran Road (also known as Collingate Road), which is a narrow lane between the two areas of the Site. The Applicant will need secondary compounds and accesses north and south off the Collingate Road to deliver equipment to areas closer to construction, and to avoid tracking heavy vehicles across the Site. However, as a general principle most construction traffic would access the primary compounds from existing accesses on the Branthwaite Road or Branthwaite Edge Road. The use of the Gilgarran Road would be minimised where possible.
- 4.1.14. Members of the public raised concerns about the potential impact from construction traffic during peak periods (such as the school run). The Applicant is committed to scheduling deliveries to Site to avoid these times where possible.

## **Footpaths**

- 4.1.15. Nearby residents indicated that some informal paths are situated within the Site. The Applicant is proposing two permissive paths to improve public accessibility within the Site. This would include improving access and providing signage to better reveal the significance of an existing Stone Circle which is located in the southern area of the Site (Area C), and provide access to the proposed biodiversity enhancement areas, particularly around a pond in the centre of the Site (between Area A and B).

## **Soils and Drainage**

- 4.1.16. The Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) raised concerns about the impacts on soils during construction. The Applicant has met with the LLFA and agreed a strategy to minimise the impact on the Site during construction. The Applicant will also agree mitigation with the LLFA, which will be secured through the Construction Environmental Management Plan prior to construction.

## **Ground Conditions**

- 4.1.17. The northern part of the Site (Areas A and B) is within an area which has been subject to historic mining activities, where there may be risks associated with historic contamination. The Applicant has discussed with the Council's Environmental Health Officer how the risks associated with contaminated land would be managed. They have confirmed that the Proposed Development's use of Area A and B is appropriate in general, subject to the appropriate arrangements being established to avoid risks to human health during construction. The arrangements will be specified and secured in the Construction Environmental Management Plan.

## **Benefits**

- 4.1.18. When engaging with local community organisations, including parish councils, the Applicant identified various potential recipients and projects which could receive funding through the Community Benefit Package. The

Applicant has changed how to structure the Proposed Development's benefits package to respond better to these organisations' needs.

### **Battery Energy Storage System Safety**

- 4.1.19. The BESS has been removed from the Proposed Development following the statutory consultation. This has been removed for various reasons, principally the need to avoiding ground disturbance, and the construction issues associated with the soft ground conditions with the Site. In addition, the removal of the BESS avoids long-term impacts from sterilisation of agricultural land due to loss of soil through construction of the BESS.
- 4.1.20. Members of the public raised concerns regarding the safety of the BESS during the statutory consultation. In addition, the Applicant met with Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service (CFRS) to discuss developing a Battery Safety Management Plan during the consultation. The Applicant is confident that the issue of safety could have been addressed through agreement with CFRS. However, the removal of the BESS has the benefit of avoiding the need to agree appropriate battery safety management arrangements with CFRS, while also removing a cause of concern for neighbouring residents and the wider public's concerns about such matters.
- 4.1.21. The Applicant would note that work is currently ongoing with regard to the design of the Proposed Development, and that the details of the above changes will be set out more fully within the Consultation Report.

## **5. Next Steps**

### **5.1. Updates and reflection of feedback to communities**

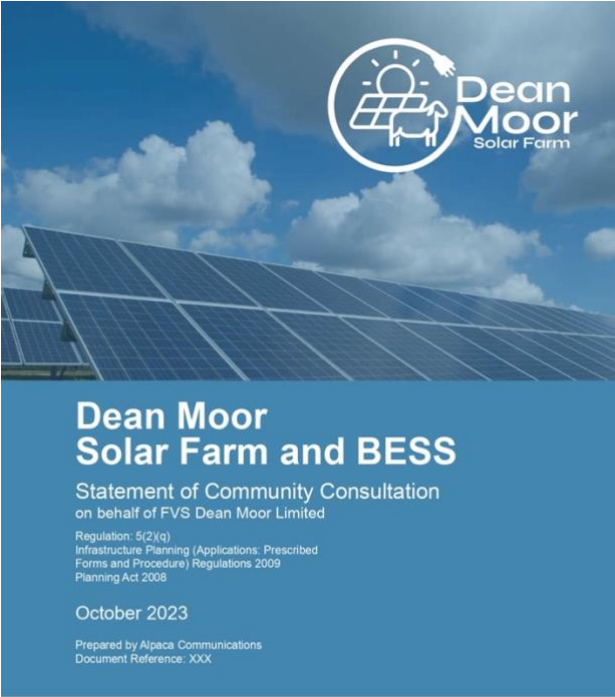
- 5.1.1. The Applicant intends to inform local stakeholders of the updates to the proposals ahead of the submission of the Application. Further details of this engagement will be provided in the Consultation Report.

### **5.2. Emerging land concerns**

- 5.2.1. Title refreshes of HMLR data will continue to be made in order to identify changes in interests to the land. Any changes will be updated on the land referencing database to ensure any new parties are captured.



## **Appendix 1.1 Early draft of SoCC informally shared with LPA**



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## 1. Introduction

FVS Dean Moor Ltd is inviting feedback from the local community on its proposals for Dean Moor Solar Farm as part of a public consultation in line with the requirements of the Planning Act 2008 (2008 Act). Dean Moor Solar Farm would generate enough clean electricity to power approximately 50,000 typical family homes every year it is in operation. The solar farm will assist in tackling the climate emergency and to help the UK Government in meeting its target for net zero emissions by 2050.



Dean Moor Solar Farm | Statement of Community Consultation

## 2. Project description

The development of Dean Moor Solar Farm (The Proposed Development) would involve the construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of a grid connected solar farm and Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) (The Project) on approximately 270 hectares (ha) (420 acres) of land located between Gilgarran and Branthwaite in West Cumbria (The Site). The Proposed Development would include arrays of solar photovoltaic (PV) modules, battery energy storage and associated infrastructure that will connect to the existing Distribution Network Operator (DNO) electricity network on the Site.

Dean Moor Solar Farm would contribute to local and national 'Net Zero' targets with an export capacity of up to 150 Megawatts (MW) of renewable energy. The annual output of the solar farm will provide enough clean electricity to meet the annual electricity demand of approximately 50,000 average family homes. This will have an annual displacement of approximately 137,350 tonnes (t) of Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) compared with the same electricity generated by fossil fuel sources.

The Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) facility would be utilised to reinforce the power generated by the solar farm, storing energy at times of low demand and releasing to the grid in periods of higher demand or when solar irradiance is lower. The energy stored will also provide balancing services to maintain grid stability.

A full description of the physical characteristics of the whole Proposed Development and the land-use requirements during the construction and operational phases will be set out in the Environmental Statement, Chapter 5: Development Description, which will accompany the application for a Development Consent Order (DCO). For the purposes of the statutory consultation this will be set out in the 'Preliminary Environmental Information Report' (PEIR).

Dean Moor Solar Farm | Statement of Community Consultation



Dean Moor Solar Farm | Statement of Community Consultation

## 3. About us



Founded in 2021 by Rufus Salter and Andrew Jones, Firma Energy is an independent management owned business, based in Leeds. The business has a focus on creating and delivering value from renewable energy developments with environmental and social benefits. Across the UK Firma Energy currently has over 260 megawatts (MW) of Solar Farm and 347MW of Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) in development.



ib vogt (IBV) is a leading developer specialising in utility-scale infrastructure for solar photovoltaic (PV) farms and BESS. With a 20-year history of global expertise, IBV has been a significant player in the UK solar industry, holding the position of the second-largest solar developer in the country from 2012 to 2017 and with over 40GW of development projects in the pipeline globally.

IBV are committed to sustainable energy and high-quality local development, a commitment solidified by their participation in the UN Global Compact. With over 450MWp of solar operations in the UK, their projects are designed and delivered with consideration for communities at their core. Through transparent communication and investment in local employment, IBV strive to empower local resilience while addressing the global challenges of climate change. The focus on development and engineering excellence supports IBV's mission to create a greener future through renewable energy solutions.

Dean Moor Solar Farm | Statement of Community Consultation

## 4. Project overview

### What is this document?

This document, known as a Statement of Community Consultation ('SoCC'), sets out how FVS Dean Moor Ltd will consult with the local community on its proposals for a utility scale solar farm at Dean Moor in Cumbria.

This version of the SoCC has been prepared in advance of the first round of consultation, which is non-statutory. The SoCC will be revised and published again prior to the statutory consultation stage.

Feedback from this round of consultation and the statutory consultation will inform the final planning submission. It includes:

- A description of the planning process we must follow
- How we have developed our approach to consultation
- How we will be consulting the local community
- How we will publicise the consultation
- Next steps and further information

### Why are we publishing this document?

The proposed Dean Moor Solar Farm is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project ('NSIP') under the 2006 Act. This means that, unlike conventional planning applications, which are determined by local planning authorities, we must apply to the Department for Energy Security and Climate Change ('DESNZ') for our proposals.

Part of this process requires us to publish a statement of how we will consult with the local community – known as an SoCC. The consultation process is an opportunity to influence our proposals before we submit our 'DCO' application. We very much want feedback from the local community on our proposals during our consultation.



## 5. The planning process

We are developing the proposed Dean Moor Solar Farm under the 2008 Act. This is because its proposed generating capacity exceeds 50 megawatts ('MW'), which means that, under the 2008 Act, Dean Moor Solar Farm constitutes an NSIP requiring a 'DCO'.

Unlike planning applications, which are considered by local authorities, 'DCO' applications are submitted to the Planning Inspectorate ('PINS'). This independent body administers the application process on behalf of the relevant Secretary of State. In this case, the appropriate government department is the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero.

Further information on the 'DCO' application process can be obtained from PINS Advice Note 8: Overview of the nationally significant infrastructure planning process for members of the public and others. This is available on the PINS website at the following link: <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/legislation-and-advice/advice-notes/advice-note-eight-overview-of-the-nationally-significant-infrastructure-planning-process-for-members-of-the-public-and-others/>

Figure 1 on page 16 of this document shows each stage of the planning process for NSIPs. We anticipate submitting our application in the third quarter of 2024.



Indicative image of an energy storage container

## 6. The Planning Act 2008 and consultation

'DCO's are governed by a fixed, statutory process which requires us to consult with persons with an interest in the proposed land and certain bodies as prescribed under section 42 of the 2008 Act, the local community under section 47 of the 2008 Act, and to publicise the proposals locally and nationally under section 48 of the 2008 Act and regulation 13 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 ('EIA Regulations'). It also provides a fixed role as consultees for those local authorities which host the development and means we will be following a well-established and clear process to engage on our proposals.

We are at the stage in 2023 developing our proposals where we will informally consult – this is known as a non-statutory consultation. We will use the feedback that we receive during the non-statutory consultation to help us develop our proposals for Dean Moor Solar Farm before commencing the statutory consultation period.

We anticipate reaching the formal statutory consultation stage during the first quarter of 2024 (see Figure 1). This stage is known as statutory consultation. We will use the feedback that we receive during the statutory consultation to help us further develop our final proposals for Dean Moor Solar Farm before submitting our 'DCO' application.

As part of our 'DCO' application, we will submit a Consultation Report detailing our approach to consultation, the feedback that we received during the non-statutory and statutory consultations, and how we have had regard to it. When considering our 'DCO' application, The Planning Inspectorate must consider whether the consultation that we have undertaken has been adequate.



## 7. Environmental Impact Assessment

For the proposed Dean Moor Solar Farm, we are required to carry out an Environmental Impact Assessment ('EIA') of our proposals as part of the planning process. This is by virtue of the proposed scheme being considered 'EIA development' for the purpose of the EIA Regulations.

This means we must assess the likely significant environmental effects of our proposals and, where appropriate, describe mitigation that is proposed to avoid, prevent, reduce or, if possible, offset any

significant adverse effects. We will report on this process in a document called an Environmental Statement ('ES') when we submit our 'DCO' application.

During the statutory consultation process, we will be sharing, and seeking feedback on, the preliminary results of our ongoing environmental assessments. We do this via a document called a Preliminary Environmental Information Report ('PEIR').

## 8. More information

You can find more information about the 2008 Act, PINS and its role and how to participate in the 'DCO' process on the PINS National Infrastructure Planning website - <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk>, or by calling PINS on 0303 444 5000.

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## 9. Our public consultation process

We are currently in the process of conducting consultations for Dean Moor Solar Farm. The feedback and comments we receive from stakeholders are of great importance as they will help shape the final design of the project, which will later be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate for evaluation.

Our goal is to ensure that communities interested in this project can engage effectively without the need for duplicate feedback submissions. We strongly believe that this coordinated approach brings numerous benefits, such as:

- Efficiency for respondents
- Clarity for communities: clearly aligning programmes and providing information on the project in consultation literature allows us to clearly explain our project in single documents

Our consultation will consist of two phases of consultation for both projects, including:

- A non-statutory phase one consultation, lasting 30 days will be held from 3rd October 2023 - 3rd November 2023.
- A statutory phase two consultation, lasting for 6 weeks from [DATES TO BE ADDED - Early 2024]. This SoCC relates to the carrying out of the phase two statutory consultation.

### Phase one consultation (3rd October 2023 - 3rd November 2023)

This non-statutory consultation introduced our early-stage proposals for the Dean Moor Solar Farm to the local communities. We received feedback on our initial proposals and suggestions from the communities, based on local knowledge of the area. All of this feedback has been useful for us to understand and consider as we develop and refine our proposals.

### Phase two consultation (Early 2024)

The statutory consultation, in accordance with Section 47 of the Planning Act, will allow us to update interested parties on our proposals for the Dean Moor Solar Farm. We will consult on more detailed proposals alongside presenting the findings of the environmental studies that have been carried out to date, which will be published in our Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR). The phase two consultation is the consultation that we must carry out by law. More details of what we will be consulting on are listed in Section 11 of this SoCC and the methods for how we will consult are listed in Section 13. As well as the community consultation in accordance with Section 47, this consultation also includes:

- Consultation with prescribed bodies such as Natural England, the Environment Agency and National Highways (under Section 42 of the 2008 Act);
- Consultation with host and neighbouring Local Planning Authorities (under Section 43 of the 2008 Act);
- Consultation with any persons with an interest in the land affected by the Project (under Section 44 of the 2008 Act); and general public consultation on the Project (under Section 48 of the 2008 Act)

During our phase two consultation, we will actively seek feedback on the findings of the PEIR. The full PEIR, along with a non-technical summary, will be accessible for review as part of the consultation process. To ensure convenient access, the PEIR will be made available electronically on our project website. Additionally, as part of our statutory notices, we will provide a service for requesting copies of the complete PEIR.

For the convenience of interested stakeholders, hard copies of our community consultation documents will be sent via post upon request. Please refer to Section 13 for more detailed information on this process.

Once we submit the 'DCO' application to the Planning Inspectorate, interested parties will have the opportunity to formally comment on our proposals for the Dean Moor Solar Farm. The Planning Inspectorate will facilitate public engagement by inviting views on the proposals. Interested parties will have the ability to register and submit their representations for consideration during the examination process.

For guidance and further information on this process, please visit the Planning Inspectorate's website at <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/legislation-and-advice/>

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### Consultation reporting

As part of the 'DCO' application to be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate, planned for Winter 2024, we will publish a consultation report that:

- Describes our consultation process
- Explains how we have satisfied and adhered to legal requirements
- Details how we have worked with local authorities to ensure our consultation is suitable for the area through the proposals set out in this SoCC
- Details the feedback and consultation responses we have received
- Responds to the feedback we have received, including explaining how we have listened to feedback and how it has influenced our proposals

## 11. What will be consulted on?

During the consultation periods we will be asking for views on:

- The proposed Dean Moor Solar Farm
- The short term and long-term impacts of the proposed Dean Moor Solar Farm including:
  - Construction impacts
  - Environmental impacts
  - Operational impacts
  - Impacts from decommissioning
  - Other impacts during the construction, maintenance, and decommissioning periods, such as socioeconomic and cumulative impacts
- Proposed mitigation of these impacts
- The contribution that Dean Moor Solar Farm could make to the local community
- The PEIR (at statutory consultation only)

## 10. Timing



Figure 1: Proposed Timeline for Engagement and Submission

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Indicative image of energy storage containers

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## 12. Who will we consult?

We will consult widely in accordance with this SoCC and encourage participation in the consultation from any person or group who may be directly impacted by the proposed Dean Moor Solar Farm. We have defined a series of 'zones of consultation' for the purpose of consulting with the local community under section 47 of the 2008 Act.

These recognise the fact that levels of potential impact and interest are likely to vary with geography and inform the techniques we will use to consult.

These zones are set out in Table 1 and visible in Figures 2 & 3.

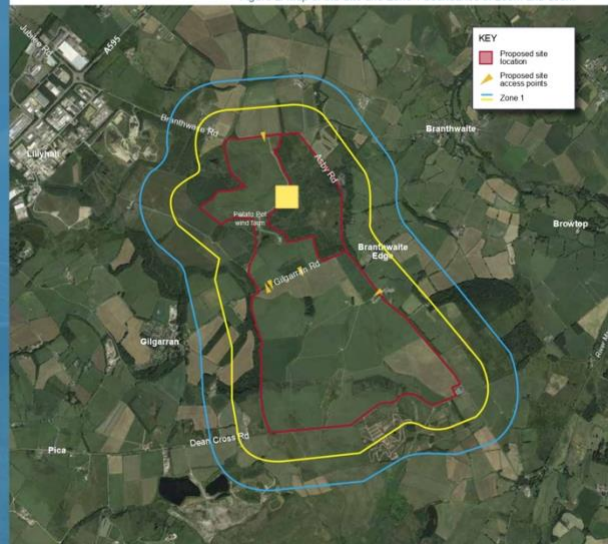
The launch dates for each stage of consultation will be announced and published at least 10 days before the start of that consultation stage. This will be done in a number of ways, which are outlined in Section 13.

Zone	Parameters
Zone 1	Any person or group likely to be directly impacted by the proposed Dean Moor Solar Farm by virtue of their living or working in proximity to the site.  This zone is defined by a boundary of 250m/500m extending from the site boundary
Zone 2	Any person or group living in proximity to the site, but outside of Zone 1. This zone is defined by the boundaries of the parishes of Dean, Arlecdon & Frizington, Distington, and Winscales
Zone 3	People living and working in the host local authority area of Cumberland Council outside of consultation Zone 1.
Zone 4	Neighbouring district, county and unitary authorities within the administrative areas of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Westmorland and Furness Council</li> <li>• Lancaster District Council</li> <li>• North Yorkshire Council</li> <li>• Northumberland Council</li> </ul>

Table 1: Zones of consultation

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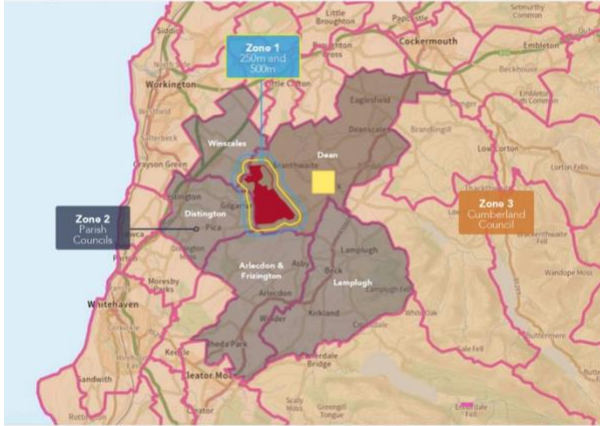
Figure 2: Map of the Site and Zone 1 boundaries of 250m and 500m



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Figure 3: Map of the Site and Zone 1, Zone 2, and Zone 3



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We will also consult and continue our engagement with a range of other statutory consultees as required by section 42 and section 48 of the 2008 Act and regulation 13 of the EIA Regulations, and additional organisations that we recognise to have an interest in the proposed Dean Moor Solar Farm. These groups include, but are not limited to:

- Economic interest groups and organisations such as local enterprise partnerships (LEPs) and chambers of commerce
- Heritage consultees including Historic England and the National Trust
- Environmental consultees including Natural England and the Environment Agency
- Infrastructure providers such as National Highways and National Grid
- Conservation groups such as the RSPB, CPRE Cumbria, and the Cumbria Wildlife Trust

#### Ongoing engagement

Anybody is welcome to get in touch with us at any point before, during or between stages of consultation. Our contact details are listed in Section 18 of this SoCC. Feedback will be considered as part of the detailed design process and incorporated where possible. Where this is not possible for technical reasons, we will explain this in our Consultation Report. You will also have the opportunity to formally comment on our proposals for the Dean Moor Solar Farm when the DCO application is submitted to, and accepted by, the Planning Inspectorate.

#### Seldom heard groups

We have developed our consultation to be accessible to all groups in the community. We recognise that some individuals or groups may have difficulties taking part in the consultation process for a range of reasons. We have identified a number of organisations representing seldom heard groups in the consultation area. These organisations will be contacted ahead of phase two consultation to ensure that our approach best meets the needs of their members. We are hosting different formats of free-to-use communications channels to ensure our consultation is as accessible as possible. These formats include email, phone and post. We will also be using a combination of in person and digital formats such as in person events and webinars. We will also continue to notify them of consultation opportunities. Identified seldom heard groups include:

- Age UK West Cumbria
- Cumbria Deaf Association
- Triple A (All About Autism)
- Autism Support Allerdale and Copeland
- The WI Cumbria-Westmorland Federation
- Allerdale Disability Association
- Owl Blue Cumbria
- Cumbria Young Farmers Clubs
- West Cumbria Society for the Blind England
- Anti Racist Cumbria

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## 13. How will we be consulting?

We will use a range of techniques to consult the community. These are designed to allow people with different needs across the community to take part in the consultation. These are set out as follows.

