

14 May 2025

To: Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero

c/o The Planning Inspectorate
3rd Floor
Temple Quay House
2 The Square
Temple Quay
Bristol
BS1 6PN

Sent by email to thedrovesolar@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Dear Jennifer

The Drokes Solar Farm – Planning Inspectorate Reference EN0110013

Notice of proposed application for a Development Consent Order pursuant to section 46 of the Planning Act 2008

The Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero is hereby notified in accordance with section 46 of the Planning Act 2008 (the '2008 Act'), of The Drokes Solar Farm Limited ("the Applicant") (Company registration number 14684480) of Unit 25.7 Coda Studios, 189 Munster Road, London, England SW6 6AW, intention to submit a Development Consent Order ('DCO') application to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero to authorise the construction, operation and decommissioning of a solar and energy storage project with grid connection infrastructure (The Drokes Solar Farm or the 'Project'). The Applicant intends to submit the DCO application in Winter 2025.

We have previously provided notification pursuant to Regulation 8(1)(b) of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 ("the EIA Regulations") that the Project is an Environmental Impact Assessment development ("EIA development"), as defined by the EIA Regulations and an Environmental Statement will be submitted as part of the DCO application. A Scoping Report was submitted to PINS on 8 November 2024 and a Scoping Opinion was provided on 18 December 2024.

The Drokes Solar Farm

The Project is proposed to be located on land north of Swaffham and south of Castle Acre, West Norfolk (the 'Site'), within the administrative boundary of Norfolk County Council and Breckland Council.

The Project will consist of:

- The solar array sites, which will include solar panels, conversion units and inverters.
- A Customer Substation, which comprises electrical infrastructure such as transformers, switchgear and metering equipment required to facilitate the export of electricity up to 400kV (kilovolt) from The Drokes Solar Farm to the National Grid Substation.

- A 400kV National Grid Substation operated by National Grid Electricity Transmission and associated electrical infrastructure and other ancillary works required to facilitate the export of electricity from The Droves Solar Farm to the National Grid
- A Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) area.
- Associated infrastructure, mitigation and enhancement measures and other ancillary works, for example, enclosures and fencing, security, drainage, earthworks, highways and access works, mitigation and enhancement measures, temporary works compounds and work sites.
- Cable Route Corridor – underground cabling connecting the solar array sites and Conversion Units to the BESS and the Customer Substation.
- Grid Connection Corridor - cabling connecting the Customer Substation to the National Grid Substation point of connection to transfer the energy generated to the national grid system, which may be underground or overhead lines.
- Grid Connection Infrastructure - Underground and/or overhead lines, including the construction of new pylons between the National Grid Substation and the point of connection.

The proposed DCO will, among other things, authorise:

- Construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of the solar PV electricity generating station and associated development including grid connection and energy storage facility;
- Compulsory acquisition of land, including interests in land, rights over land and imposition of restrictions, powers to override, suspend or extinguish rights over land and powers for the temporary use of land;
- The application, modification and/or disapplication of legislation including legislation relating to compulsory purchase and landlord and tenant; and
- Such ancillary, incidental and consequential provisions, licenses, property rights, permits and consents as are necessary and/or convenient.

Consultation on The Droves Solar Farm

The submission of the DCO application will follow a period of statutory consultation. The statutory consultation will be carried out pursuant to section 42, section 47 and section 48 of the 2008 Act, the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (as amended) (the “APFP Regulations”), and the EIA Regulations. The statutory consultation will commence on 21 May 2025 and end at 11:59pm on 9 July 2025. Consultation materials will be available from the start of the consultation period.

Notice under section 46 of the Act

Please treat this letter as notice under section 46 of the 2008 Act, of the Applicant’s proposed application in relation to the Project and please find enclosed:

- Example of the covering letter notifying consultees under Section 42(1)(a) and (b) of the 2008 Act and Regulation 13 of the EIA Regulations;
- Example of the covering letter notifying consultees under Section 42(1)(d) of the 2008 Act as defined in Section 44 of the 2008 Act; and
- A copy of the notice of the Project which will be publicised in accordance with section 48 of the 2008 Act and the requirements set out in Regulation 4 of the APFP Regulations .

Consultation materials

The Applicant has prepared a Preliminary Environmental Information Report ("PEIR"), which has been informed by the Scoping Opinion issued by the Planning Inspectorate and which reports the preliminary results of the Environmental Impact Assessment ("EIA") that has been carried out to date. The PEIR forms the basis of this consultation and also includes a Non-Technical Summary ("NTS"). The purpose of the PEIR is to enable consultees to understand the likely environmental effects of The Drovers Solar Farm and to help inform consultation responses. It should be noted that the EIA is an ongoing process and the design of The Drovers Solar Farm will continue to evolve during the pre-application stage.