Zone	How we will publicise consultation within this zone	How we will consult within this zone
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writing to all addresses within consultation zone 1</li> <li>• Writing to elected representatives at a parish, Cumbria Council electoral division, and Parliamentary level, as well as community groups, within the zone with details of the consultation</li> <li>• Sharing a consultation information pack including Q&amp;As and a poster with local authorities, parish councils and community groups within the zone to allow them to promote the consultation through existing communications channels</li> <li>• Publishing the consultation in the following newspapers circulating in the consultation zone: the News and Star, the Whitehaven News, and the Times and Star</li> <li>• Publishing the consultation to regional and local broadcasters including BBC Radio Cumbria, BBC Look North (North East and Cumbria), BBC North West</li> <li>• Advertising the consultation via Facebook advertisements</li> <li>• Publishing details of the consultation online at <a href="http://www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com/">www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com/</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sending a letter providing an early stage introduction to the proposals and the contact details of the project team</li> <li>• Providing a non-technical overview of the proposed Dean Moor Solar Farm, the EIA process, the consultation and planning process, how to take part in the consultation, and proposed next steps to all addresses in consultation zone 1</li> <li>• Inviting enquiries and responses online through the consultation website, by freephone, freepost or email. This will provide a variety of means for consultees to respond in a way convenient to them</li> <li>• Hosting webinars which will include a presentation regarding the proposals and an opportunity to ask questions. Dates for the webinars are included later in this document and will also be made available in consultation publicity</li> <li>• Inviting elected representatives to take part in briefings through a digital meeting</li> <li>• Inviting residents of consultation zone 1 to book an individual appointment to discuss the proposals by telephone or in person at an appropriate venue</li> <li>• Contacting community and voluntary organisations within consultation zone 1 to offer direct engagement</li> <li>• Publication of consultation information online at the consultation website</li> <li>• Provision of copies of the Preliminary Environmental Information Report for review, as well as copies of the consultation booklet and questionnaire, at deposit points in the local area. The PEIR will also be available on the project website</li> </ul>

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Zone	How we will publicise consultation within this zone	How we will consult within this zone
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writing to all addresses within consultation zone 2</li> <li>• Writing to elected representatives at a parish, Cumbria Council electoral division, and Parliamentary level, as well as community groups, within the zone with details of the consultation</li> <li>• Sharing a consultation information pack including Q&amp;As and a poster with local authorities, parish councils and community groups within the zone to allow them to promote the consultation through existing communications channels</li> <li>• Publishing the consultation in the following newspapers circulating in the consultation zone: the News and Star, the Whitehaven News, and the Times and Star</li> <li>• Publishing the consultation to regional and local broadcasters including BBC Radio Cumbria, BBC Look North (North East and Cumbria), BBC North West</li> <li>• Advertising the consultation via Facebook advertisements</li> <li>• Publishing details of the consultation online at <a href="http://www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com/">www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com/</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sending a copy of a consultation booklet providing a non-technical overview of the proposed Dean Moor Solar Farm, the EIA process, the consultation and planning process, how to take part in the consultation, and proposed next steps to all addresses in consultation zone 2</li> <li>• Inviting enquiries and responses online through the consultation website, by freephone, freepost or email. This will provide a variety of means for consultees to respond in a way convenient to them</li> <li>• Hosting webinars which will include a presentation regarding the proposals and an opportunity to ask questions. Dates for the webinars are included later in this document and will also be made available in consultation publicity</li> <li>• Inviting elected representatives to take part in briefings through a digital meeting</li> <li>• Inviting residents of consultation zone 1 to book an individual appointment to discuss the proposals by telephone or in person at an appropriate venue</li> <li>• Contacting community and voluntary organisations within consultation zone 2 to offer direct engagement</li> <li>• Publication of consultation information online at the consultation website</li> <li>• Provision of copies of the Preliminary Environmental Information Report for review, as well as copies of the consultation booklet and questionnaire, at deposit points in the local area. The PEIR will also be available on the project website</li> </ul>

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Zone	How we will publicise consultation within this zone	How we will consult within this zone
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Writing to all division councillors at Cumberland Council and Westmorland and Furness Council.</li> <li>Writing to all parish councils within the consultation zone.</li> <li>Sharing a consultation information pack designed to support stakeholders promoting consultation through their own existing communication channels such as social media feeds with local authorities, parish councils and community groups within the zone.</li> <li>Publicising the consultation in the following newspapers circulating in the consultation zone: the News and Star, the Whitehaven News, and the Times and Star.</li> <li>Publicising the consultation to regional and local broadcasters including BBC Radio Cumbria, BBC Look North (North East and Cumbria), BBC North West.</li> <li>Advertising the consultation online.</li> <li>Publishing details of the consultation online at <a href="http://www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com/">www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com/</a>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hosting webinars which will include a presentation regarding the proposals and an opportunity to ask questions. Dates for the webinars will be made available in consultation publicity.</li> <li>Inviting elected representatives to take part in briefings through a digital meeting.</li> <li>Publication of consultation information online at the consultation website.</li> <li>Inviting enquiries and responses online through the consultation website, by freephone, freepost or email.</li> </ul>
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Writing to the Leader and Chief Executive of local authorities within the zone.</li> <li>Publicising the consultation in the News and Star and the North-West Evening Mail.</li> <li>Advertising the consultation online.</li> <li>Publishing details of the consultation online at <a href="http://www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com/">www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com/</a>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Publication of consultation information online at the consultation website.</li> <li>Hosting webinars which will include a presentation regarding the proposals and an opportunity to ask questions. Dates for the webinars are included later in this document and will also be made available in consultation publicity.</li> <li>Inviting enquiries and responses online through the consultation website, by freephone, freepost or email.</li> </ul>

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## 14. Consultation information

We will produce a range of materials providing information as part of the consultation including:

- A consultation booklet providing a non-technical overview of the proposed Dean Moor Solar Farm including key plans, the EIA process, the consultation and planning process, proposed next steps, and how to find out more and view other consultation documents
- Presentations to be given as part of webinars, which will be recorded and made available for viewing after the event on the project website at [www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com](http://www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com).
- The PEIR, accompanied by a non-technical summary (for the statutory consultation)
- A consultation questionnaire designed to collect responses to the consultation
- The SoCC

The PEIR will also incorporate the results of the environmental surveys that we have completed to date and set out our preliminary conclusions on the likely significant effects of the proposed Dean Moor Solar Farm on the environment. It will also give information about some of the mitigation measures that may be proposed to reduce or avoid those effects, so as to assist respondents in making well-informed responses to the consultation.

Copies of consultation information will be made available for review free of charge online at [www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com](http://www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com).

Hard copies of the consultation booklet, questionnaire and SoCC will also be made available free of charge on request. Consultation materials will include guidance on what respondents can influence through the consultation and how we will have regard to their responses.

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## 15. Public information events

Non-statutory events (3rd October 2023 - 3rd November 2023)

### IN-PERSON:

- Tuesday 17 October 2pm-7pm**  
Dean Kirkstile Hall, Workington CA14 4TH
- Wednesday 18 October 2pm-7pm**  
Solway Lounge, Hunday Manor, Winscales, Workington, Cumbria, CA14 4JF

### WEBINAR:

- Thursday 19 October 6pm-7pm**
- Monday 30 October 6pm-7pm**

Statutory events (Spring 2024)

TBC

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## 16. Our documents

The following reports (listed below) will be prepared as part of the EIA and the 'DCO' process:

### Scoping Report:

In August 2023, we published our Scoping Report, which presented the Project Envelope and outlined the processes we will undertake to assess potential impacts on the existing environment. Following feedback from Local Planning Authorities and statutory consultees, a Scoping Opinion was issued by the Planning Inspectorate in September 2023. Both the Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion can be viewed on the Planning Inspectorate's website: <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/north-west/dean-moor-solar-farm/?ipsection=overview>.

### Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR):

The PEIR will set out preliminary environmental findings and information and take account of the Scoping Opinion issued by the Planning Inspectorate as well as feedback received during the non-statutory 'phase 1' consultation and stakeholder engagement. It will include the results of surveys and preliminary environmental assessments conducted thus far, providing consultees with a preliminary understanding of the potential impacts of the Dean Moor Solar Farm on the local environment.

The PEIR will also detail any project changes and proposed mitigation measures. During our phase two consultation, we will publish the PEIR for review and seek feedback. Please refer to Sections 9 and 14 for more detailed information.

### Environmental Statement (ES):

Building upon the content of the PEIR and incorporating responses from the phase two consultation, stakeholder engagement, and survey results, the ES will outline the assessment and conclusions of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process. Similar to the PEIR, it will describe any project changes and proposed mitigation measures. The ES will be an integral part of the Development Consent Order (DCO) application for submission.

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## 17. Community access points

Hard copies of this document and Phase Two consultation materials, including our leaflet, Feedback form and PEIR, will be available for public inspection at the locations to be agreed with the Council. We will provide copies of the consultation materials on a USB stick upon reasonable request and for a small charge.



Indicative image of an energy storage container

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## 18. Contact details

If you would like to obtain further information about the Dean Moor Solar Farm, please feel free to get in touch. Our team can be reached through any of the communication channels listed below. For individuals requiring documents in large print, audio, or braille formats, kindly contact us using the provided details. Please note that all graphs and maps included in this document are purely for illustrative purposes.

📞 [info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com](mailto:info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com)

☎ 0800 041 8643

✉ FREEPOST: DEAN MOOR SOLAR FARM



# Appendix 2.1 Land interest questionnaire



Ardent

## Dean Moor Solar Farm

### Land Interest Questionnaire ('LIQ')

This is a Land Interest Questionnaire ('LIQ') served on behalf of FVS Dean Moor Ltd (the Applicant) and relates to the Land and Property as shown on the attached plan(s)

The information requested is required in connection with the proposed application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) for the construction, maintenance and operation of Dean Moor Solar Farm (the Project)

The Applicant requires details of all parties holding a legal interest in the Land as part of its statutory obligations for the format and content of the application for a DCO and to ensure that everybody who has an interest in the Land is given the opportunity to comment during the pre-application consultation and when the proposed application for a DCO is submitted.

PLEASE READ THE ATTACHED NOTES BEFORE COMPLETING THIS QUESTIONNAIRE.

Ardent Management Limited will process your personal information in this questionnaire in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018. More information regarding your personal information can be found in the GDPR form accompanying this letter.

We kindly request that you complete the attached form and return it using the pre-paid envelope provided or via email. It would be helpful if you were able to provide the information within 14 days.

This information is solely for the purpose of identifying property interests and is not intended, by any party, to confer any right/interest in the nature of a tenancy or exclusive possession or occupation of the Land and gives no proprietary interest in the Land to the Applicant.

Reference - LIQ/01

- Please give full names and addresses of all other individuals in a similar position:

Full Name:	
Address:	
Telephone:	
E-mail Address:	
Address for service of notices if different to address above:	

If necessary please continue on a separate sheet

2. Nature of your Tenure concerning the Land or Property shown on the attached plan(s): (If joint please list other parties in question 16)

See attached notes 2(a) to (d)	Single Owner or	Joint Owner (please list other parties in question 16)
(a) Freehold		
(b) Leasehold		
(c) Tenancy		
(d) Mortgage or Charge		
(e) Rentcharge		
(f) Right of Entry		
(g) Restrictive Covenant		
(h) Licence		
(i) Franchise (e.g. right to hold a market or fair or take tolls)		
(j) Profit a Prendre (e.g. right to remove something: grazing, grass, fish, peat or wood)		

(d) Other (Please state): .....

- Trading Name (if applicable): .....

3. If the interest in Question 2 is freehold, leasehold, or a tenancy, does it include the whole of the property (building and/or land)?

Yes / No

Reference - LIQ/01

Additional information can be written on the reverse of the last sheet if necessary.

1. Details of the person(s) or organisation having an interest in the Land or Property shown on the attached plan(s). For example, this could be that you own or lease the property, occupy the property or have a right over the land.

Please complete your details:

- If the interest is in your name, please provide:

Title & Full Name:	
Home Address:	
Telephone:	
E-mail Address:	
Address for service of notices if different to address above:	

- If the interest is in a Registered Company or incorporated body, please provide:

Full Name of Company:	
Registered/Principal Office Address and Company Number:	
Telephone:	
E-mail Address:	
Address for service of notices if different to address above:	

- If you are an executor, trustee, partner etc, please state the capacity in which your interest is held and any collective name:

E.g. Executor / Trustee / Partner etc:	
--	--

Reference - LIQ/01

If only part, please describe (or mark on the plan)?

4. If you are not the freeholder, please provide the name and address of the freeholder:

Full Name:	
Address:	
Telephone:	
E-mail Address:	

If necessary please continue on a separate sheet

5. If you are a leaseholder:

- (i) What is the term of the lease? (if known) .....
- (ii) What date did the lease commence? (if known) .....

6. If you are a tenant, what is the period of your tenancy?

Weekly / Fortnightly / Quarterly / Annual / Other

If other, please provide details

7. Does the person or organisation named in Question 1 occupy the premises?

Yes / No

Please list the names and addresses of ALL OTHER occupiers together with the nature of their tenure including all persons aged 18 years and over (or who will be 18 years within the next 12 months):

Full Name:	
------------	--

Reference - LIQ/01

Address:	
Telephone:	
Relationship to person / organisation identified in Question 1 above:	
Nature of Tenure (See Question 2 for examples):	
E-mail Address:	

*If necessary please continue on a separate sheet*

**8. Does the person or organisation named in Question 1 enjoy any rights, easements or other legal interest over any adjacent or other property?**

**Yes / No / Don't Know**

If yes please give details below:

Address of property:	
Nature of interest:	

*If necessary please continue on a separate sheet*

**9. Does anybody in any adjacent or other property enjoy any rights, easements or other legal interest over the Land and Property?**

**Yes / No / Don't Know**

Full Name:	
Address:	
Telephone:	
E-mail Address:	
Nature of interest:	

*If necessary please continue on a separate sheet*

**Reference - LIQ/01**

Telephone:	
E-mail Address:	
Type:	
Nature of interest:	

*If necessary please continue on a separate sheet*

**13. Is the Land or Property subject to any mortgage or equitable interest?**

**Yes / No**

If yes please provide name(s), address(es) and the nature of the interest:

Full Name:	
Address:	
Mortgage Reference:	
E-mail Address:	
Nature of interest:	

*If necessary please continue on a separate sheet*

**14. Are there any managing or letting agents connected with the Land or Property?**

**Yes / No**

If yes please provide name(s), address(es) and the nature of the interest:

Full Name:	
Address:	
Telephone:	
Type:	

**Reference - LIQ/01**

**10. Is the Land or Property subject to any restrictive covenant(s)?**

**Yes / No / Don't Know**

If yes please give details below:

Details of Restrictive Covenants:	
Land/person having the benefit of the covenant(s):	
Address:	

*If necessary please continue on a separate sheet*

**11. Attached plan(s):**

- If the attached plan shows the extent of your interest correctly, please sign one copy of the plan and return that signed copy with your completed questionnaire.
- If the attached plan shows the extent of your interest incorrectly, please amend it (to show where it is wrong) and sign one copy of the mark-up plan) and return it with your completed questionnaire.
- Please also show, or inform us of, any other land (including land owned by someone else) over which you consider you have rights of use, enjoy easements or other private rights.
- Please also show the extent of your land over which you consider others have rights of use, enjoy easements or have any other rights over your land.

**12. Are there any tenancies or licences in respect of hoardings, poster sites, showcases, vending machines, kiosks, etc on the Land or Property?**

**Yes / No**

If yes please give name(s), address(es), type(s) and the nature of the interest:

Full Name:	
Address:	

**Reference - LIQ/01**

E-mail Address:	
-----------------	--

*If necessary please continue on a separate sheet*

**15. Please describe the current use and features of the Land or Property (e.g., residential – house, flat, yard, garden; commercial – offices, premises, industrial works, car park; agricultural land, woodland, grassland, allotment; etc) and any postal address:**

Current use and features of the property:	
Full Postal Address:	

**16. Are there any other individuals or organisations with an interest in the Land or Property, not disclosed above?**

**Yes / No**

If yes please provide name(s), address(es) and the nature of the interest:

Full Name:	
Address:	
Telephone:	
E-mail Address:	
Nature of interest: (See Question 2 for examples)	

*If necessary please continue on a separate sheet*

**17. Are there any other individuals or organisations currently negotiating or in the process of purchasing your interest in the Land or Property, or any other interest in the Land or Property?**

**Yes / No**

If yes please provide name(s), address(es) and details of the current situation:

Full Name:	
------------	--

**Reference - LIQ/01**



Address:	
Telephone:	
E-mail Address:	
Details of the current situation	

If necessary please continue on a separate sheet

18. Please supply details of the person to whom any additional enquiries may be directed if necessary:

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel No(s): \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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The information on the questionnaire is both complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge (subject to corrections identified on the plan):

Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel No.: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete the Land Interest Questionnaire (LIQ) with as much detail as possible and return your completed Questionnaire to Ardent (along with the marked-up copy of the plan(s)) using the pre-paid envelope provided.

Please do this within 14 days of the date on which you received the Questionnaire.

Alternatively, you can return the completed LIQ by e-mail to [dean.moor@ardent-management.com](mailto:dean.moor@ardent-management.com) OR request an interactive copy of the LIQ, which can be completed on a computer, saved and returned via email.

Reference - LIQ/01

Reference - LIQ/01

## NOTES on completing the QUESTIONNAIRE

All information provided is governed by the Data Protection Act 2018. Any information provided will only be used for legitimate purposes.

Please use BLOCK CAPITALS throughout.

If you need more space, please use the back of the form or another sheet of paper. Where options are provided, please delete or circle as appropriate. Please return the completed questionnaire using the prepaid envelope provided.

If you require any help with completing the questionnaire please contact the Land Referencing Team: [dean.moor@ardent-management.com](mailto:dean.moor@ardent-management.com) or [dean.moor@ardent-management.com](mailto:dean.moor@ardent-management.com)

### The Questionnaire

#### Question 1

- Please give the full name of the person who, or organisation which has a legal interest in the property.
- For Limited Companies, please supply the company number, the registered office address and telephone number. Place of registration would normally be 'England and Wales', but may be Scotland, Isle of Man, Jersey, etc.
- For other corporate bodies, please supply corporate title, address and telephone number of the principal office.
- For individuals and partners, trustees, governors or similar executive positions, please supply full names (including all forenames), home address, telephone numbers and where applicable the collective title of each group or organisation. An additional sheet may be used if required.
- If a separate or additional address is preferred as an 'address for service' for the receipt of legal notices and documentation, please provide this.

#### Question 2

- If you legally own the land and property outright and do not pay any rent, then you are the freeholder.
- If you have an agreement to use or occupy the property for a specific duration, then you probably have a lease or tenancy, e.g. for six months, for one year, for seven years (or for a longer or a shorter term), or for 99 years or for 999 years.
- If you have a legal right to use another person's land for a particular purpose, e.g. a right to walk through your neighbour's land to gain access to your property, then you have an easement/right. Easements are legal rights which give the legal owner of one piece of land the right to use a defined portion of another person's land. Utilities companies often have easements that allow them to run pipes or phone lines beneath private property. Other examples of easements may relate to drains, power, or rights of way. In most cases easements are attached to the land itself, not the landowners, so that when land is bought or sold, the easement which relates to that land remains with the land.
- If the property is subject to a mortgage you will need to provide details of the lender.
- If the property is subject to a rentcharge payable to the rentcharge owner you will need to provide details of the same.

Reference - LIQ/01

- If you have a legal right to take possession of the property which allows you to enter and forfeit the lease for non-payment of rent or breach of covenant, you will have a right of entry or re-entry.
- If the property is subject to restrictive covenants, i.e. restriction preventing some action on or use of the land, e.g. a requirement not to make any alterations to the land, or a restriction on operating as commercial premises, without obtaining the consent of the beneficiary.
- If you have formal permission from the proper authorities to do something it may be classed as a licence, e.g. a licence obtained from an authority to place a sandwich board on a footpath.
- A franchise is a privilege granted by the Crown such as a right to hold a market or fair or to take tolls.
- A profit a prendre is a right for a person to remove something from the land of another, e.g. grass for grazing, fish, or peat or wood for fuel.
- The other types of legal interest in land (including property) might comprise holders of privileges or matrimonial rights. If you are unsure about the nature of your interest, please contact the Land Referencing Team.

#### Questions 6 & 9

If you have a legal right to use another person's land for a particular purpose, e.g. a right to walk through your neighbour's land to gain access to your property, then you have an easement/right. Easements are legal rights which give the legal owner of one piece of land the right to use a defined portion of another person's land. Utilities companies often have easements that allow them to run pipes or phone lines beneath private property. Other examples of easements may relate to drains, power, or rights of way. In most cases easements are attached to the land itself, not the landowners, so that when land is bought or sold, the easement which relates to that land remains with the land.

#### Question 10

If the property is subject to restrictive covenants, i.e. restriction preventing some action on or use of the land, e.g. a requirement not to make any alterations to the land, or a restriction on operating as commercial premises, without obtaining the consent of the beneficiary.

#### Question 11

- If no plans have been provided, question 11 can be ignored.
- If plans are attached, there should be two copies, showing a shaded area in which we understand you may have a legal interest.
- One copy is for your information and retention, whilst the other copy is to be used to confirm the extent of the shaded area or to amend the shaded area on the plan if the extents are incorrect. Please keep one copy and return the other to Ardent.
- Particular attention should be paid to situations such as rights or other benefits which have a different extent to that of the property itself, such as rights to use fire escapes, other accesses or car parks. Please also provide these details, if relevant to you.

#### Question 12

Please list all tenancies and licences (formal agreement to use or occupy the land).

Reference - LIQ/01

#### Question 13

Please list all mortgagees and equitable interests.

##### Equitable Interests

Rights in or over land which fail to qualify as legal rights may take effect as equitable interests, therefore estates, interests, and charges in or over land which are not legal estates are referred to as equitable interests. Examples of equitable interests include:

- a) Option to purchase (The right to buy a property at a given price within a specific period of time).
- b) Contract to purchase (A contract the buyer initiates which details the purchase price and conditions of the transaction and is accepted by the seller. Also known as an agreement for sale).
- c) Beneficiary of a trust (A trust is a relationship whereby a party called a trustee holds property, either real or personal, for the benefit of other parties or persons, or for some purpose permitted by law).
- d) Wherever the legal owner(s) of property can be compelled to hold that property for the benefit of the equitable owner(s). Where groups of individuals are concerned, a person may be both a legal and an equitable owner. For example, a man may own a house and hold it for the benefit of himself and his wife (or a wife for her husband).
- e) Legal rights in a property that do not include the right to sell its legal title. This may apply to a mortgage lender.

#### Question 16

If you hold a joint interest in common with another party or parties, please provide details of all other parties.

#### Question 18

- a) Sometimes it is necessary to make further enquiries as a result of new information or changes to the plans for the project. Please provide the name and telephone number of the individual(s) whom we should contact.
- b) If a third party (a solicitor, for example) has been instructed to complete this questionnaire on behalf of the person with an interest in the property, please supply written confirmation of that fact.

##### Frequently Asked Questions

###### **Why have two sets of documents been issued for the same land?**

It is essential that everyone believed to have an interest in land is contacted individually, relationships cannot be assumed between interested parties and their current status.

However, if you can confirm the other parties' interests & sign on their behalf you only need to return one set of documents, if you include a note explaining this.

###### **Does this letter mean my land/property will be subject to compulsory purchase?**

No, the letter and questionnaire is issued to collect and validate contact and property information regarding land owners we believe to be within close proximity of the proposed project, to keep records up to date ahead of the application of the project and ensures that information is correct in order to keep parties updated with project proposals and any further project consultation(s).

Reference - **LIQ/01**

## **Appendix 2.2 Example of cover letter sent to Persons with an Interest in Land**





FVS Dean Moor Limited  
FREEPOST: DEAN MOOR SOLAR FARM  
UNITED KINGDOM  
info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com

8th March 2024

Project/File: 33313464100

[XX]

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Dean Moor Solar Farm – Statutory Consultation Section 42 of the Planning Act 2008**

I am writing to formally consult you under Section 42 of the Planning Act 2008 (the '2008 Act') regarding the proposals for Dean Moor Solar Farm.

Proposed Development

FVS Dean Moor Limited (the 'Applicant') is proposing the construction, operation and maintenance and decommissioning of a solar energy generating station comprising solar photovoltaic ('PV') arrays, associated infrastructure, and landscape and biodiversity enhancements (the 'Proposed Development') on approximately 279.5 hectares ('ha') of land located between the villages of Gilgarran and Branthwaite in West Cumbria (the 'Site'). The Proposed Development is located within the administrative boundary of Cumberland Council.

The Proposed Development will have the capacity to export up to 150 mega-watts ('MW') of electricity at any time.

The principal components of the Proposed Development will comprise:

- Solar PV modules;
- PV module mounting structures;
- Solar Inverters-Transformers;
- BESS equipment comprising Battery Units, Power Conversion Systems ('PCS'), and associated infrastructure;
- Point of Connection ('POC') infrastructure comprising Customer and Distribution Network Operator ('DNO') Substation buildings and external electrical equipment within a weld mesh Security Fence;
- Perimeter Fencing (deer fence), Gates, CCTV cameras, on-site cabling, and other associated infrastructure;
- Access from the highway and internal access tracks; and
- Landscape planting and ecological enhancements.

Further information relating to the Proposed Development can be found in the Consultation Brochure and the Preliminary Environmental Information Report ('PEIR') which are available as part of the suite of consultation documents. Details of how to access a copy of these documents are set out below.

The Proposed Development is defined as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project ('NSIP') under the 2008 Act given that it has a generating capacity of over 50MW and therefore requires the approval of a Development Consent Order ('DCO'). As such, the Applicant intends to make an application for a DCO to authorise the Proposed Development.

Registered Office: Stattec UK Limited | Buckingham Court, Kingsmead Business Park, Frederick Place, London Road, High Wycombe HP11 1JU | Registered in England No. 01198070

8 March 2024

Reference: Dean Moor Solar Farm

Section 42 Duty to Consult

As part of the DCO process, the Applicant is required to carry out pre-application consultation with a variety of persons and organisations in accordance with Section 42 of the 2008 Act. The 2008 Act requires us to consult with three categories of person: (1) landowners, tenants, occupiers; (2) those with other interests in land; and (3) those who do not own land subject to acquisition but may be entitled to make a claim for compensation as a result of the Proposed Development. You are receiving this letter because we believe you fall into at least one of the categories set out above.

**This letter is notice of our statutory consultation taking place from 11 March 2024 to 26 April 2024.**

This statutory consultation is an opportunity for you to share your views on the proposals, which we strongly encourage you to do. This will enable us to take your views into account in developing and refining the proposals in advance of submitting our application for development consent.

As the Proposed Development is an Environmental Impact Assessment ('EIA') development as defined by the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017, we have prepared a PEIR which presents the preliminary findings of the EIA. The purpose of the PEIR is to enable consultees to understand the likely environmental effects associated with the Proposed Development and to help inform their consultation responses. An Environmental Statement, that will report the final findings of the EIA, will be submitted with our application for development consent. Included with this letter is a copy of the statutory notice which we have published under sections 42, 47 and 48 of the 2008 Act, a copy of the Site Boundary plan (Figure 1.1 in the PEIR) and a plan which illustrates your interest in the Site.

Your Interest in the Site

Further to a review of title and Land Registry information, The Applicant has identified that you may have an interest in land which falls within the Site, in respect of which the Applicant is proposing to seek powers of compulsory acquisition, temporary possession, and/ or may otherwise be affected by the Proposed Development. Based on the Applicant's due diligence work undertaken to date, your interest in the land within the Site is considered to be in relation to the below:

HMLR title(s) – Nature of Interest	Description of interest (if required)
To be provided	To be provided

Please refer to the Plan appended to this letter, which shows the extent of the Site edged in red, including all potentially affected land (potentially required for the Proposed Development) and showing your interest in the context of the Site.

If you would like assistance with identifying the land that may potentially be affected, please contact:

Name: [REDACTED]

Mobile: [REDACTED]

Email: deanmoor@ardent-management.com

Whilst this information is considered up to date at the time of this consultation, the identification of interests in the land potentially affected by the Proposed Development is an ongoing process. This process will be finalised prior to the DCO application being submitted.

8 March 2024

Reference: Dean Moor Solar Farm

#### Landowner Negotiations

Although the DCO will include an application for the compulsory acquisition powers required for the construction and operation of the Proposed Development, we want to engage with all landowners to secure the land and rights in land required by way of private treaty agreements. Members of the Applicant's project team will be at the consultation events, and can advise how best to pursue agreements ahead of the DCO submission. We can also facilitate fee agreements to reimburse the reasonable fees for suitably qualified Chartered Surveyors to act on behalf of landowners to negotiate agreements. Please do get in touch with the Land Team via the means identified within this letter.

#### Consultation Documents

All the consultation documents listed below will be available to view, free of charge, on the project website ([www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com](http://www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com)) from 11<sup>th</sup> March 2024. These are provided to help you understand the proposals and share your views with us:

- Consultation brochure;
- Consultation feedback form;
- PEIR, accompanied by a Non-Technical Summary;
- A guide to the statutory consultation; and
- The Statement of Community Consultation,

Hard copies of these documents, including the PEIR will be available between Monday 11 March 2024 to Friday 26 April 2024, for public inspection at the locations below:

- Distington Library;
- Workington Library;
- Frizington Library; and
- St Oswalds Church at Dean.
- Please refer to the consultation brochure for details of the opening times.

The full suite of printed consultation documents is available for purchase at the cost of up to £500 plus postage

8 March 2024

Reference: Dean Moor Solar Farm

Consultation events

Details of specific consultation events which allow for face-to-face or online discussions with the Applicant's project team are as follows:

Venue	Address	Date	Time
Distington Community Centre	Church Road, Distington, Workington, CA14 5TE	Tuesday 19 March 2024	2pm-6pm
Dean Kirkstile Hall	Dean, Workington, CA14 4TH	Wednesday 20 March 2024	2pm-7pm
Hunday Manor	Workington, CA14 4JF	Thursday 21 March 2024	2pm-7pm
Online webinar	Register online to attend at <a href="http://www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com/public-consultation">www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com/public-consultation</a>	Tuesday 16 April 2024	6pm-7pm
Online webinar		Thursday 18 April 2024	6pm-7pm

How to respond to the consultation

- Any responses to this consultation should be sent to the project team via the contact details below:  
Email: [info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com](mailto:info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com)
- Writing: FREEPOST: DEAN MOOR SOLAR FARM

Any responses must be received by the Applicant no later than 11:59pm on Friday 26 April 2024.

Responses should include an indication of who is responding and their correspondence address. Responses will be considered and summarised in a consultation report that will form part of the application documents for the DCO. Please note that responses may be published.

Personal details will be held securely and used solely for purposes in connection with the statutory consultations, the DCO process, and further development of the scheme. Outside of these purposes, the Applicant may be required to provide personal details if specifically requested as part of a Freedom of Information Act request or if PINS requests original responses. Otherwise, personal details will not be disclosed to any third parties except where required by law. For further details please see our Privacy Notice at: <https://www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com/privacy-policy>

8 March 2024

Reference: Dean Moor Solar Farm

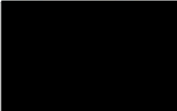
Further information about the 2008 Act and Development Consent Orders can be found on the Planning Inspectorate's website: <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/>

Should you have any queries on the consultation documents or any other element of the Dean Moor Solar Farm, you can contact us in the following ways:

- Visit the project website [www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com](http://www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com)
- Call 0800 041 8643
- Email [info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com](mailto:info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com)
- Write to FREEPOST: DEAN MOOR SOLAR FARM

Yours faithfully,

**FVS DEAN MOOR LIMITED**



[info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com](mailto:info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com)

Attachments:

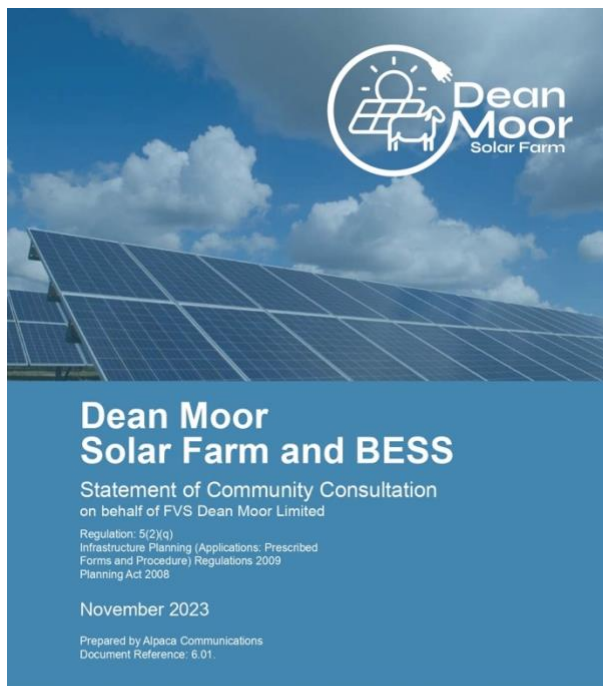
Section 48 Notice

Site Boundary plan

Plan showing your interest in the Site

Feedback Form

## Appendix 3.1 Draft SoCC issued for LPA consultation



3

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## 1. Introduction

FVS Dean Moor Ltd is inviting feedback from the local community on its proposals for Dean Moor Solar Farm as part of a public consultation in line with the requirements of the Planning Act 2008 (2008 Act). Dean Moor Solar Farm would generate enough clean electricity to power approximately 50,000 typical family homes every year it is in operation. The solar farm will assist in tackling the climate emergency and to help the UK Government in meeting its target for net zero emissions by 2050.



Dean Moor Solar Farm | Statement of Community Consultation

## 2. Project description

The development of Dean Moor Solar Farm (The Proposed Development) would involve the construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of a grid connected solar farm and Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) (The Project) on approximately 270 hectares (ha) (420 acres) of land located between Gilgarran and Branthwaite in West Cumbria (The Site). The Proposed Development would include arrays of solar photovoltaic (PV) modules, battery energy storage and associated infrastructure that will connect to the existing Distribution Network Operator (DNO) electricity network on the Site.

Dean Moor Solar Farm would contribute to local and national 'Net Zero' targets with an export capacity of up to 150 Megawatts (MW) of renewable energy. The annual output of the solar farm will provide enough clean electricity to meet the annual electricity demand of approximately 50,000 average family homes. This will have an annual displacement of approximately 137,350 tonnes (t) of Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) compared with the same electricity generated by fossil fuel sources.

The Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) facility would be utilised to reinforce the power generated by the solar farm, storing energy at times of low demand and releasing to the grid in periods of higher demand or when solar irradiance is lower. The energy stored will also provide balancing services to maintain grid stability.

A full description of the physical characteristics of the whole Proposed Development and the land-use requirements during the construction and operational phases will be set out in the Environmental Statement, Chapter 5: Development Description, which will accompany the application for a Development Consent Order (DCO). For the purposes of the statutory consultation this will be set out in the 'Preliminary Environmental Information Report' (PEIR).

Dean Moor Solar Farm | Statement of Community Consultation



Dean Moor Solar Farm | Statement of Community Consultation

## 3. About us



Founded in 2021 by Rufus Salter and Andrew Jones, Firma Energy is an independent management owned business, based in Leeds. The business has a focus on creating and delivering value from renewable energy developments with environmental and social benefits. Across the UK Firma Energy currently has over 260 megawatts (MW) of Solar Farm and 347MW of Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) in development.



ib vogt (IBV) is a leading developer specialising in utility-scale infrastructure for solar photovoltaic (PV) farms and BESS. With a 20-year history of global expertise, IBV has been a significant player in the UK solar industry, holding the position of the second-largest solar developer in the country from 2012 to 2017 and with over 40GW of development projects in the pipeline globally.

IBV are committed to sustainable energy and high-quality local development, a commitment solidified by their participation in the UN Global Compact. With over 490MWp of solar operations in the UK their projects are designed and delivered with consideration for communities at their core. Through transparent communication and investment in local employment, IBV strive to empower local resilience while addressing the global challenges of climate change. The focus on development and engineering excellence supports IBV's mission to create a greener future through renewable energy solutions.

Dean Moor Solar Farm | Statement of Community Consultation



## 4. Project overview

### What is this document?

This document, known as a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC), sets out how FVS Dean Moor Ltd will consult with the local community on its proposals for a utility scale solar farm at Dean Moor in Cumbria.

This version of the SoCC has been prepared in advance of the first round of consultation, which is non-statutory. The SoCC will be revised and published again prior to the statutory consultation stage.

Feedback from this round of consultation and the statutory consultation will inform the final planning submission. It includes:

- A description of the planning process we must follow
- How we have developed our approach to consultation
- How we will be consulting the local community
- How we will publicise the consultation
- Next steps and further information

### Why are we publishing this document?

The proposed Dean Moor Solar Farm is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) under the 2008 Act. This means that, unlike conventional planning applications, which are determined by local planning authorities, we must apply to the Department for Energy Security and Climate Change (DESNZ) for our proposals.

Part of this process requires us to publish a statement of how we will consult with the local community – known as an SoCC. The consultation process is an opportunity to influence our proposals before we submit our 'DCO' application. We very much want feedback from the local community on our proposals during our consultation.

Dean Moor Solar Farm | Statement of Community Consultation



Dean Moor Solar Farm | Statement of Community Consultation

## 5. The planning process

We are developing the proposed Dean Moor Solar Farm under the 2008 Act. This is because its proposed generating capacity exceeds 50 megawatts (MW), which means that, under the 2008 Act, Dean Moor Solar Farm constitutes an NSIP requiring a 'DCO'.

Unlike planning applications, which are considered by local authorities, 'DCO' applications are submitted to the Planning Inspectorate ('PINS'). This independent body administers the application process on behalf of the relevant Secretary of State. In this case, the appropriate government department is the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero.

Further information on the 'DCO' application process can be obtained from PINS Advice Note 8: Overview of the nationally significant infrastructure planning process for members of the public and others. This is available on the PINS website at the following link: <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/legislation-and-advice/advice-notes/advice-note-eight-overview-of-the-nationally-significant-infrastructure-planning-process-for-members-of-the-public-and-others/>

Figure 1 on page 16 of this document shows each stage of the planning process for NSIPs. We anticipate submitting our application in the third quarter of 2024.



Indicative image of an energy storage container

Dean Moor Solar Farm | Statement of Community Consultation

## 6. The Planning Act 2008 and consultation

'DCO's are governed by a fixed, statutory process which requires us to consult with persons with an interest in the proposed land and certain bodies as prescribed under section 42 of the 2008 Act, the local community under section 47 of the 2008 Act, and to publicise the proposals locally and nationally under section 48 of the 2008 Act and regulation 13 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 ('EIA Regulations'). It also provides a fixed role as consultees for those local authorities which host the development and means we will be following a well-established and clear process to engage on our proposals.

We are at the stage in 2023 developing our proposals where we will informally consult – this is known as a non-statutory consultation. We will use the feedback that we receive during the non-statutory consultation to help us develop our proposals for Dean Moor Solar Farm before commencing the statutory consultation period.

We anticipate reaching the formal statutory consultation stage during the first quarter of 2024. (see Figure 1). This stage is known as statutory consultation. We will use the feedback that we receive during the statutory consultation to help us further develop our final proposals for Dean Moor Solar Farm before submitting our 'DCO' application.

As part of our 'DCO' application, we will submit a Consultation Report detailing our approach to consultation, the feedback that we received during the non-statutory and statutory consultations, and how we have had regard to it. When considering our 'DCO' application, The Planning Inspectorate must consider whether the consultation that we have undertaken has been adequate.

Dean Moor Solar Farm | Statement of Community Consultation

## 7. Environmental Impact Assessment

For the proposed Dean Moor Solar Farm, we are required to carry out an Environmental Impact Assessment ("EIA") of our proposals as part of the planning process. This is by virtue of the proposed scheme being considered 'EIA development' for the purpose of the EIA Regulations.

This means we must assess the likely significant environmental effects of our proposals and, where appropriate, describe mitigation that is proposed to avoid, prevent, reduce or, if possible, offset any

significant adverse effects. We will report on this process in a document called an Environmental Statement ("ES") when we submit our 'DCO' application.

During the statutory consultation process, we will be sharing, and seeking feedback on, the preliminary results of our ongoing environmental assessments. We do this via a document called a Preliminary Environmental Information Report ("PEIR").

## 8. More information

You can find more information about the 2008 Act, PINS and its role and how to participate in the 'DCO' process on the PINS National Infrastructure Planning website - <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk>, or by calling PINS on 0303 444 5000.

Dean Moor Solar Farm | Statement of Community Consultation



Dean Moor Solar Farm | Statement of Community Consultation

## 9. Our public consultation process

We are currently in the process of conducting consultations for Dean Moor Solar Farm. The feedback and comments we receive from stakeholders are of great importance as they will help shape the final design of the project, which will later be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate for evaluation.

Our goal is to ensure that communities interested in this project can engage effectively without the need for duplicate feedback submissions. We strongly believe that this coordinated approach brings numerous benefits, such as:

- Efficiency for respondents
- Clarity for communities: clearly aligning programmes and providing information on the project in consultation literature allows us to clearly explain our project in single documents

Our consultation will consist of two phases of consultation for both projects, including:

- A non-statutory phase one consultation, lasting 30 days will be held from 3rd October 2023 - 3rd November 2023.
- A statutory phase two consultation lasting for 6 weeks from [DATES TO BE ADDED - Early 2024]. This SoCC relates to the carrying out of the phase two statutory consultation.

### Phase one consultation (3rd October 2023 - 3rd November 2023)

This non-statutory consultation introduced our early-stage proposals for the Dean Moor Solar Farm to the local communities. We received feedback on our initial proposals and suggestions from the communities, based on local knowledge of the area. All of this feedback has been useful for us to understand and consider as we develop and refine our proposals.

### Phase two consultation (Early 2024)

The statutory consultation, in accordance with Section 47 of the Planning Act, will allow us to update interested parties on our proposals for the Dean Moor Solar Farm. We will consult on more detailed proposals alongside presenting the findings of the environmental studies that have been carried out to date, which will be published in our Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR). The phase two consultation is the consultation that we must carry out by law. More details of what we will be consulting on are listed in Section 11 of this SoCC and the methods for how we will consult are listed in Section 13. As well as the community consultation in accordance with Section 47, this consultation also includes:

- Consultation with prescribed bodies such as Natural England, the Environment Agency and National Highways (under Section 42 of the 2008 Act);
- Consultation with host and neighbouring Local Planning Authorities (under Section 43 of the 2008 Act);
- Consultation with any persons with an interest in the land affected by the Project (under Section 44 of the 2008 Act); and general public consultation on the Project (under Section 48 of the 2008 Act)

During our phase two consultation, we will actively seek feedback on the findings of the PEIR. The full PEIR, along with a non-technical summary, will be accessible for review as part of the consultation process. To ensure convenient access, the PEIR will be made available electronically on our project website. Additionally, as part of our statutory notices, we will provide a service for requesting copies of the complete PEIR.

For the convenience of interested stakeholders, hard copies of our community consultation documents will be sent via post upon request. Please refer to Section 13 for more detailed information on this process.

Once we submit the 'DCO' application to the Planning Inspectorate, interested parties will have the opportunity to formally comment on our proposals for the Dean Moor Solar Farm. The Planning Inspectorate will facilitate public engagement by inviting views on the proposals. Interested parties will have the ability to register and submit their representations for consideration during the examination process.

For guidance and further information on this process, please visit the Planning Inspectorate's website at <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/legislation-and-advice/>

Dean Moor Solar Farm | Statement of Community Consultation

Dean Moor Solar Farm | Statement of Community Consultation



### Consultation reporting

As part of the 'DCO' application to be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate, planned for Winter 2024, we will publish a consultation report that:

- Describes our consultation process
- Explains how we have satisfied and adhered to legal requirements
- Details how we have worked with local authorities to ensure our consultation is suitable for the area through the proposals set out in this SoCC

- Details the feedback and consultation responses we have received
- Responds to the feedback we have received, including explaining how we have listened to feedback and how it has influenced our proposals

11. What will be consulted on?

- During the consultation periods we will be asking for views on:
- The proposed Dean Moor Solar Farm
  - The short term and long-term impacts of the proposed Dean Moor Solar Farm including:
    - Construction impacts
    - Environmental impacts
    - Operational impacts
    - Impacts from decommissioning
    - Other impacts during the construction, maintenance, and decommissioning periods, such as socioeconomic and cumulative impacts
  - Proposed mitigation of these impacts
  - The contribution that Dean Moor Solar Farm could make to the local community
  - The PEIR (at statutory consultation only)



Indicative image of energy storage containers

12. Who will we consult?

We will consult widely in accordance with this SoCC and encourage participation in the consultation from any person or group who may be directly impacted by the proposed Dean Moor Solar Farm. We have defined a series of 'zones of consultation' for the purpose of consulting with the local community under section 47 of the 2008 Act.

These recognise the fact that levels of potential impact and interest are likely to vary with geography and inform the techniques we will use to consult.

These zones are set out in Table 1 and visible in Figures 2 & 3.

The launch dates for each stage of consultation will be announced and published at least 10 days before the start of that consultation stage. This will be done in a number of ways, which are outlined in Section 13.

Zone	Parameters
Zone 1	Any person or group likely to be directly impacted by the proposed Dean Moor Solar Farm by virtue of their living or working in proximity to the site.
Zone 2	Any person or group living in proximity to the site, but outside of Zone 1. This zone is defined by the boundaries of the parishes of Dean, Arlecdon & Frizington, Distington, and Winscales
Zone 3	People living and working in the host local authority area of Cumberland Council outside of consultation Zone 1.
Zone 4	Neighbouring district, county and unitary authorities within the administrative areas of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Westmorland and Furness Council</li><li>• Lancaster District Council</li><li>• North Yorkshire Council</li><li>• Northumberland Council</li></ul>

Table 1: Zones of consultation

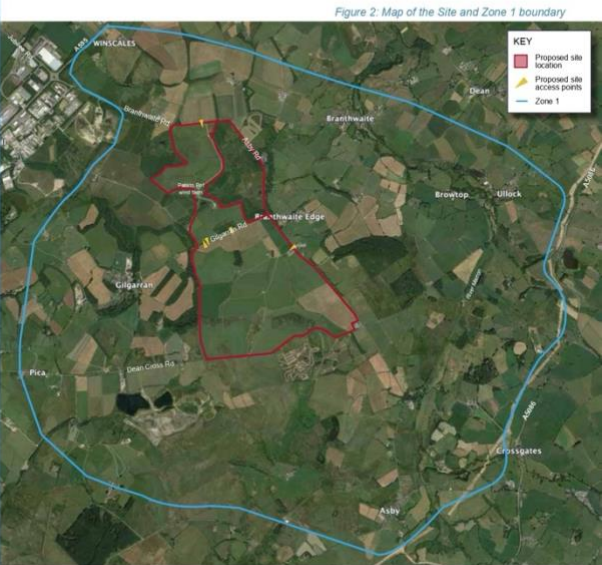
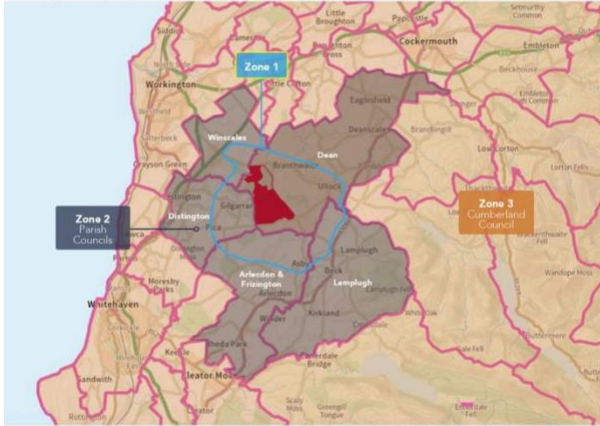


Figure 3: Map of the Site and Zone 1, Zone 2, and Zone 3



Dean Moor Solar Farm | Statement of Community Consultation

We will also consult and continue our engagement with a range of other statutory consultees as required by section 42 and section 48 of the 2008 Act and regulation 13 of the EIA Regulations, and additional organisations that we recognise to have an interest in the proposed Dean Moor Solar Farm. These groups include, but are not limited to:

- Economic interest groups and organisations such as local enterprise partnerships (LEPs) and chambers of commerce
- Heritage consultees including Historic England and the National Trust
- Environmental consultees including Natural England and the Environment Agency
- Infrastructure providers such as National Highways and National Grid
- Conservation groups such as the RSPB, CPRE Cumbria, and the Cumbria Wildlife Trust

#### Ongoing engagement

Anybody is welcome to get in touch with us at any point before, during or between stages of consultation. Our contact details are listed in Section 18 of this SoCC. Feedback will be considered as part of the detailed design process and incorporated where possible. Where this is not possible for technical reasons, we will explain this in our Consultation Report. You will also have the opportunity to formally comment on our proposals for the Dean Moor Solar Farm when the DCO application is submitted to, and accepted by, the Planning Inspectorate.

#### Seldom heard groups

We have developed our consultation to be accessible to all groups in the community. We recognise that some individuals or groups may have difficulties taking part in the consultation process for a range of reasons. We have identified a number of organisations representing seldom heard groups in the consultation area. These organisations will be contacted ahead of phase two consultation to ensure that our approach best meets the needs of their members. We are hosting different formats of free-to-use communications channels to ensure our consultation is as accessible as possible. These formats include email, phone and post. We will also be using a combination of in person and digital formats such as in person events and webinars. We will also continue to notify them of consultation opportunities. Identified seldom heard groups include:

- Age UK West Cumbria
- Cumbria Deaf Association
- Triple A (All About Autism)
- Autism Support Allerdale and Copeland
- The WI Cumbria-Westmorland Federation
- Allerdale Disability Association
- Owl Blue Cumbria
- Cumbria Young Farmers Clubs
- West Cumbria Society for the Blind England
- Anti Racist Cumbria

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## 13. How will we be consulting?

We will use a range of techniques to consult the community. These are designed to allow people with different needs across the community to take part in the consultation. These are set out as follows:

Zone	How we will publicise consultation within this zone	How we will consult within this zone
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writing to all addresses within consultation zone 1</li> <li>• Writing to elected representatives at a parish, Cumbria Council electoral division, and Parliamentary level, as well as community groups, within the zone with details of the consultation</li> <li>• Sharing a consultation information pack including Q&amp;As and a poster with local authorities, parish councils and community groups within the zone to allow them to promote the consultation through existing communications channels</li> <li>• Publicising the consultation in the following newspapers circulating in the consultation zone: the News and Star, the Whitehaven News, and the Times and Star</li> <li>• Publicising the consultation to regional and local broadcasters including BBC Radio Cumbria, BBC Look North (North East and Cumbria), BBC North West</li> <li>• Advertising the consultation via Facebook advertisements</li> <li>• Publishing details of the consultation online at <a href="http://www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com/">www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com/</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sending a letter providing at an early stage introduction to the proposals and the contact details of the project team</li> <li>• Sending a copy of a consultation booklet providing a non-technical overview of the proposed Dean Moor Solar Farm, the EIA process, the consultation and planning process, how to take part in the consultation, and proposed next steps to all addresses in consultation zone 1</li> <li>• Inviting enquiries and responses online through the consultation website, by freephone, freepost or email. This will provide a variety of means for consultees to respond in a way convenient to them</li> <li>• Hosting webinars which will include a presentation regarding the proposals and an opportunity to ask questions. Dates for the webinars are included later in this document and will also be made available in consultation publicity</li> <li>• Inviting elected representatives to take part in briefings through a digital meeting</li> <li>• Inviting residents of consultation zone 1 to book an individual appointment to discuss the proposals by telephone or in person at an appropriate venue</li> <li>• Contacting community and voluntary organisations within consultation zone 1 to offer direct engagement</li> <li>• Publication of consultation information online at the consultation website</li> <li>• Provision of copies of the Preliminary Environmental Information Report for review, as well as copies of the consultation booklet and questionnaire, at deposit points in the local area. The PEIR will also be available on the project website</li> </ul>

Dean Moor Solar Farm | Statement of Community Consultation

Zone	How we will publicise consultation within this zone	How we will consult within this zone
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writing to all addresses within consultation zone 2</li> <li>• Writing to elected representatives at a parish, Cumbria Council electoral division, and Parliamentary level, as well as community groups, within the zone with details of the consultation</li> <li>• Sharing a consultation information pack including Q&amp;As and a poster with local authorities, parish councils and community groups within the zone to allow them to promote the consultation through existing communications channels</li> <li>• Publicising the consultation in the following newspapers circulating in the consultation zone: the News and Star, the Whitehaven News, and the Times and Star</li> <li>• Publicising the consultation to regional and local broadcasters including BBC Radio Cumbria, BBC Look North (North East and Cumbria), BBC North West</li> <li>• Advertising the consultation via Facebook advertisements</li> <li>• Publishing details of the consultation online at <a href="http://www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com/">www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com/</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sending a copy of a consultation booklet providing a non-technical overview of the proposed Dean Moor Solar Farm, the EIA process, the consultation and planning process, how to take part in the consultation, and proposed next steps to all addresses in consultation zone 2</li> <li>• Inviting enquiries and responses online through the consultation website, by freephone, freepost or email. This will provide a variety of means for consultees to respond in a way convenient to them</li> <li>• Hosting webinars which will include a presentation regarding the proposals and an opportunity to ask questions. Dates for the webinars are included later in this document and will also be made available in consultation publicity</li> <li>• Inviting elected representatives to take part in briefings through a digital meeting</li> <li>• Inviting residents of consultation zone 1 to book an individual appointment to discuss the proposals by telephone or in person at an appropriate venue</li> <li>• Contacting community and voluntary organisations within consultation zone 2 to offer direct engagement</li> <li>• Publication of consultation information online at the consultation website</li> <li>• Provision of copies of the Preliminary Environmental Information Report for review, as well as copies of the consultation booklet and questionnaire, at deposit points in the local area. The PEIR will also be available on the project website</li> </ul>

Dean Moor Solar Farm | Statement of Community Consultation



Zone	How we will publicise consultation within this zone	How we will consult within this zone
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Writing to all division councillors at Cumberland Council and Westmorland and Furness Council.</li> <li>Writing to all parish councils within the consultation zone.</li> <li>Sharing a consultation information pack designed to support stakeholders promoting consultation through their own existing communication channels such as social media feeds with local authorities, parish councils and community groups within the zone.</li> <li>Publicising the consultation in the following newspapers circulating in the consultation zone: the News and Star, the Whitehaven News, and the Times and Star.</li> <li>Publicising the consultation to regional and local broadcasters including BBC Radio Cumbria, BBC Look North (North East and Cumbria), BBC North West.</li> <li>Advertising the consultation online.</li> <li>Publishing details of the consultation online at <a href="http://www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com/">www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com/</a>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hosting webinars which will include a presentation regarding the proposals and an opportunity to ask questions. Dates for the webinars will be made available in consultation publicity.</li> <li>Inviting elected representatives to take part in briefings through a digital meeting.</li> <li>Publication of consultation information online at the consultation website.</li> <li>Inviting enquiries and responses online through the consultation website, by freephone, freepost or email.</li> </ul>
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Writing to the Leader and Chief Executive of local authorities within the zone.</li> <li>Publicising the consultation in the News and Star and the North-West Evening Mail.</li> <li>Advertising the consultation online.</li> <li>Publishing details of the consultation online at <a href="http://www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com/">www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com/</a>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Publication of consultation information online at the consultation website.</li> <li>Hosting webinars which will include a presentation regarding the proposals and an opportunity to ask questions. Dates for the webinars are included later in this document and will also be made available in consultation publicity.</li> <li>Inviting enquiries and responses online through the consultation website, by freephone, freepost or email.</li> </ul>

Dean Moor Solar Farm | Statement of Community Consultation



Dean Moor Solar Farm | Statement of Community Consultation

## 14. Consultation information

We will produce a range of materials providing information as part of the consultation including:

- A consultation booklet providing a non-technical overview of the proposed Dean Moor Solar Farm including key plans, the EIA process, the consultation and planning process, proposed next steps, and how to find out more and view other consultation documents
- Presentations to be given as part of webinars, which will be recorded and made available for viewing after the event on the project website at [www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com](http://www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com).
- The PEIR, accompanied by a non-technical summary (for the statutory consultation)
- A consultation questionnaire designed to collect responses to the consultation
- The SoCC

The PEIR will also incorporate the results of the environmental surveys that we have completed to date and set out our preliminary conclusions on the likely significant effects of the proposed Dean Moor Solar Farm on the environment. It will also give information about some of the mitigation measures that may be proposed to reduce or avoid those effects, so as to assist respondents in making well-informed responses to the consultation.

Copies of consultation information will be made available for review free of charge online at [www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com](http://www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com).

Hard copies of the consultation booklet, questionnaire and SoCC will also be made available free of charge on request. Consultation materials will include guidance on what respondents can influence through the consultation and how we will have regard to their responses.

Dean Moor Solar Farm | Statement of Community Consultation

## 15. Public information events

Non-statutory events (3rd October 2023 - 3rd November 2023)

### IN-PERSON:

- Tuesday 17 October 2pm-7pm  
Dean Kirkstall Hall, Workington CA14 4TH
- Wednesday 18 October 2pm-7pm  
Solway Lounge, Hunday Manor, Winscales, Workington, Cumbria, CA14 4JF

### WEBINAR:

- Thursday 19 October 6pm-7pm
- Monday 30 October 6pm-7pm

Statutory events (Spring 2024)

We will be conducting statutory consultation events in Spring 2024. Dates and locations of events will be communicated to stakeholders and residents in due course.

### IN-PERSON:

- TBC 2pm-7pm  
TBC
- TBC 2pm-7pm  
TBC

### WEBINAR:

- TBC 6pm-7pm
- TBC 6pm-7pm

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## 16. Our documents

The following reports (listed below) will be prepared as part of the EIA and the 'DCO' process:

### Scoping Report:

In August 2023, we published our Scoping Report, which presented the Project Envelope and outlined the processes we will undertake to assess potential impacts on the existing environment. Following feedback from Local Planning Authorities and statutory consultees, a Scoping Opinion was issued by the Planning Inspectorate in September 2023. Both the Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion can be viewed on the Planning Inspectorate's website: <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/north-west/dean-moor-solar-farm/?ipsection=overview>.

### Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR):

The PEIR will set out preliminary environmental findings and information and take account of the Scoping Opinion issued by the Planning Inspectorate as well as feedback received during the non-statutory 'phase 1' consultation and stakeholder engagement. It will include the results of surveys and preliminary environmental assessments conducted thus far, providing consultees with a preliminary understanding of the potential impacts of the Dean Moor Solar Farm on the local environment.

The PEIR will also detail any project changes and proposed mitigation measures. During our phase two consultation, we will publish the PEIR for review and seek feedback. Please refer to Sections 9 and 14 for more detailed information.

### Environmental Statement (ES):

Building upon the content of the PEIR and incorporating responses from the phase two consultation, stakeholder engagement, and survey results, the ES will outline the assessment and conclusions of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process. Similar to the PEIR, it will describe any project changes and proposed mitigation measures. The ES will be an integral part of the Development Consent Order (DCO) application for submission.

## 17. Community access points

Hard copies of this document and Phase Two consultation materials, including our leaflet, Feedback form and PEIR, will be available for public inspection at the locations to be agreed with the Council. We will provide copies of the consultation materials on a USB stick upon reasonable request and for a small charge.



Indicative image of an energy storage container



## 18. Contact details

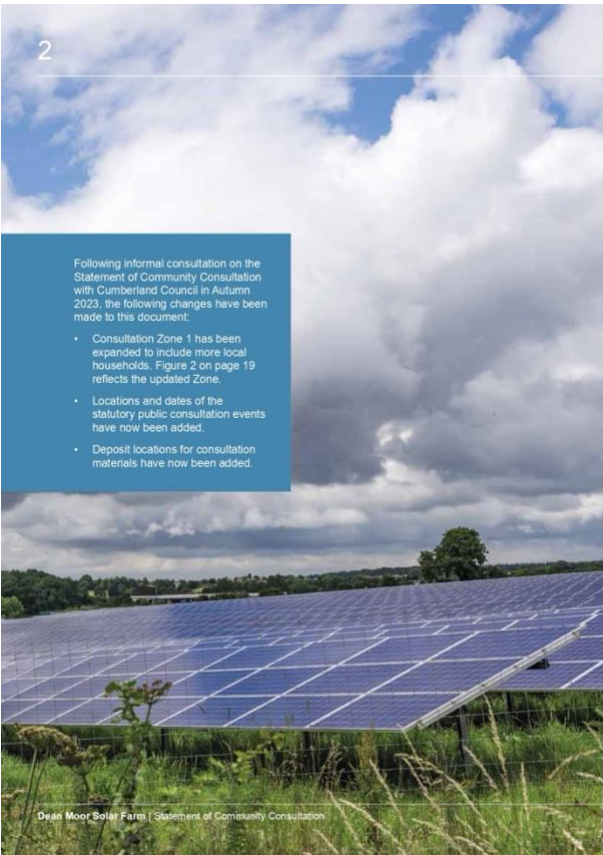
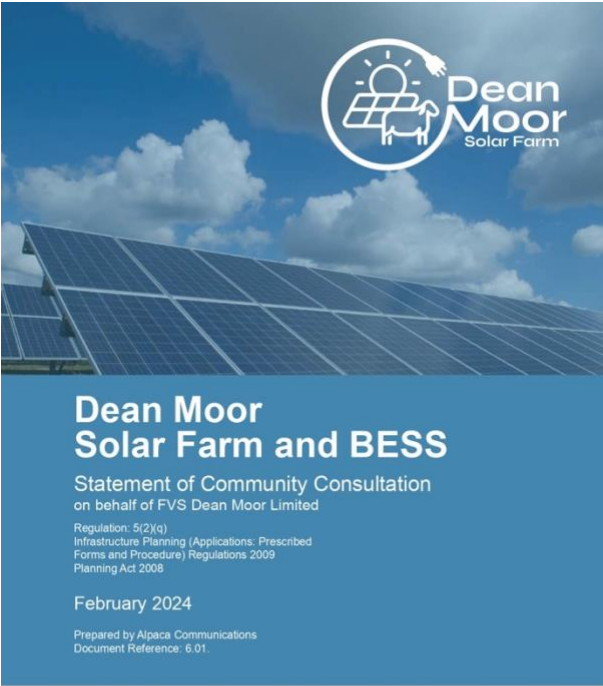
If you would like to obtain further information about the Dean Moor Solar Farm, please feel free to get in touch. Our team can be reached through any of the communication channels listed below. For individuals requiring documents in large print, audio, or braille formats, kindly contact us using the provided details. Please note that all graphs and maps included in this document are purely for illustrative purposes.

📞 [info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com](mailto:info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com)

✉️ 0800 041 8643

✍️ FREEPOST: DEAN MOOR SOLAR FARM

# Appendix 3.2 Published 2024 SoCC



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5	2. Project description
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12	8. More information
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## 1. Introduction

FVS Dean Moor Ltd is inviting feedback from the local community on its proposals for Dean Moor Solar Farm as part of a public consultation in line with the requirements of the Planning Act 2008 (2008 Act). Dean Moor Solar Farm would generate enough clean electricity to power approximately 50,000 typical family homes every year it is in operation. The solar farm will assist in tackling the climate emergency and to help the UK Government in meeting its target for net zero emissions by 2050.



Dean Moor Solar Farm | Statement of Community Consultation

## 2. Project description

The development of Dean Moor Solar Farm (The Proposed Development) would involve the construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of a grid connected solar farm and Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) (The Project) on approximately 270 hectares (ha) (420 acres) of land located between Gilgarran and Branthwaite in West Cumbria (The Site). The Proposed Development would include arrays of solar photovoltaic (PV) modules, battery energy storage and associated infrastructure that will connect to the existing Distribution Network Operator (DNO) electricity network on the Site.

Dean Moor Solar Farm would contribute to local and national 'Net Zero' targets with an export capacity of up to 150 Megawatts (MW) of renewable energy. The annual output of the solar farm will provide enough clean electricity to meet the annual electricity demand of approximately 50,000 average family homes. This will have an annual displacement of approximately 137,350 tonnes (t) of Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) compared with the same electricity generated by fossil fuel sources.

The Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) facility would be utilised to reinforce the power generated by the solar farm, storing energy at times of low demand and releasing to the grid in periods of higher demand or when solar irradiance is lower. The energy stored will also provide balancing services to maintain grid stability.

A full description of the physical characteristics of the whole Proposed Development and the land-use requirements during the construction and operational phases will be set out in the Environmental Statement, Chapter 5: Development Description, which will accompany the application for a Development Consent Order (DCO). For the purposes of the statutory consultation this will be set out in the 'Preliminary Environmental Information Report' (PEIR).

Dean Moor Solar Farm | Statement of Community Consultation



Dean Moor Solar Farm | Statement of Community Consultation

## 3. About us



Founded in 2021 by Rufus Salter and Andrew Jones, Firma Energy is an independent management owned business, based in Leeds. The business has a focus on creating and delivering value from renewable energy developments with environmental and social benefits. Across the UK Firma Energy currently has over 260 megawatts (MW) of Solar Farm and 347MW of Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) in development.



ib vogt (IBV) is a leading developer specialising in utility-scale infrastructure for solar photovoltaic (PV) farms and BESS. With a 20-year history of global expertise, IBV has been a significant player in the UK solar industry, holding the position of the second-largest solar developer in the country from 2012 to 2017 and with over 40GW of development projects in the pipeline globally.

IBV are committed to sustainable energy and high-quality local development, a commitment solidified by their participation in the UN Global Compact. With over 450MWp of solar operations in the UK, their projects are designed and delivered with consideration for communities at their core. Through transparent communication and investment in local employment, IBV strive to empower local resilience while addressing the global challenges of climate change. The focus on development and engineering excellence supports IBV's mission to create a greener future through renewable energy solutions.

Dean Moor Solar Farm | Statement of Community Consultation

## 4. Project overview

### What is this document?

This document, known as a Statement of Community Consultation ('SoCC'), sets out how FVS Dean Moor Ltd will consult with the local community on its proposals for a utility scale solar farm at Dean Moor in Cumbria.

This version of the SoCC has been prepared in advance of the first round of consultation, which is non-statutory. The SoCC will be revised and published again prior to the statutory consultation stage.

Feedback from this round of consultation and the statutory consultation will inform the final planning submission. It includes:

- A description of the planning process we must follow
- How we have developed our approach to consultation
- How we will be consulting the local community
- How we will publicise the consultation
- Next steps and further information

### Why are we publishing this document?

The proposed Dean Moor Solar Farm is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project ('NSIP') under the 2006 Act. This means that, unlike conventional planning applications, which are determined by local planning authorities, we must apply to the Department for Energy Security and Climate Change ('DESNZ') for our proposals.

Part of this process requires us to publish a statement of how we will consult with the local community – known as a SoCC. The consultation process is an opportunity to influence our proposals before we submit our 'DCO' application. We very much want feedback from the local community on our proposals during our consultation.



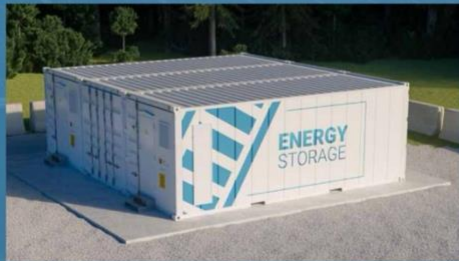
## 5. The planning process

We are developing the proposed Dean Moor Solar Farm under the 2008 Act. This is because its proposed generating capacity exceeds 50 megawatts ('MW'), which means that, under the 2008 Act, Dean Moor Solar Farm constitutes an NSIP requiring a 'DCO'.

Unlike planning applications, which are considered by local authorities, 'DCO' applications are submitted to the Planning Inspectorate ('PINS'). This independent body administers the application process on behalf of the relevant Secretary of State. In this case, the appropriate government department is the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero.

Further information on the 'DCO' application process can be obtained from PINS Advice Note 8: Overview of the nationally significant infrastructure planning process for members of the public and others. This is available on the PINS website at the following link: <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/legislation-and-advice/advice-notes/advice-note-eight-overview-of-the-nationally-significant-infrastructure-planning-process-for-members-of-the-public-and-others/>

Figure 1 on page 16 of this document shows each stage of the planning process for NSIPs. We anticipate submitting our application in the third quarter of 2024.



Indicative image of an energy storage container

## 6. The Planning Act 2008 and consultation

'DCO's are governed by a fixed, statutory process which requires us to consult with persons with an interest in the proposed land and certain bodies as prescribed under section 42 of the 2008 Act, the local community under section 47 of the 2008 Act, and to publicise the proposals locally and nationally under section 48 of the 2008 Act and regulation 13 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 ('EIA Regulations'). It also provides a fixed role as consultees for those local authorities which host the development and means we will be following a well-established and clear process to engage on our proposals.

We are at the stage in 2023 developing our proposals where we will informally consult – this is known as a non-statutory consultation. We will use the feedback that we receive during the non-statutory consultation to help us develop our proposals for Dean Moor Solar Farm before commencing the statutory consultation period.

We anticipate reaching the formal statutory consultation stage during the first quarter of 2024. (see Figure 1). This stage is known as statutory consultation. We will use the feedback that we receive during the statutory consultation to help us further develop our final proposals for Dean Moor Solar Farm before submitting our 'DCO' application.

As part of our 'DCO' application, we will submit a Consultation Report detailing our approach to consultation, the feedback that we received during the non-statutory and statutory consultations, and how we have had regard to it. When considering our 'DCO' application, The Planning Inspectorate must consider whether the consultation that we have undertaken has been adequate.



## 7. Environmental Impact Assessment

For the proposed Dean Moor Solar Farm, we are required to carry out an Environmental Impact Assessment ('EIA') of our proposals as part of the planning process. This is by virtue of the proposed scheme being considered 'EIA development' for the purpose of the EIA Regulations.

This means we must assess the likely significant environmental effects of our proposals and, where appropriate, describe mitigation that is proposed to avoid, prevent, reduce or, if possible, offset any

significant adverse effects. We will report on this process in a document called an Environmental Statement ('ES') when we submit our 'DCO' application.

During the statutory consultation process, we will be sharing, and seeking feedback on, the preliminary results of our ongoing environmental assessments. We do this via a document called a Preliminary Environmental Information Report ('PEIR').

## 8. More information

You can find more information about the 2008 Act, PINS and its role and how to participate in the 'DCO' process on the PINS National Infrastructure Planning website - <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk>, or by calling PINS on 0303 444 5000.

Dean Moor Solar Farm | Statement of Community Consultation



Dean Moor Solar Farm | Statement of Community Consultation

## 9. Our public consultation process

We are currently in the process of conducting consultations for Dean Moor Solar Farm. The feedback and comments we receive from stakeholders are of great importance as they will help shape the final design of the project, which will later be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate for evaluation.

Our goal is to ensure that communities interested in this project can engage effectively without the need for duplicate feedback submissions. We strongly believe that this coordinated approach brings numerous benefits, such as:

- Efficiency for respondents
- Clarity for communities: clearly aligning programmes and providing information on the project in consultation literature allows us to clearly explain our project in single documents

Our consultation will consist of two phases of consultation for both projects, including:

- A non-statutory phase one consultation, lasting 30 days will be held from 3rd October 2023 - 3rd November 2023.
- A statutory phase two consultation lasting for 10 weeks from Monday 11th March 2024 - Friday 24th May 2024. This SoCC relates to the carrying out of the phase two statutory consultation.

### Phase one consultation (3rd October 2023 - 3rd November 2023)

This non-statutory consultation introduced our early-stage proposals for the Dean Moor Solar Farm to the local communities. We received feedback on our initial proposals and suggestions from the communities, based on local knowledge of the area. All of this feedback has been useful for us to understand and consider as we develop and refine our proposals.

### Phase two consultation (11th March 2024 - 24th May 2024)

The statutory consultation, in accordance with Section 47 of the Planning Act, will allow us to update interested parties on our proposals for the Dean Moor Solar Farm. We will consult on more detailed proposals alongside presenting the findings of the environmental studies that have been carried out to date, which will be published in our Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR). The phase two consultation is the consultation that we must carry out by law. More details of what we will be consulting on are listed in Section 11 of this SoCC and the methods for how we will consult are listed in Section 13. As well as the community consultation in accordance with Section 47, this consultation also includes:

- Consultation with prescribed bodies such as Natural England, the Environment Agency and National Highways (under Section 42 of the 2008 Act);
- Consultation with host and neighbouring Local Planning Authorities (under Section 43 of the 2008 Act);
- Consultation with any persons with an interest in the land affected by the Project (under Section 44 of the 2008 Act); and general public consultation on the Project (under Section 48 of the 2008 Act)

During our phase two consultation, we will actively seek feedback on the findings of the PEIR. The full PEIR, along with a non-technical summary, will be accessible for review as part of the consultation process. To ensure convenient access, the PEIR will be made available electronically on our project website. Additionally, as part of our statutory notices, we will provide a service for requesting copies of the complete PEIR.

For the convenience of interested stakeholders, hard copies of our community consultation documents will be sent via post upon request. Please refer to Section 13 for more detailed information on this process.

Once we submit the 'DCO' application to the Planning Inspectorate, interested parties will have the opportunity to formally comment on our proposals for the Dean Moor Solar Farm. The Planning Inspectorate will facilitate public engagement by inviting views on the proposals. Interested parties will have the ability to register and submit their representations for consideration during the examination process.

For guidance and further information on this process, please visit the Planning Inspectorate's website at <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/legislation-and-advice/>

Dean Moor Solar Farm | Statement of Community Consultation

Dean Moor Solar Farm | Statement of Community Consultation

### Consultation reporting

As part of the 'DCO' application to be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate, planned for Winter 2024, we will publish a consultation report that:

- Describes our consultation process
- Explains how we have satisfied and adhered to legal requirements
- Details how we have worked with local authorities to ensure our consultation is suitable for the area through the proposals set out in this SoCC
- Details the feedback and consultation responses we have received
- Responds to the feedback we have received, including explaining how we have listened to feedback and how it has influenced our proposals

## 11. What will be consulted on?

During the consultation periods we will be asking for views on:

- The proposed Dean Moor Solar Farm
- The short term and long-term impacts of the proposed Dean Moor Solar Farm including:
  - Construction impacts
  - Environmental impacts
  - Operational impacts
  - Impacts from decommissioning
  - Other impacts during the construction, maintenance, and decommissioning periods, such as socioeconomic and cumulative impacts
- Proposed mitigation of these impacts
- The contribution that Dean Moor Solar Farm could make to the local community
- The PEIR (at statutory consultation only)

## 10. Timing



Figure 1: Proposed Timeline for Engagement and Submission



Indicative image of energy storage containers

Dean Moor Solar Farm | Statement of Community Consultation

Dean Moor Solar Farm | Statement of Community Consultation

## 12. Who will we consult?

We will consult widely in accordance with this SoCC and encourage participation in the consultation from any person or group who may be directly impacted by the proposed Dean Moor Solar Farm. We have defined a series of 'zones of consultation' for the purpose of consulting with the local community under section 47 of the 2008 Act.

These recognise the fact that levels of potential impact and interest are likely to vary with geography and inform the techniques we will use to consult.

These zones are set out in Table 1 and visible in Figures 2 & 3.

The launch dates for each stage of consultation will be announced and published at least 10 days before the start of that consultation stage. This will be done in a number of ways, which are outlined in Section 13.

Zone	Parameters
Zone 1	Any person or group likely to be directly impacted by the proposed Dean Moor Solar Farm by virtue of their living or working in proximity to the site.
Zone 2	Any person or group living in proximity to the site, but outside of Zone 1. This zone is defined by the boundaries of the parishes of Dean, Arlecdon & Fitzington, Distington, and Winscales.
Zone 3	People living and working in the host local authority area of Cumberland Council outside of consultation Zone 1.
Zone 4	Neighbouring district, county and unitary authorities within the administrative areas of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Westmorland and Furness Council</li> <li>• Lancaster District Council</li> <li>• North Yorkshire Council</li> <li>• Northumberland Council</li> </ul>

Table 1: Zones of consultation

Dean Moor Solar Farm | Statement of Community Consultation

Figure 2: Map of the Site and Zone 1 boundary



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Figure 3: Map of the Site and Zone 1, Zone 2, and Zone 3



Dean Moor Solar Farm | Statement of Community Consultation

We will also consult and continue our engagement with a range of other statutory consultees as required by section 42 and section 48 of the 2008 Act and regulation 13 of the EIA Regulations, and additional organisations that we recognise to have an interest in the proposed Dean Moor Solar Farm. These groups include, but are not limited to:

- Economic interest groups and organisations such as local enterprise partnerships (LEPs) and chambers of commerce
- Heritage consultees including Historic England and the National Trust
- Environmental consultees including Natural England and the Environment Agency
- Infrastructure providers such as National Highways and National Grid
- Conservation groups such as the RSPB, CPRE Cumbria, and the Cumbria Wildlife Trust

#### Ongoing engagement

Anybody is welcome to get in touch with us at any point before, during or between stages of consultation. Our contact details are listed in Section 18 of this SoCC. Feedback will be considered as part of the detailed design process and incorporated where possible. Where this is not possible for technical reasons, we will explain this in our Consultation Report. You will also have the opportunity to formally comment on our proposals for the Dean Moor Solar Farm when the DCO application is submitted to, and accepted by, the Planning Inspectorate.

#### Seldom heard groups

We have developed our consultation to be accessible to all groups in the community. We recognise that some individuals or groups may have difficulties taking part in the consultation process for a range of reasons. We have identified a number of organisations representing seldom heard groups in the consultation area. These organisations will be contacted ahead of phase two consultation to ensure that our approach best meets the needs of their members. We are hosting different formats of free-to-use communications channels to ensure our consultation is as accessible as possible. These formats include email, phone and post. We will also be using a combination of in person and digital formats such as in person events and webinars. We will also continue to notify them of consultation opportunities. Identified seldom heard groups include:

- Age UK West Cumbria
- Cumbria Deaf Association
- Triple A (All About Autism)
- Autism Support Allerdale and Copeland
- The WI Cumbria-Westmorland Federation
- Allerdale Disability Association
- Owl Blue Cumbria
- Cumbria Young Farmers Clubs
- West Cumbria Society for the Blind England
- Anti Racist Cumbria

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## 13. How will we be consulting?

We will use a range of techniques to consult the community. These are designed to allow people with different needs across the community to take part in the consultation. These are set out as follows.

Zone	How we will publicise consultation within this zone	How we will consult within this zone
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writing to all addresses within consultation zone 1</li> <li>• Writing to elected representatives at a parish, Cumbria Council electoral division, and Parliamentary level, as well as community groups, within the zone with details of the consultation</li> <li>• Sharing a consultation information pack including Q&amp;As and a poster with local authorities, parish councils and community groups within the zone to allow them to promote the consultation through existing communications channels</li> <li>• Publishing the consultation in the following newspapers circulating in the consultation zone: the News and Star, the Whitehaven News, and the Times and Star</li> <li>• Publishing the consultation to regional and local broadcasters including BBC Radio Cumbria, BBC Look North (North East and Cumbria), BBC North West</li> <li>• Advertising the consultation via Facebook advertisements</li> <li>• Publishing details of the consultation online at <a href="http://www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com/">www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com/</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sending a letter providing an early stage introduction to the proposals and the contact details of the project team</li> <li>• Providing a non-technical overview of the proposed Dean Moor Solar Farm, the EIA process, the consultation and planning process, how to take part in the consultation, and proposed next steps to all addresses in consultation zone 1</li> <li>• Inviting enquiries and responses online through the consultation website, by freephone, freepost or email. This will provide a variety of means for consultees to respond in a way convenient to them</li> <li>• Hosting webinars which will include a presentation regarding the proposals and an opportunity to ask questions. Dates for the webinars are included later in this document and will also be made available in consultation publicity</li> <li>• Inviting elected representatives to take part in briefings through a digital meeting</li> <li>• Inviting residents of consultation zone 1 to book an individual appointment to discuss the proposals by telephone or in person at an appropriate venue</li> <li>• Contacting community and voluntary organisations within consultation zone 1 to offer direct engagement</li> <li>• Publication of consultation information online at the consultation website</li> <li>• Provision of copies of the Preliminary Environmental Information Report for review, as well as copies of the consultation booklet and questionnaire, at deposit points in the local area. The PEIR will also be available on the project website</li> </ul>

Dean Moor Solar Farm | Statement of Community Consultation

Zone	How we will publicise consultation within this zone	How we will consult within this zone
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writing to all addresses within consultation zone 2</li> <li>• Writing to elected representatives at a parish, Cumberland Council electoral division, and Parliamentary level, as well as community groups, within the zone with details of the consultation</li> <li>• Sharing a consultation information pack including Q&amp;As and a poster with local authorities, parish councils and community groups within the zone to allow them to promote the consultation through existing communications channels</li> <li>• Publishing the consultation in the following newspapers circulating in the consultation zone: the News and Star, the Whitehaven News, and the Times and Star</li> <li>• Publishing the consultation to regional and local broadcasters including BBC Radio Cumbria, BBC Look North (North East and Cumbria), BBC North West</li> <li>• Advertising the consultation via Facebook advertisements</li> <li>• Publishing details of the consultation online at <a href="http://www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com/">www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com/</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sending a copy of a consultation booklet providing a non-technical overview of the proposed Dean Moor Solar Farm, the EIA process, the consultation and planning process, how to take part in the consultation, and proposed next steps to all addresses in consultation zone 2</li> <li>• Inviting enquiries and responses online through the consultation website, by freephone, freepost or email. This will provide a variety of means for consultees to respond in a way convenient to them</li> <li>• Hosting webinars which will include a presentation regarding the proposals and an opportunity to ask questions. Dates for the webinars are included later in this document and will also be made available in consultation publicity</li> <li>• Inviting elected representatives to take part in briefings through a digital meeting</li> <li>• Contacting community and voluntary organisations within consultation zone 2 to offer direct engagement</li> <li>• Publication of consultation information online at the consultation website</li> <li>• Provision of copies of the Preliminary Environmental Information Report for review, as well as copies of the consultation booklet and questionnaire, at deposit points in the local area. The PEIR will also be available on the project website</li> </ul>

Dean Moor Solar Farm | Statement of Community Consultation



Zone	How we will publicise consultation within this zone	How we will consult within this zone
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Writing to all division councillors at Cumberland Council and Westmorland and Furness Council.</li> <li>Writing to all parish councils within the consultation zone.</li> <li>Sharing a consultation information pack designed to support stakeholders promoting consultation through their own existing communication channels such as social media feeds with local authorities, parish councils and community groups within the zone.</li> <li>Publicising the consultation in the following newspapers circulating in the consultation zone: the News and Star, the Whitehaven News, and the Times and Star.</li> <li>Publicising the consultation to regional and local broadcasters including BBC Radio Cumbria, BBC Look North (North East and Cumbria), BBC North West.</li> <li>Advertising the consultation online.</li> <li>Publishing details of the consultation online at <a href="http://www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com/">www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com/</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hosting webinars which will include a presentation regarding the proposals and an opportunity to ask questions. Dates for the webinars will be made available in consultation publicity.</li> <li>Inviting elected representatives to take part in briefings through a digital meeting.</li> <li>Publication of consultation information online at the consultation website.</li> <li>Inviting enquiries and responses online through the consultation website, by freephone, freepost or email.</li> </ul>
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Writing to the Leader and Chief Executive of local authorities within the zone.</li> <li>Publicising the consultation in the News and Star and the North-West Evening Mail.</li> <li>Advertising the consultation online.</li> <li>Publishing details of the consultation online at <a href="http://www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com/">www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com/</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Publication of consultation information online at the consultation website.</li> <li>Hosting webinars which will include a presentation regarding the proposals and an opportunity to ask questions. Dates for the webinars are included later in this document and will also be made available in consultation publicity.</li> <li>Inviting enquiries and responses online through the consultation website, by freephone, freepost or email.</li> </ul>



## 14. Consultation information

We will produce a range of materials providing information as part of the consultation including:

- A consultation booklet providing a non-technical overview of the proposed Dean Moor Solar Farm including key plans, the EIA process, the consultation and planning process, proposed next steps, and how to find out more and view other consultation documents
- Presentations to be given as part of webinars, which will be recorded and made available for viewing after the event on the project website at [www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com](http://www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com).
- The PEIR, accompanied by a non-technical summary (for the statutory consultation)
- A consultation questionnaire designed to collect responses to the consultation
- The SoCC

The PEIR will also incorporate the results of the environmental surveys that we have completed to date and set out our preliminary conclusions on the likely significant effects of the proposed Dean Moor Solar Farm on the environment. It will also give information about some of the mitigation measures that may be proposed to reduce or avoid those effects, so as to assist respondents in making well-informed responses to the consultation.

Copies of consultation information will be made available for review free of charge online at [www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com](http://www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com).

Hard copies of the consultation booklet, questionnaire and SoCC will also be made available free of charge on request. Consultation materials will include guidance on what respondents can influence through the consultation and how we will have regard to their responses.

## 15. Public information events

Non-statutory events (3rd October 2023 - 3rd November 2023)

### IN-PERSON:

- Tuesday 17 October 2pm-7pm**  
Dean Kirkstall Hall, Workington CA14 4TH
- Wednesday 18 October 2pm-7pm**  
Solway Lounge, Hunday Manor, Winscales, Workington, Cumbria, CA14 4JF

### WEBINAR:

- Thursday 19 October 6pm-7pm**
- Monday 30 October 6pm-7pm**

Statutory events (11th March 2024 - 24th May 2024)

We will be conducting statutory consultation events in Spring 2024. Dates and locations of events may be found below.

### IN-PERSON:

- Tuesday 19th March 2pm-6pm**  
Distington Community Centre, Church Rd, Distington, Workington CA14 5TE
- Wednesday 20th March 2pm-7pm**  
Dean Kirkstall Hall, Dean, Workington CA14 4TH
- Thursday 21st March 2pm-7pm**  
Hunday Manor, Workington CA14 4JF

### WEBINAR:

- Tuesday 16th April, 6pm - 7pm**
- Thursday 18th April, 6pm - 7pm**

## 16. Our documents

The following reports (listed below) will be prepared as part of the EIA and the 'DCO' process:

### Scoping Report:

In August 2023, we published our Scoping Report, which presented the Project Envelope and outlined the processes we will undertake to assess potential impacts on the existing environment. Following feedback from Local Planning Authorities and statutory consultees, a Scoping Opinion was issued by the Planning Inspectorate in September 2023. Both the Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion can be viewed on the Planning Inspectorate's website: <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/north-west/dean-moor-solar-farm/?ipsection=overview>.

### Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR):

The PEIR will set out preliminary environmental findings and information and take account of the Scoping Opinion issued by the Planning Inspectorate as well as feedback received during the non-statutory 'phase 1' consultation and stakeholder engagement. It will include the results of surveys and preliminary environmental assessments conducted thus far, providing consultees with a preliminary understanding of the potential impacts of the Dean Moor Solar Farm on the local environment.

The PEIR will also detail any project changes and proposed mitigation measures. During our phase two consultation, we will publish the PEIR for review and seek feedback. Please refer to Sections 9 and 14 for more detailed information.

### Environmental Statement (ES):

Building upon the content of the PEIR and incorporating responses from the phase two consultation, stakeholder engagement, and survey results, the ES will outline the assessment and conclusions of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process. Similar to the PEIR, it will describe any project changes and proposed mitigation measures. The ES will be an integral part of the Development Consent Order (DCO) application for submission.

## 17. Community access points

Hard copies of this document and Phase Two consultation materials, including our leaflet, Feedback form and PEIR, will be available for public inspection at the locations below. We will provide copies of the consultation materials on a USB stick upon reasonable request and for a small charge.

### Distington Library

- Monday: 10am – 2pm
- Tuesday: 10am – 2pm
- Wednesday: CLOSED
- Thursday: 10am – 2pm
- Friday: 10am–2pm
- Saturday: CLOSED

### Workington Library

- Monday: 9am – 6pm
- Tuesday: 9am – 6pm
- Wednesday: 9am – 6pm
- Thursday: 9am – 6pm
- Friday: 9am – 5pm
- Saturday: 9am – 2pm

### Frizington Library

- Monday: 2pm – 5pm
- Tuesday: CLOSED
- Wednesday: 2pm – 5pm
- Thursday: CLOSED
- Friday: 9.30am – 12pm
- Saturday: CLOSED

### St Oswalds Church at Dean

- Monday: 9am – 6pm
- Tuesday: 9am – 6pm
- Wednesday: 9am – 6pm
- Thursday: 9am – 6pm
- Friday: 9am – 6pm
- Saturday: 9am – 6pm



Indicative image of an energy storage container





## 18. Contact details

If you would like to obtain further information about the Dean Moor Solar Farm, please feel free to get in touch. Our team can be reached through any of the communication channels listed below. For individuals requiring documents in large print, audio, or braille formats, kindly contact us using the provided details. Please note that all graphs and maps included in this document are purely for illustrative purposes.

✉ [info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com](mailto:info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com)

☎ 0800 041 8643

✍ FREEPOST: DEAN MOOR SOLAR FARM





## Appendix 3.3 Correspondence relating to the SoCC typo

Initial email trail accepting the draft SoCC:



1 of 9

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@Cumberland.gov.uk>  
Sent: Monday, December 11, 2023 12:23 PM  
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@stantec.com>  
Subject: FW: Dean Moor Solar Farm Statement of Community Consultation - Response needed by 19th of December

[REDACTED]  
Comment from [REDACTED] to note.

Regards  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
Senior Manager – Planning and Development | Thriving Place and Investment  
Place, Sustainable Growth and Transport | Cumberland Council  
Allerdale House | Workington | Cumbria | CA14 3YJ

T: [REDACTED]  
M: [REDACTED]  
[cumberland.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@cumberland.gov.uk)



From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@Cumberland.gov.uk>  
Sent: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 8:30 AM  
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@allerdale.gov.uk>  
Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@allerdale.gov.uk>  
Subject: RE: Dean Moor Solar Farm Statement of Community Consultation - Response needed by 19th of December

Thanks [REDACTED]

As per our chat, I don't have much to add other than to suggest that the relevant Community Panels form part of the consultation group. These are unique to Cumberland Council.

There's also a reference to 'Cumbria Council' which needs altered to say Cumberland Council.

Thanks

**Zone** How we will publicise consultation  
within this zone  
**How we will consult within this zone**

**1** • Writing to all addresses within consultation zone 1

• Writing to elected representatives at a parish, **Cumbria Council electoral division**, and Parliamentary level, as well as community groups, within the zone with details of the consultation

Regards

[REDACTED]  
Communications and Engagement Manager | Communications  
Strategy, Policy and Performance | Cumberland Council  
Civic Centre | Rickergate | Carlisle | CA3 8QG  
T: [REDACTED]  
M: [REDACTED]  
[cumberland.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@cumberland.gov.uk)





From: [redacted] <[redacted]@cumberland.gov.uk>  
Sent: 28 November 2023 16:23  
To: [redacted] <[redacted]@allerdale.gov.uk>  
Cc: [redacted] <[redacted]@cumberland.gov.uk>  
Subject: FW: Dean Moor Solar Farm Statement of Community Consultation - Response needed by 19th of December

Hi [redacted]

Prior to this formal submission I consulted [redacted] and yourself on the draft. He response was supportive at the informal consultation with nothing substantive to add.

I was just wondering if there was anything that you wanted to respond on from the attached before the consultation period ends?

[redacted] likewise from a policy perspective anything to add on the SoCC?

Happy to discuss.

Regards  
[redacted]

Senior Manager – Planning and Development | Thriving Place and Investment  
Place, Sustainable Growth and Transport | Cumberland Council  
Allerdale House | Workington | Cumbria | CA14 3YJ

T: [redacted]  
M: [redacted]  
[\[redacted\]@cumberland.gov.uk](mailto:[redacted]@cumberland.gov.uk)



From: [redacted] <[redacted]@stantec.com>  
Sent: 20 November 2023 14:00  
To: [redacted] <[redacted]@allerdale.gov.uk>  
Cc: [redacted] <[redacted]@allerdale.gov.uk>; [redacted] <[redacted]@alpacacomunications.com>; [redacted] <[redacted]@alpacacomunications.com>; [redacted] <[redacted]@ibvogt.com>; [redacted] <[redacted]@stantec.com>  
Subject: RE: Dean Moor Solar Farm Statement of Community Consultation - Response needed by 19th of December

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Hello [redacted]

Hope you had a good weekend.

Thanks again for your previous feedback on the Dean Moor Solar Farm Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) on the 10<sup>th</sup> of November (email below). Following this informal consultation, we are now required to formally consult you in accordance with [Section 47 of the Planning Act \(2008\)](#). The Council has 28 days to respond, and therefore the consultation period would run up to the 19<sup>th</sup> of December 2023.

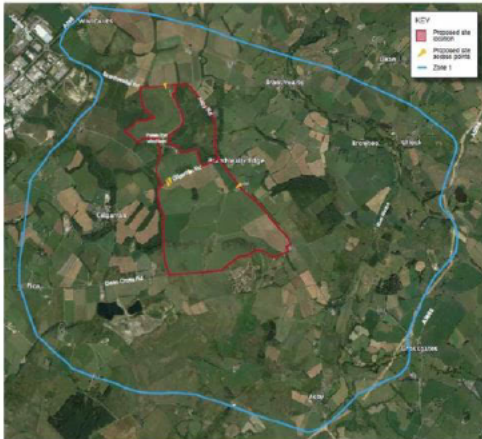
3 of 9

I have attached the SoCC, as well as a cover letter which formalises this notification to this email.

The only substantive change to the SoCC from the version which you previously agreed is to the 'zones of consultation' Zone 1 Study Area (see excerpt below). As I previously explained within my earlier email (below), due to the relatively sparsely populated area, for the non statutory consultation, we expanded Zone 1 beyond the 500m which would typically be included for such projects. Within this version of the SoCC, we have clarified the boundary, and on this basis Zone 1 now includes the villages of Gilgarran, Branthwaite, Browtop, Ullock, Pica and Asby. We have also included nearby farms, and properties in Winscales south of the A595, which may have views over the Site.

For context, the SoCC is a live document, and will be updated as the project progresses. This would include amendments to address any additional feedback you provide. We will publish it on our website ahead of the Statutory Consultation which is planned for February next year.

I look forward to hearing from you. Please get in touch if you have any questions.



KR,

[REDACTED] MRTPI  
Associate Planner

Direct: [REDACTED]  
Direct: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@stantec.com

Stantec  
2nd Floor Ada Lovelace Building, Upper Richardson Road  
Exeter Olyst Honiton EX5 2FS



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From: [REDACTED]@Cumberland.gov.uk>

Sent: Friday, November 10, 2023 4:05 PM

To: [REDACTED]@stantec.com>

CC: [REDACTED]@Cumberland.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]@pacacommunications.com

Subject: RE: Dean Moor Solar Farm draft Statement of Community Consultation

Hi [REDACTED]

Hope all well and look forward to catching up on the scheme progress when we can.

I've had feedback from our deputy chief exec who looks at policy and comms and they suggest the draft SoCC is very comprehensive with nothing to add.

I would suggest informally that gives you a high degree of comfort that the council is satisfied with the approach. As a benchmark I'm assuming you have already reviewed the sovereign SCIs.

Hope this assists.

Regards

Senior Manager – Planning and Development | Thriving Place and Investment  
Place, Sustainable Growth and Transport | Cumberland Council  
Allerdale House | Workington | Cumbria | CA14 3YJ

T. [REDACTED]  
M. [REDACTED]  
[cumberland.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@cumberland.gov.uk)



From: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@stantec.com](mailto:[REDACTED]@stantec.com)>  
Sent: 10 November 2023 15:57  
To: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@allerdale.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@allerdale.gov.uk)>  
Cc: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@allerdale.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@allerdale.gov.uk)>; [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@palpacemedia.com](mailto:[REDACTED]@palpacemedia.com)>  
Subject: RE: Dean Moor Solar Farm draft Statement of Community Consultation

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Hi [REDACTED]  
Have you had a chance to consider the below? As I say, would be good to have informal input on the SoCC before we issue it formally.

KR

[REDACTED] MRTPI  
Associate Planner  
Direct: [REDACTED]  
Direct: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@stantec.com](mailto:[REDACTED]@stantec.com)>  
Stantec  
2nd Floor Ada Lovelace Building, Upper Richardson Road  
Exeter Clyst Honiton EX8 2FS



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From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Thursday, October 26, 2023 12:05 PM  
To: Cc: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@allerdale.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@allerdale.gov.uk)>  
Cc: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@palpacemedia.com](mailto:[REDACTED]@palpacemedia.com)>; [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@stantec.com](mailto:[REDACTED]@stantec.com)>; [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@stantec.com](mailto:[REDACTED]@stantec.com)>; [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@stantec.com](mailto:[REDACTED]@stantec.com)>; [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@palpacemedia.com](mailto:[REDACTED]@palpacemedia.com)>; [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@cumberland.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@cumberland.gov.uk)>  
Subject: Dean Moor Solar Farm draft Statement of Community Consultation

Hello [REDACTED]

I hope this email finds you well.

As part of the preparation for our planned statutory consultation in early 2024, we have prepared the attached draft Statement of Community Consultation (SOCC) for the Council to review. We are planning to formally consult the Council in two or three weeks time (mid November), but before doing this we would ideally have your informal input.

**Request for Cumberland Council's input to the draft SoCC**

I have highlighted the key areas we would particularly appreciate the Council's feedback on ahead of the formal consultation:



KR,

██████████ MRTPI  
Associate Planner

Direct: ██████████ ext. ██████████  
Direct: ██████████@stantec.com

Stantec  
2nd Floor Ada Lovelace Building, Upper Richardson Road  
Exeter Clyst Honiton EX5 2FS



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Cumberland Council  
Workington Office, Allerdale House, Workington, Cumbria, CA14 3YJ

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9 of 9

Subsequent email trail confirming notice of SoCC typo:

Tuesday, October 15, 2024 at 12:28:29 British Summer Time

**Subject:** PW: Dean Moor Solar Farm - Issue with the Statement of Community Consultation  
**Date:** Monday 12 August 2024 at 10:44:16 British Summer Time  
**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**CC:** [REDACTED]  
**Attachments:** image001.png, image002.png

Afternoon,

See response to the email RE The SoCC.

He doesn't directly address or acknowledge any of it, but expect although ideally he would, it's ok, as I was clear this was just for information.

As discussed, during the meeting we had, after my explanation, he gave a brief (and correct) summary of his take on the situation to indicate he understood.

KR,

[REDACTED] (RTPI)  
Associate Planner  
Direct [REDACTED]  
Direct [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@stantec.com

Stantec  
2nd Floor Ada Lovelace Building, Upper Richardson Road  
Exeter Oyst Hinton EX5 2FS



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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@Cumberland.gov.uk>

**Sent:** Monday, August 12, 2024 11:31 AM

**To:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@stantec.com>

**Cc:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@ibooqt.com>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@Cumberland.gov.uk>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@Cumberland.gov.uk>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@Cumberland.gov.uk>

**Subject:** RE: Dean Moor Solar Farm - Issue with the Statement of Community Consultation

Hi [REDACTED]

It was good to catch up on the project – much appreciated.

As we discussed the council planning team will continue to engage as practically possible and be your first point of contact.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

Senior Manager – Planning and Development | Thriving Place and Investment  
Place, Sustainable Growth and Transport | Cumberland Council  
Allerdale House | Workington | Cumbria | CA14 3YJ

T. [REDACTED]  
M. [REDACTED]  
cumberland.gov.uk



**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@stantec.com>

**Sent:** Friday, August 9, 2024 4:56 PM

**To:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@allerdale.gov.uk>

**Cc:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@ibooqt.com>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@allerdale.gov.uk>

**Subject:** Dean Moor Solar Farm - Issue with the Statement of Community Consultation

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Hi [REDACTED]

It was good to meet with you earlier this week.

As discussed, I have provided the below summary of the issue which occurred regarding the consultation arrangements which are described within the Project's Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC). We'll issue a separate minute of our meeting.

#### What informed the consultation arrangements agreed with the Council

When developing the SoCC, we initially proposed (to the Council) that our Zone 1 consultation area (the area we would write to people) should be a 500m buffer around the Site. With residents within 500m (in Zone 1) receiving consultation information delivered to their homes. As the population within 500m was so sparse, prior to the consultation, we agreed with the Council to extend the boundary of Zone 1 to include a wider area, particularly the closest dwellings and villages (Barnthwaite, Gilgarran, part of Winscales, Browtop, Ullcock and Asby). The agreed boundary is shown in blue on the below excerpt from the SoCC below.

#### What actually happened

We updated the SoCC to reflect the agreed extended Zone 1, but did not update the SoCC in relation to Zone 2. The published SoCC included the earlier (and superseded) commitment, where we said we would send consultation information to addresses in Zone 2. For context, this meant that in the SoCC, Zone 2 had the same arrangements as Zone 1.

I can confirm that the following actions were undertaken to inform the residents living in Zone 2:

- The entirety of Zone 2 was covered by our online advertising via Facebook/Instagram, to the effect that these adverts had an estimated reach of 9,114 accounts across both Zone 1 and Zone 2;
- Zone 2 was also covered by newspapers which contained notices of the proposed application; and
- We also had broad engagement with people in Zone 2. Two of our consultation events, at Hunday Manor and Distington Community Hall, were held within Zone 2 while the third event, at Dean Kirkstall Hall, was held in Zone 1.

We did, therefore, consult fully with the residents living in Zone 2, the issue being that this was not fully in accordance with the published SoCC. All residents had the opportunity to respond to the consultation and it is worth reporting that of the 15 responses to consultation received, five responses were from residents in Zone 2.

#### What we plan to do next

We will fully explain the above in our Consultation Report, which will accompany the application for development consent, so the Planning Inspectorate is aware of the position. We have drawn this matter to your attention now so you are aware of the position when you are invited, in due course, by the Planning Inspectorate, to comment on the adequacy of the consultation carried out by the applicant.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

## 12. Who will we consult?

We will consult widely in accordance with this SoCC and encourage participation in the consultation from any person or group who may be directly impacted by the proposed Dean Moor Solar Farm. We have defined a series of 'zones of consultation' for the purpose of consulting with the local community under section 47 of the 2008 Act.


These recognise the fact that levels of potential impact and interest are likely to vary with geography and inform the techniques we will use to consult.

These zones are set out in Table 1 and visible in Figures 2 & 3.

The launch dates for each stage of consultation will be announced and published at least 10 days before the start of that consultation stage. This will be done in a number of ways, which are outlined in Section 13.

Zone	Parameters
Zone 1	Any person or group likely to be directly impacted by the proposed Dean Moor Solar Farm by virtue of their living or working in proximity to the site.
Zone 2	Any person or group living in proximity to the site, but outside of Zone 1. This zone is defined by the boundaries of the parishes of Dean, Alecton & Frizington, Distington, and Winscales.
Zone 3	People living and working in the host local authority area of Cumberland Council outside of consultation Zone 1.
Zone 4	Neighbouring district, county and unitary authorities within the administrative areas of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Westmorland and Furness Council</li><li>• Lancaster District Council</li><li>• North Yorkshire Council</li><li>• Northumberland Council</li></ul>

Table 1: Zones of consultation



Kind regards,

  
Responsible Planning  
Direct  
Direct  
  
Stantec

2nd Floor Ada Lovelace Building, Upper Richardson Road  
Exeter Clist Horton EX5 2FS

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## Appendix 3.4 List of consultee groups

The following groups and organisations were directly outreached as part of the Applicant's efforts to ensure accessible consultation:

Organisation
Age UK West Cumbria
Cumbria Deaf Association
Triple A (All About Autism)
Autism Support Allerdale and Copeland
The WI Cumbria-Westmorland Federation
Allerdale Disability Association
Owl Blue Cumbria
Cumbria Young Farmers Clubs
West Cumbria Society for the Blind England
Anti Racist Cumbria
South Lakes Action on Climate Change
Friends of the Earth West Cumbria
Cumbria Action for Sustainability
Cumbria Chamber of Commerce

## Appendix 3.5 Stakeholder invitation letters

The below email was sent to stakeholders on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024, accompanied by a copy of the Dean Moor Consultation Brochure and the Feedback Form.

[REDACTED]

---

**Subject:** Dean Moor Solar Farm Consultation Invitation  
**Date:** Friday 8 March 2024 at 14:51:49 Greenwich Mean Time  
**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**CC:** Feedback, info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com  
**Attachments:** Dean Moor Consultation Brochure.pdf, Dean Moor Feedback Form.pdf

Dear [REDACTED]

I hope this email finds you well.

I am writing to you on behalf of FVS Dean Moor Ltd to inform you we are carrying out statutory public consultation under section 42, 47 and 48 of the Planning Act 2008 in relation to our proposals for a solar farm with battery energy storage at Dean Moor, between Gilgarran and Branthwaite in West Cumbria. We would like to provide you with some background information, explain how you can find out more and to invite you to our statutory public consultation events.

I have attached a copy of the invitation brochure and feedback form which will shortly be sent to local residents, which contains further information on our proposals. We are very keen to ensure that local residents are able to gain all the information that they need about the project.

The statutory consultation period will run from **Monday 11th March 2024 to Friday 26th April 2024**. This will be an opportunity for interested stakeholders to view our plans, ask questions to members of the project team, and provide feedback on our proposals.

**We would therefore like to invite you to attend our public consultation events this month. We will be holding three in-person events on:**

**Tuesday 19th March** (2pm-6pm) at Distington Community Centre, Church Rd, Distington, Workington CA14 5TE

**Wednesday 20th March** (2pm-7pm) at Dean Kirkstile Hall, Dean, Workington CA14 4TH

**Thursday 21st March** (2pm-7pm) at Hunday Manor, Workington CA14 4JF

**We will also be holding two online webinars on Tuesday 16th April and Thursday 18th April (6pm-7pm), the links to which may be found here: [www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com/public-consultation](http://www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com/public-consultation).**

We would also be happy to arrange a personal call or a meeting to provide further information about the proposals. Please do let us know if this is something that would be of interest.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch should you have any questions; enquiries may be directed via our phone at 0800 041 8643, via email at [info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com](mailto:info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com), or via our website at [www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com](http://www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com). All consultation materials will be made available for viewing and download on the 'Documents' page of the website on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March ([www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com/documents](http://www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com/documents)).

Kind regards,  
[REDACTED]

1 of 2

# Appendix 3.6 August 2023 presentation to Councillor Andrew Semple

## Introducing Dean Moor Solar Farm

We are at the early stages of preparing our proposals for a solar farm incorporating a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) at Dean Moor between Gilgarran and Branthwaite in Cumbria.

Dean Moor solar farm will assist in tackling the joint climate and biodiversity crisis and help the UK to meet its obligation for net zero emissions by 2050.

Dean Moor Solar Farm would generate approximately 150 megawatts (MW) of clean energy. This is equivalent to meeting the energy needs of more than 50,000 typical family homes.\* Additionally, the solar farm would include battery storage for up to 100 MW, which would reinforce the power generated by the solar farm and provide balancing services to maintain grid stability.

This proposed project encompasses the installation of solar photovoltaic (PV) arrays, battery storage, and associated infrastructure. The solar farm would connect into the existing overhead lines on the site with no new overhead lines or off-site grid connection works required.

The site currently under consideration comprises approximately 279.5 hectares (691 acres) of land at Dean Moor. The solar farm infrastructure would not occupy the entire site; significant areas would also be dedicated to landscape and ecological enhancement.

\*Based upon average domestic electricity consumption per home (temperature corrected) as per Energy Consumption in the UK (published September 2022, Table C9 of ECUK: Consumption data tables).



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## About us

FVS Dean Moor Ltd is a joint venture formed by two renewable energy development specialists: Firma Energy Ltd and ib vogt UK Ltd.



Founded in 2021 by Rufus Salter and Andrew Jones, Firma is an independent management owned business, based in Leeds. The business has a focus on creating and delivering value from renewable energy developments with environmental and social benefits.

Across the UK Firma currently has over 260 megawatts (MW) of Solar Farm and 347MW of Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) in development.



ib vogt (IBV) is a leading developer specialising in utility-scale infrastructure for solar farms and battery storage facilities. With a 20-year history of global expertise, IBV is a significant player in the UK solar industry, holding the position of the second-largest solar developer in the country from 2012 to 2017 and with over 40GW of development projects in their global pipeline.

IBV is committed to sustainable energy and high-quality local development, a commitment solidified by participation in the UN Global Compact. With over 490MWp of solar operations in the UK IBV projects are designed and delivered with consideration for communities at their core. Through transparent communication and investment in local employment, IBV strives to empower local resilience while addressing the global challenges of climate change. IBV's focus on development and engineering excellence supports its mission to create a greener future through renewable energy solutions.



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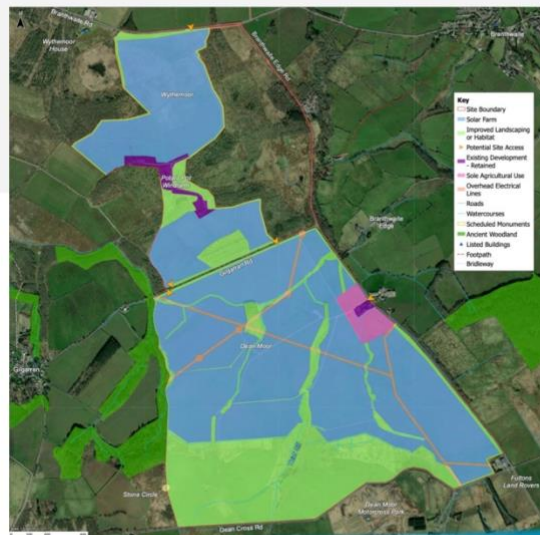
## Proposed Site Location



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## Preliminary Layout Design



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## Benefits

### Why do we need solar?

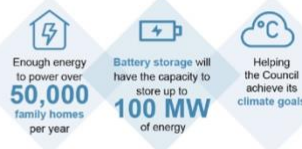
The UK has declared a Climate Emergency and committed to achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2050. To achieve this, we need renewable energy projects like Dean Moor solar farm to help reduce the UK's reliance on fossil fuels and improve our energy security.

The recently formed Cumberland Council has stated its commitment to the environment and to fighting climate change, by putting it "at the forefront of everything we do – working to create a more sustainable future for all at Cumberland". Dean Moor Solar Farm would help support the emerging Cumberland Council Plan (2023-2027), and the Council's aim to "help the most vulnerable with issues such as fuel poverty".



### Sun powered local prosperity

### A cleaner Cumbria



### To help Britain lead the way

### To bring back Britain's biodiversity



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## NSIP Planning Process & Timeline

We will be holding two rounds of public consultation prior to submitting the DCO application. This first non-statutory round in Autumn 2023, followed by a second statutory consultation in early 2024.

As this site is over 50MW, it is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP). NSIP projects are determined by the Secretary of State, rather than a local planning authority, and the application is seeking approval for a Development Consent Order (DCO) under the Planning Act 2008. Anyone intending to construct an NSIP must first apply to the Planning Inspectorate for a DCO.

The Planning Inspectorate reviews the application and provides a recommendation to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy, and Industrial Strategy, who ultimately makes the decision. Further details on this process may be found on the Planning Inspectorate website at <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/application-process/the-process/>

### Indicative Timeline



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## Environmental Benefits

Solar development provides an opportunity to move away from intensive farming practices, which can have a negative impact on the environment. This development allows native species to thrive and soil quality to improve, but does not prevent the land from being farmed in the future, once the solar farm has been decommissioned at the end of its operational lifetime.

For the Project, a biodiversity net-gain would be achieved by setting aside ecological enhancement areas, incorporating new native species planting, providing new wildlife habitats. The environmental improvement measures would include:

We anticipate that these measures would result in a biodiversity net gain that significantly exceeds the Government's 10% target.



Cultivating wildflower meadow for pollinators.



Improving grazing meadows and expanding acid grasslands.



Enhancing hedgerows, planting native species.



Installing bird, bat, invertebrate boxes, and hibernacula.



Protecting watercourses, planting waterside vegetation.



Introducing native trees, expanding woodlands.



Managing grassland with low-intensity sheep grazing.

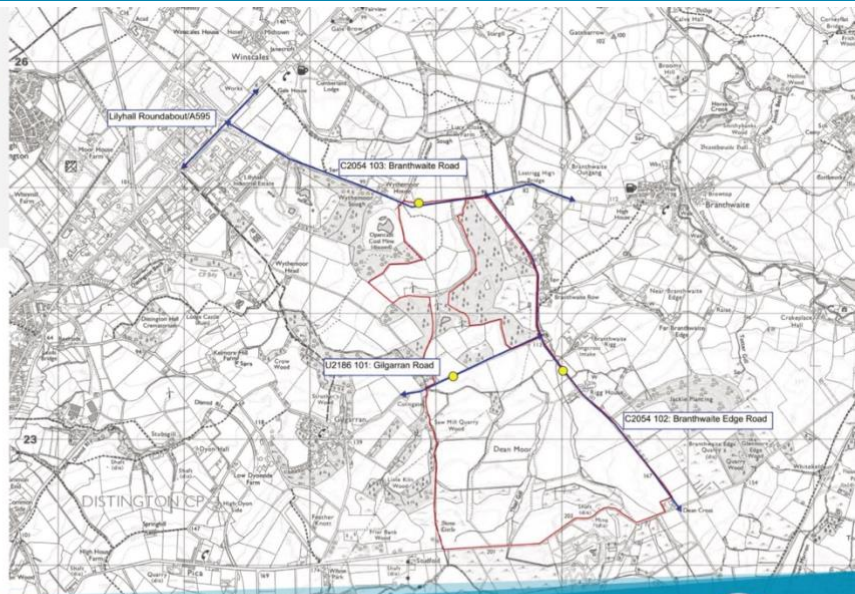
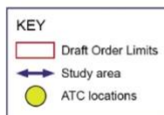


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## Construction Traffic

During construction and operation of the solar farm, it is anticipated that there would be some traffic impacts along the three roads identified above as Branthwaite Road, Branthwaite Edge Road and Gilgarran Road. We are currently engaging with National Highways and Cumberland Council as the highway authority to ensure that any potential impacts from traffic on local residents will be appropriately mitigated.



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## Community Benefit

FVS Dean Moor is committed to supporting the communities in the vicinity of the Dean Moor solar farm. We have begun working with local partners in the community to help identify local projects that we may be able to contribute towards. This could include the following:

- A scheme to assist local households with energy saving measures, particularly low- income households;
- Support for local energy efficiency and renewable energy generation projects across west Cumbria, including community solar panels and EV charging points for local schools and community organisations;
- the provision jobs during the construction and operational phases and financial contributions to benefit the local economy during the operation of the solar farm.

We are also currently working with local partners to facilitate the delivery of a £500,000 community benefit fund, to be used on projects across the local area.



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## Get in touch

We would love to hear your views on the proposals. Please do not hesitate to get in touch by the following ways, or complete and return the feedback form.

Email:  
**info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com**

Freephone:  
**0800 041 8643**

Freepost:  
**FREEPOST - DEAN MOOR SOLAR FARM**  
(no additional address or postage necessary)

Website:  
**www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com**



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# Appendix 3.7 Proof of published statutory consultation notices

News & Star



Whitehaven News (28/02/2024)







## Taxman lets wealthy use VIP helpline to avoid long waits

## Birth, Marriage and Death

To book a 50% Mortgage or Death  
 1-800-777-7777 or the Registrar and  
 www.kennedyfunding.com  
 for the phone call 1-800-777-7777  
 or visit [www.kennedyfunding.com](http://www.kennedyfunding.com)

**FROM** *read the book* *prophecy*  
 1-800-777-7777 or the Registrar and  
 www.kennedyfunding.com  
 for the phone call 1-800-777-7777  
 or visit [www.kennedyfunding.com](http://www.kennedyfunding.com)

**Starting**

**AMERICA**

on 100% Mortgage 200% Mortgage  
 1-800-777-7777 or the Registrar and  
 www.kennedyfunding.com  
 for the phone call 1-800-777-7777  
 or visit [www.kennedyfunding.com](http://www.kennedyfunding.com)

**RENTAL:** George Strait's *Strait Out of the Box* (R) is enjoying its 20th-anniversary sampling, with *Strait Out of the Box* (R) at No. 1 and *The Last Goodbye* (R) at No. 2.

**NEW:** *James Taylor's* 10-disc box set, *Peacefully on Earth, Loudly in Heaven*, is on No. 1, and *Black & Blue* (Columbia, R) is at No. 2.

**ALBUM:** Continuing its momentum, *Cher's* 1985 hit *Afterglow* (A&M) has taken No. 1, followed by *John Fogerty's* 1976 album, *Rock & Roll* (Mercury), with *Mark's* 1991 work, *Smile* (Mercury) at No. 3.

**COMPILATION:** *Michael Jackson's* 1979

[illegible]

**JONES** is a past fellow (1996-2001) of the Society for Neuroscience, Washington, DC. He received a B.S. in Neuroscience from the University of California at San Diego, where he worked as a teaching assistant. He is currently the popular and insightful host of the weekly *Science Update* (10:00-10:30 PM) on the Pacific Northwest's KSTU-TV. He is also a frequent speaker and panelist at various Neuroscience and general science events. He is currently a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Washington, where he is studying the effects of the 1918-1919 influenza pandemic on the United States. He has a grant from the National Science Foundation to study the effects of the 1918-1919 influenza pandemic on the United States. He is currently a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Washington, where he is studying the effects of the 1918-1919 influenza pandemic on the United States. He is currently a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Washington, where he is studying the effects of the 1918-1919 influenza pandemic on the United States.

**OPEN:** Please bookend your 2014 agent list by Tuesday, February 11, 2014, at the latest. The deadline for the 2015 list is Wednesday, March 12, 2014. Agents are asked to send their lists to [agents@openagents.com](mailto:agents@openagents.com). All agents are asked to send their lists to the Open Agents' Office, 10000 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1000, Beverly Hills, CA 90210. For more information, please visit [www.openagents.com](http://www.openagents.com).

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Thanksgiving Service King Constantine II of Greece

[illegible]

POSTS: 10/10/2011 10:10:11 AM

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**LORD RICHMOND**  
The Countess of the Richmond Palace  
Richmond Palace, Richmond, Surrey

your Birth, Marriage or Death

24 hours a day Go to [www.familylink.com](http://www.familylink.com)

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[illegible]

- **Future Planning**
  - Estate freeze (including insurance)
  - FID (including nonqualified options in the FID)
  - Conversion feature

[illegible]

'He'll be shouting for Ireland'

**rugby out England in the**  
 CALLAN FRANCES ELPHINSTON WAS BORN ON DECEMBER  
 AT PETERBOROUGH CITY HOSPITAL IN CAMBRIDGE  
 TO KATE WALKER AND JAMES ELPHINSTON

Celebrate the arrival of a newborn in Reader  
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[reader@vsn@theiris.co.uk](mailto:reader@vsn@theiris.co.uk)

**THE** IRIS

The principal components analysis  
of 1000 TV episodes  
by 1000 students

[illegible]

Relevant information that is supplied to the Applicant in response to its consultation will be treated confidentially and processed and handled accordingly with the Data Protection Act 2018. The information may be disclosed to or shared with the public and commercial companies, such

• **US EPA**, **Health Research Institute** (HRI) and **University of California** (UC) have been awarded a **US\$10 million** grant to study the **health effects of air pollution** in **California's Central Valley**. The study will focus on the **health effects of air pollution** in the **Central Valley**, which is one of the most **polluted** areas in the **United States**. The study will focus on the **health effects of air pollution** in the **Central Valley**, which is one of the most **polluted** areas in the **United States**.

## The Whitehaven News (06/03/2024)



**J & SON CORNELL PARK**  
**INDOOR USED CAR CENTRE**

**OUR USED CAR CENTRE IS WELCOMING A FRESH RANGE OF PRE-LOVED VEHICLES!**

[www.jcars.co.uk](http://www.jcars.co.uk) [www.usedcarcentre.co.uk](http://www.usedcarcentre.co.uk)





Wednesday, March 6, 2024

[www.whitehavennews.co.uk](http://www.whitehavennews.co.uk)

£1.50

**Abseilers check church tower**



News - Page 3

**Happy Monday as Bez drops in**



News - Page 6

**Tough slog on opening day**



Sport - back

**Abseilers check church tower**



News - Page 3

# GDF search: demand for urgency as costs soar

CELLULOSE being made to push forward in Britain a new era of major new steel-making plants, says a leading industry expert. The industry is now in a "very tight" position, says a leading industry expert. The industry is now in a "very tight" position, says a leading industry expert.

The GDF (Global Development Fund) is a new initiative to help developing countries. It is a new initiative to help developing countries. It is a new initiative to help developing countries.

As an expert representative of various energy firms, he is not particularly well known.

**Full Story Page 2**



## They don't do things by halves at Minicon!

A "Bathurst" company sits the phone on a Minicon seat at the controls at Bathurst's Railway Hall. And what a ride! The company is now in a very tight position, says a leading industry expert.

**Full story Page 2**



## Jury clears 'torture' trial accused

A JURY has cleared a former man of military intelligence and personal health care. The jury found the man not guilty of the charges.

At Crown Court, Judge James Hargrave, 25, was acquitted after he told the jury that he had played no part in the Vietnam soldier's alleged involvement with the military intelligence.

Two other men, both from the military, were also acquitted of the charges. The jury found them not guilty of the charges.

The man in the red dress was also acquitted of the charges. The jury found him not guilty of the charges.

**Full story Page 2**

Light District St Bees Priory  
SPACE: GOD, THE UNIVERSE AND EVERYTHING  
LEARNINGS 14 AND 15 MARCH 2020  
TICKETS £4 AVAILABLE FROM CARILLON'S TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE,  
ST BEES POST OFFICE, THE BEACON MUSEUM AND [SICESTCARRILLON.CO.UK](http://SICESTCARRILLON.CO.UK)

Wednesday March 6, 2004

www.whitehavennews.co.uk

11

**Additional 20% off BARE FOOT HEDGING SALE!**

Product	Price	Quantity	Unit Price	Unit Price
Barbed Wire	1.20	100	1.20	1.20
Electric Fence	1.50	100	1.50	1.50
Post	0.80	100	0.80	0.80
Wire	0.50	100	0.50	0.50
Posthole	0.30	100	0.30	0.30
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# THE GAZETTE

## LONDON GAZETTE

CONTAINING ALL NOTICES PUBLISHED ONLINE ON 28 FEBRUARY 2024  
PRINTED ON 28 FEBRUARY 2024 | NUMBER 64330  
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY | ESTABLISHED 1865  
WWW.THEGAZETTE.CO.UK

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- Terms & Conditions/4169\*

\* Containing all notices published online on 28 February 2024

### ENVIRONMENT & INFRASTRUCTURE

Under section 47 of the 2008 Act, the Applicant has a duty to consult the local community in accordance with a Statement of Community Consultation (SCCC), which sets out how the Applicant will undertake its consultation. This notice publicises where and when the SCCC can be inspected, pursuant to section 47(6)(b). Additionally, the Applicant has a duty to publicise the proposed application under section 48 of the 2008 Act in line with Regulation 4 of the 2008 Regulations. In accordance with those provisions, this notice also summarises the main proposals and explains where the consultation documents can be viewed.

**Summary of Proposed Works**

The proposed DCO application is a nationally significant infrastructure project (NSIP) under the 2008 Act and the application will be determined by the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero or her successor. If the application is successful, the Secretary of State will grant the DCO in respect of the application.

The Development comprises the construction, operation and maintenance, and decommissioning of a solar photovoltaic (PV) energy generating station with an export capacity of up to 150MW into the local electricity distribution network. The generating station would also involve the construction and operation of up to 150MW of BESS.

The principal components comprise the following:

- (a) Solar PV modules;
- (b) PV module-mounting structures;
- (c) Solar Inverters-Transformers;
- (d) BESS: equipment comprising Battery Units, Power Conversion System (PCS) units, and associated infrastructure;
- (e) Point of Connection (POC) infrastructure comprising customer and Distribution Network Operator (DNO) substation buildings and external electrical equipment within a wired mesh security fence;
- (f) Perimeter Fencing (fence line, gates, CCTV cameras, on-site cabling, and other associated infrastructure);
- (g) Access from the highway and internal access tracks; and
- (h) Landscaping (planting and ecological enhancements).

The proposed project is Environmental Impact Assessment development (EIA development), as defined by the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017. This means that the proposed works constitute development for which Environmental Impact Assessment is required. An Environmental Statement will therefore be submitted as part of the proposed application containing information about the environmental effects of the proposed development. Preliminary environmental information can be found in the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR), which forms part of the consultation materials.

Details of the consultation documents include—

- the SCCC;
- Guide to Statutory Consultation document;
- PEIR (including non-technical summary of the PEIR);
- Consultation Booklet;
- Feedback Form.

The consultation runs from Monday 11 March to Friday 26 April 2024 and during this period you can view and download the consultation documents via the Applicant's project website at <http://www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com>. The SCCC will also be available to view on the project website from Monday 11 March 2024, and hard copies of it can be obtained on request via the email, telephone number and freepost addresses given at the end of this notice.

You are encouraged to view the consultation documents by downloading them from the Applicant's website but should you require an alternative method for inspecting the consultation documents or require a free USB memory stick then please telephone 0800 041 8643 or email [info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com](mailto:info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com). Any details you provide to us via the telephone or e-mail will be subject to our privacy policy at <http://www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com/privacy-policy>. We will make every effort that is reasonable in the circumstances to allow you to inspect the documents.

**Public webinar events**

You can also attend one of our public consultation webinar events, which we are holding on selected evenings throughout the consultation period. Members of the project team will present proposals and will be happy to answer questions. Dates and times, and details of how to register for a webinar, will be published on our website and will be kept up-to-date throughout the consultation period. There will be a minimum of two one-hour webinar events during the consultation period.

### Charges for purchasing hard copies

The full suite of printed consultation documents will be made available for purchase at the cost of up to £500 plus postage. All document requests are limited to one per household or organisation. Copies of the printed documents or of the free USB memory stick can be obtained by emailing [info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com](mailto:info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com), by writing to FREEPOST DEAN MOOR SOLAR FARM, or by telephoning 0800 041 8643 Monday to Friday between 09:00 and 17:30. Comments on the proposals can be made in the following ways—

- Online: complete or download the Feedback Form at the project website: <http://www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com/>;
- By email or post: completed Feedback Forms, and any other comments, can be emailed to [info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com](mailto:info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com) or returned by post to FREEPOST DEAN MOOR SOLAR FARM.

**COMMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN 23:59 ON FRIDAY 26 APRIL 2024.**

Responses should state the ground of representation, the nature of your interest in the proposed project, indicate who is making it, and provide an address to which any correspondence relating to the representation may be sent.

Personal information that is supplied to the Applicant in response to this consultation will be treated confidentially and processed and handled in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018. The information may be disclosed to or shared with the Applicant's connected companies, agents, contractors and advisors who provide services to the Applicant in connection with the preparation of an application for development consent under the 2008 Act. This will allow the Applicant to fully consider the responses and use them in the preparation of application materials. Upon submission of the Applicant's application for development consent under the 2008 Act or in connection with any related applications by the Applicant for consents or licences, the Secretary of State may require the Applicant to supply copies of all consultation responses received. If a request is made, the Applicant is under a legal obligation to supply such copies. By submitting a consultation response to the Applicant, a respondent agrees that we may supply a copy of their response to the Secretary of State via the Planning Inspectorate if required to do so.

**How to contact us:**

If you have any questions about this consultation, please contact the project team by:

- Email: [info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com](mailto:info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com);
- Post: write to us at FREEPOST DEAN MOOR SOLAR FARM;
- Telephone: 0800 041 8643 Monday to Friday 09:00-17:30

28 February 2024 (4506304)

### Property & land

#### PROPERTY DISCLAIMERS

**T S REF: BV2092190/5/SHD**  
**Notice of Disclaimer under s.10(13) of the Companies Act 2006**  
**DISCLAIMER OF WHOLE OR THE PROPERTY**  
I, in this Notice the following shall apply:  
Company Name: Greenland Group Limited  
Company Number: 00874364  
Interest: Freehold  
Conveyance: Freehold conveyance of sale that conveyed unregistered freehold land to the above mentioned company.  
Property: The land, dwelling house and garage at number 348 Ashridge Road, Stevenage, Herts SG1 4JF (being the land comprised in the above mentioned Conveyance).  
Treasury Solicitor: The Solicitor for the Affairs of His Majesty's Treasury of HMRC, Croydon Regional Centre, 1 Ruston Square, Croydon CR9 2WF (DX 325081 Croydon 51).  
2. In pursuance of the powers granted by s.10(13) of the Companies Act 2006 the Treasury Solicitor as nominee for the Crown (in whom the property and rights of the company vested when the Company was dissolved) hereby declares the Crown's title (if any) in the Property the vesting of the Property having come to her notice on 1 August 2023.  
Assistant Treasury Solicitor  
(Section 3 Treasury Solicitor Act 1876)  
Date: 28th February 2024 (4506303)

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### ENVIRONMENT & INFRASTRUCTURE

**THE LONDON BOROUGH OF EALING**  
**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT (LOCAL PLANNING)**  
**(ENGLAND) REGULATIONS 2012**  
**EALING'S LOCAL PLAN - REGULATION 19 PROPOSED SUBMISSION**  
**PROPOSED SUBMISSION DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY**  
**STATEMENT OF REPRESENTATIONS PROCEDURE**  
The Council of the London Borough of Ealing's Local Plan has reached Proposed Submission stage. Pursuant to Regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended), the Local Plan will be published for the statutory period of six weeks during which representations may be submitted to the Council.  
The Local Plan will shape and guide future development in the London Borough of Ealing over the next 15 years from 2024 to 2039. The plan includes a strategic vision and spatial strategy, a collection of seven Town Plans which provide place-based strategies and spatial policies along with accompanying Development Sites (or site allocations), as well as the criteria-based development management policies that will help guide future development in the borough.  
The Council hereby gives notice that the Local Plan and Proposed Submission Documents are available for inspection at the places and times described below. Any person may make representations on the Local Plan. Representations must be submitted during the following period:  
**Start Date: 28 February 2024**  
**End Date: 10 April 2024**  
**How to submit representations:**  
Representations can be made using the following methods:  
• **Online form** – available at [https://www.ealing.gov.uk/info/201164/local\\_plan/3125/new\\_local\\_plan](https://www.ealing.gov.uk/info/201164/local_plan/3125/new_local_plan)  
• **Email** – you can email your representations to [localplan@ealing.gov.uk](mailto:localplan@ealing.gov.uk)  
• **Post** – you can complete and print the form available at [https://www.ealing.gov.uk/info/201164/local\\_plan/3125/new\\_local\\_plan](https://www.ealing.gov.uk/info/201164/local_plan/3125/new_local_plan) and then post the form to the address given below. If you would like to obtain a paper copy of the form (at no charge) please email [localplan@ealing.gov.uk](mailto:localplan@ealing.gov.uk) to arrange collection during normal business hours from the address given below.  
Representations to be posted should be sent to: Strategic Planning Team, Personnel House, 14-16 Uxbridge Road, London, W5 2PL.  
Note: Please submit your representations once only (using only one of the methods listed above) to avoid duplicate representations.  
**Availability of Local Plan Proposed Submission Documents**  
The Ealing Local Plan – Regulation 19 and supporting documents submission documents are available to view and download from:  
• [https://www.ealing.gov.uk/info/201164/local\\_plan/3125/new\\_local\\_plan](https://www.ealing.gov.uk/info/201164/local_plan/3125/new_local_plan)  
Paper copies of these documents may also be viewed on request at the following locations:  
• Reception, Personnel House, 14-16 Uxbridge Road, London, W5 2PL.  
Our libraries across the borough:  
• [https://www.ealing.gov.uk/info/201241/find\\_your\\_library](https://www.ealing.gov.uk/info/201241/find_your_library) (4564468)

**FVS DEAN MOOR**  
**SECTIONS 42, 47 AND 48 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008 (THE 2008 ACT)**  
**REGULATION 4, INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (APPLICATIONS, PRESCRIBED FORMS AND PROCEDURE) REGULATIONS 2009 (THE 2009 REGULATIONS)**  
**DEAN MOOR SOLAR FARM**  
**NOTICE OF PUBLICATION OF A STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY CONSULTATION AND NOTICE PUBLICISING A PROPOSED APPLICATION FOR A DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER**  
**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that FVS DEAN MOOR (the Applicant), a joint venture between B Végé UK Limited, of 121 Chappell Lane, London, EC2V 6BT and Firms Energy Limited of 7 Park Row, Leeds, LS1 4HD proposes to make an application (the Application) under section 17 of the 2008 Act to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero for a Development Consent Order (DCO) to construct and operate a Solar Farm with a 150 megawatt (MW) export capacity, combined with a 100MW Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) on approximately 270 hectares (ha) of land located between the villages of Giffenden and Barlham in West Cumbria (the Development), which is situated within the administrative area of Cumberland Council.

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Times & Star (07/03/2024)





## Appendix 3.8 Facebook / Meta adverts

The below advert was placed to advertise the statutory consultation, using the Meta Suite (Facebook, Instagram) from 11<sup>th</sup> March 2024 – 26 April 2024. The advert linked viewers to the project website at [www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com](http://www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com).

The advert was accompanied by the following text:

**PUBLIC CONSULTATION EVENTS FOR DEAN MOOR SOLAR FARM**

*Tuesday 19th March, 2pm - 6pm, Distington Community Centre*

*Wednesday 20th March, 2pm - 7pm, Dean Kirkstile Hall*

*Thursday 21st March, 2pm - 7pm, Hunday Manor*

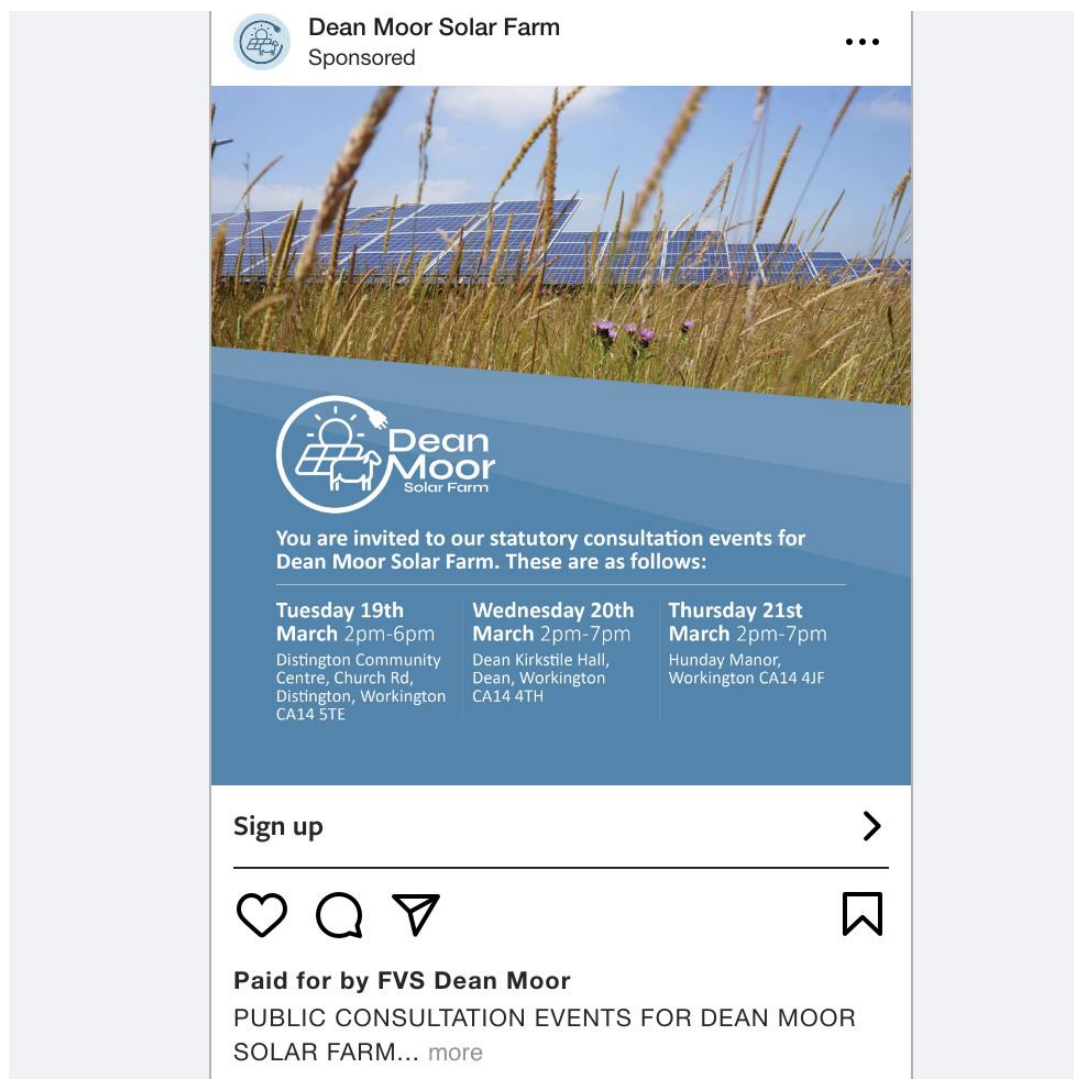
**WEBINARS:**

*Tuesday 16th April 6pm - 7pm*

**OR**

*Thursday 18th April 6pm - 7pm*

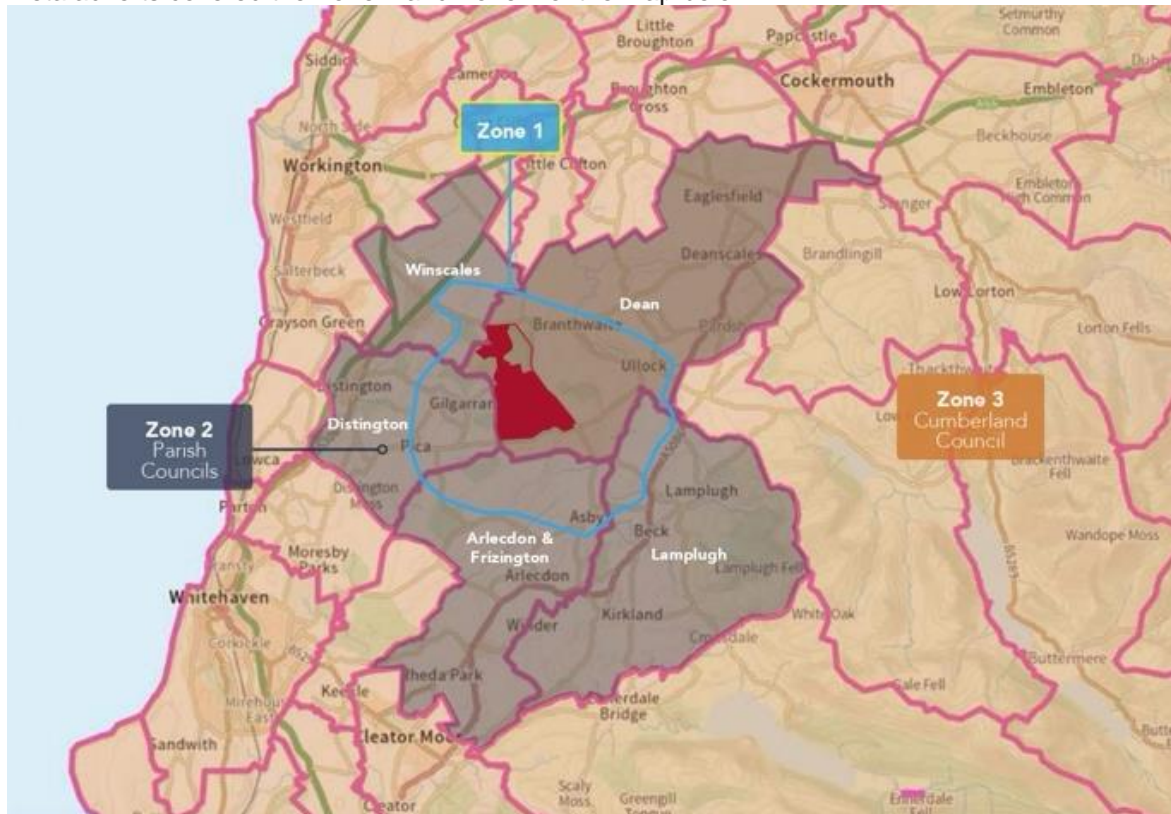
*Please sign up for our webinars via the website below!*



The image shows a Facebook advertisement for Dean Moor Solar Farm. At the top, the profile picture is a circular logo with a sun and solar panels, and the name 'Dean Moor Solar Farm' is displayed next to it, with 'Sponsored' written below. To the right of the name are three dots. Below the header is a large image of solar panels in a field of tall grass. Underneath this image is a blue banner containing the Dean Moor Solar Farm logo and the text: 'You are invited to our statutory consultation events for Dean Moor Solar Farm. These are as follows:'. Below the banner is a table with three columns of event details. At the bottom of the ad is a white box with a 'Sign up' button and a right-pointing arrow. Below the sign up button are icons for liking, commenting, and sharing, and a bookmark icon. At the very bottom, it says 'Paid for by FVS Dean Moor' followed by the text 'PUBLIC CONSULTATION EVENTS FOR DEAN MOOR SOLAR FARM...' and a 'more' link.

Tuesday 19th March 2pm-6pm	Wednesday 20th March 2pm-7pm	Thursday 21st March 2pm-7pm
Distington Community Centre, Church Rd, Distington, Workington CA14 5TE	Dean Kirkstile Hall, Dean, Workington CA14 4TH	Hunday Manor, Workington CA14 4JF

Meta adverts covered the Zone 1 and Zone 2 of the map below.





## Appendix 3.9 Prescribed consultees – Prescribed consultees under section 42

**Table 1: Prescribed consultation bodies under section 42(1)(a)** (as listed in Schedule 1 to the APFP Regulations, pursuant to regulation 3 of those Regulations)

CONSULTATION BODIES	CIRCUMSTANCES IN WHICH BODY IS REQUIRED TO BE CONSULTED	ORGANISATION
The Health and Safety Executive	All cases	Health and Safety Executive
The National Health Service Commissioning Board	All proposed applications likely to affect land in England and Wales	NHS England
The relevant Clinical Commissioning Group	All proposed applications likely to affect land in England and Wales	North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care System (ICS)
Natural England	All proposed applications likely to affect land in England	Natural England
The Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England	All proposed applications likely to affect land in England	Historic England (North West)
The relevant fire and rescue authority	All cases	Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service
The relevant police and crime commissioner	All cases	Cumbria Police and Crime Commissioner
The relevant parish council(s) or, where the application relates to land [in] Wales or Scotland, the relevant community council	All cases	Dean Parish Council

The relevant parish council(s) or, where the application relates to land [in] Wales or Scotland, the relevant community council	All cases	Winscales Parish Council
The relevant parish council(s) or, where the application relates to land [in] Wales or Scotland, the relevant community council	All cases	Distington Parish Council
The relevant parish council(s) or, where the application relates to land [in] Wales or Scotland, the relevant community council	All cases	Arlecdon and Frizington Parish Council
The Environment Agency	All proposed applications likely to affect land in England and/or Wales	The Environment Agency
The Equality and Human Rights Commission	All proposed applications likely to affect land in England and Wales	The Equality and Human Rights Commission
The Civil Aviation Authority	All proposed applications relating to airports or which are likely to affect an airport or its current or future operation	The Civil Aviation Authority
Secretary of State for Transport	All proposed applications likely to affect road or transport operation and/or planning on roads for which the Secretary of State for Transport is the highway authority	Secretary of State for Transport/Department for Transport
The Relevant Highways Authority	All proposed applications likely to have an impact on the road network or the volume of traffic in the vicinity of the proposal	Cumberland Council

The relevant strategic highways company	All proposed applications likely to affect road or transport operation and/or planning on roads for which the Secretary of State for Transport is the highway authority.	National Highways
The Coal Authority		The Coal Authority
UK Health Security Agency (formerly Public Health England)	All proposed applications likely to involve chemicals, poisons or radiation which could potentially cause harm to people	UK Health Security Agency
The relevant local resilience forum	All cases	Cumbria Local Resilience Forum
The Crown Estate Commissioners	All proposed applications likely to impact on the Crown Estate	The Crown Estate
The Secretary of State for Defence	All proposed applications likely to affect current or future operation of a site identified in a safeguarding map and all developments in the marine area.	The Secretary of State for Defence
The Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR)	All proposed applications likely to affect matters relevant to the ONR's purposes within the meaning of Part 3 of the Energy Act 2013 (see s67 of that Act)	The Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR)
The Forestry Commission	All proposed applications likely to affect matters relevant to the ONR's purposes within the meaning of Part 3 of the Energy Act 2013 (see s67 of that Act)	North West and West Midlands Forestry Commission

**Table 2: Relevant statutory undertakers**

STATUTORY UNDERTAKER	ORGANISATION
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The relevant Clinical Commissioning Group	North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care System (ICS)
The National Health Service Commissioning Board	NHS England
The relevant NHS Trust	North West Ambulance Service NHS Trust
The relevant NHS Foundation Trust	NHS North Cumbria Integrated Care
Railways	National Highways Historical Railways Estate
Licence Holder (Chapter 1 of Part 1 of Transport Act 2000)	NATS En-Route Safeguarding
Universal Service Provider	Royal Mail Group
The relevant Environment Agency	The Environment Agency
The relevant water and sewage undertaker	United Utilities
The relevant public gas transporter	Northern Gas Networks Ltd
	CNG Services Limited
	Cadent Gas Ltd.
	EDF Energy Customers Ltd
	Last Mile Gas Ltd
	ES Pipelines Ltd
	ESP Networks Ltd
	ESP Pipelines Ltd
	ESP Connections Ltd
	Fulcrum Pipelines Limited
	Harlaxton Gas Networks Limited
	GTC Pipelines Limited
	Independent Pipelines Limited
	Indigo Pipelines Limited
	Leep Gas Networks Limited
	Mua Gas Limited
	Scotland Gas Networks PLC
	Southern Gas Networks PLC
	Wales and West Utilities Ltd
	Energy Assets Pipelines Limited
	Harlaxton Gas Networks Ltd
	Humbly Grove Energy Services Ltd
	Leep Gas Networks Ltd
	Inovyn Enterprises Ltd
	Green Park Energy Transportation Ltd
	Quadrant Pipelines Limited
	Saltfleetby Energy Ltd
	Severn Gas Transportation Ltd
	Squire Energy Limited
	Smart DCC Ltd
	National Gas Plc



The relevant electricity distributor with CPO Powers	Electricity North West Ltd
	Eastern Power Networks Plc
	Eclipse Power Network Ltd
	Aidien Limited
	Last Mile Electricity Ltd
	Mua Electricity Limited
	Energy Assets Networks Limited
	ESP Electricity Limited
	Optimal Power Network Limited
	Fulcrum Electricity Assets Limited
	Harlaxton Energy Networks Limited
	Independent Power Networks Limited
	Independent Distribution Connection Specialists Ltd
	Indigo Power Limited
	Leep Electricity Networks Limited
	National Grid Electricity Distribution (East Midlands) Plc
	National Grid Electricity Distribution (South Wales) Plc
	National Grid Electricity Distribution (South West) Plc
	National Grid Electricity Distribution (West Midlands) Plc
	Scottish Hydro Electric Power Distribution Plc
	South Eastern Power Networks Plc
	Southern Electric Power Distribution Plc
	SP Distribution Plc
	SP Manweb PLC
	Northern Powergrid (Northeast)
	Northern Powergrid (Yorkshire) Plc
	Mua Electricity Limited
	Stark Infra-Electricity Ltd
	The Electricity Network Company Ltd
	UK Power Distribution Ltd
	Advanced Electricity Networks Ltd.
	Utility Assets Ltd
	Vattenfall Networks Ltd
The relevant electricity transmitter with CPO Powers	National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc
	Blue Transmission London Array Limited
	Diamond Transmission Partners
	Greater Gabbard Plc
	Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission
	Wods Transmission Plc

	Gwynt Y Mor OFTO Plc
	Humber Gateway Ltd
	Mersey Reactive Ltd
	Thanet OFTO Limited
	SP Transmission
	National Grid Electricity System Operation Ltd
	TC Barrow OFTO Ltd
	TC Beatrice OFTO Ltd
	TC Dudgeon OFTO Ltd
	TC Gunfleet Sands OFTO Ltd
	TC Lincs OFTO Ltd
	TC Ormonde OFTO Ltd
	TC Rampion OFTO Ltd
	TC Westernmost Rough OFTO Ltd
	TC Robin Rigg OFTO Ltd
The relevant electricity interconnector with CPO Powers	Aminth Energy Ltd
	Aquind Ltd
	Britned Development Ltd
	Channel Cable Ltd
	Cronos Energy Ltd
	East West Cable One Ltd
	Eirgrid Interconnector Designated Activity Company
	Eleclink Ltd.
	Fab Link Ltd.
	Greenlink Inteconnector Ltd.
	Gridlink Interconnector Ltd.
	MaresConnect LTD.
	Moyle Interconnector Ltd.
	National Grid IFA 2 Ltd
	National Grid Interconnectors Ltd.
	National Grid Lion Link LTD.
	National Grid Nautilus LTD.
	National Grid North Sea Link Ltd.
	National Grid Viking Ltd.
	Nemo Link Ltd.
	Neuconnect Britain Ltd.
	Nu-link Interconnector Ltd.
	Tarchon Energy Ltd.
	TI Liric Ltd.
Utilities identified from the Linesearchbeforeudig.	BT

**Table 3: Local authorities (for the purposes of section 42(b) and section 43)**

S43 defines local authorities in terms of whether they fall within the categories of an 'A', 'B', 'C', or 'D' local authority:	LOCAL AUTHORITIES
A	Dumfries and Galloway Council
B	Cumberland Council
A	Lake District National Park Authority
A	Westmorland and Furness Council
A	Northumberland County Council
A	Northumberland National Park Authority
A	Scottish Borders Council