In accordance with section 46 of the 2008 Act, the consultation materials are available to view and download free of charge online under the document library heading of the Project website (<https://www.drovesolarfarm.co.uk/>) during the consultation between 21 May 2025 and 9 July 2025 and include:

1. Notice publicising the proposed DCO application under section 48 of the Act;
2. The PEIR (including appendices, plans and figures);
3. A NTS of the PEIR;
4. Plans and maps explaining the details of the nature and location of The Drovers Solar Farm; and
5. Additional documents including the Consultation Information Booklet, Feedback Form and Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC).

Hard copies of the SoCC, PEIR, NTS, maps and plans, and other consultation materials are available for inspection free of charge at the local information point from 21 May 2025 to 9 July 2025. Hard copies of the Consultation Information Booklet and the Consultation Feedback Form will be available at the local information point to take away free of charge.

Hard copies of the other consultation materials, including the PEIR, are also available upon request. A hard copy of the PEIR will cost £750 (which includes printing and postage costs). Details of the local information point and how to request these documents are set out in the enclosed Section 48 notice.

Responses to this consultation must be received no later than 23:59 on 9 July 2025.

Responses received after this time may not be considered.

Consultation events

The Applicant will also hold multiple consultation events in public and online throughout the consultation period, details of which are listed in the enclosed Section 48 notice. Registration for the online webinars can be done via a registration form on The Drovers Solar Farm website, which will also provide joining instructions.

Further information

If you would like further information about this letter, the consultation or The Drovers Solar Farm, please contact the Project team by using one of the contact methods provided below:

- **Emailing:** info@drovesolarfarm.co.uk

- **Calling our Freephone:** 0800 0129 154
- **Visiting our website at:** <https://www.drovessolarfarm.co.uk/>
- **By Freepost:** FREEPOST THE DROVES SOLAR FARM

Yours faithfully,



Project Development Manager – Island Green Power

8th May 2025

Dear Sir/Madam

The Drokes Solar Farm

Statutory Consultation

Section 42 of the Planning Act 2008 (“the Act”), Regulation 3 of the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 and Regulations 11 and 13 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (“the 2017 Regulations”)

Notice is hereby given that The Drokes Solar Farm Limited (“the Applicant”) (Company registration number 14684480) of Unit 25.7 Coda Studios, 189 Munster Road, London, England SW6 6AW, proposes to apply to the Secretary of State (“SoS”) for Energy Security and Net Zero under Section 37 of the Act for a Development Consent Order for The Drokes Solar Farm. The Applicant is a subsidiary of Island Green Power.

The Site comprises approximately 825 hectares (ha) and is located south of South Acre, West Acre and Castle Acre. River Road bisects the Site, routing in a general south-northwest direction. West Acre Road and Narford Lane border the Site along the southern and south-western boundary. The Site’s north-eastern boundary routes parallel to the south of South Acre Road to the junction to the A1065. Castle Acre Road (merging into the A1065) runs in a general north-south direction routing parallel along the eastern boundary of the Site.

The Site is wholly located within the administrative boundary of Breckland Council (‘BC’) and Norfolk County Council (‘NCC’), who are the host authorities.

The Drokes Solar Farm will consist of:

- The solar array sites, which will include solar panels, conversion units and inverters.
- A Customer Substation, which comprises electrical infrastructure such as transformers, switchgear and metering equipment required to facilitate the export of electricity up to 400kV (kilovolt) from The Drokes Solar Farm to the National Grid Substation.
- A 400kV National Grid Substation operated by National Grid Electricity Transmission and associated electrical infrastructure and other ancillary works required to facilitate the export of electricity from The Drokes Solar Farm to the National Grid
- A Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) area.
- Associated infrastructure, mitigation and enhancement measures and other ancillary works, for example, enclosures and fencing, security, drainage, earthworks, highways and access works, mitigation and enhancement measures, temporary works compounds and work sites.
- Cable Route Corridor – underground cabling connecting the solar array sites and Conversion Units to the BESS and the Customer Substation.
- Grid Connection Corridor - cabling connecting the Customer Substation to the National Grid Substation point of connection to transfer the energy generated to the national grid system, which may be underground or overhead lines.
- Grid Connection Infrastructure - Underground and/or overhead lines, including the construction of new pylons between the National Grid Substation and the point of connection.

The proposed DCO will, among other things, authorise:

- Construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of the solar PV electricity generating station and associated development including grid connection and energy storage facility;
- Compulsory acquisition of land, including interests in land, rights over land and imposition of restrictions, powers to override, suspend or extinguish rights over land and powers for the temporary use of land;
- The application, modification and/or disapplication of legislation including legislation relating to compulsory purchase and landlord and tenant; and
- Such ancillary, incidental and consequential provisions, licenses, property rights, permits and consents as are necessary and/or convenient.

The Drokes Solar Farm is an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) development for the purposes of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017. This means that the proposed works constitute development for which an EIA is required and the proposed application for a DCO will therefore be accompanied by an Environmental Statement.

The Environmental Statement will provide a detailed description of The Drokes Solar Farm and assess its likely significant environmental effects.

Consultation on The Drokes Solar Farm

The Drokes Solar Farm is currently in the pre-application stage of the DCO application process. As such, the Applicant is required to carry out consultation on the proposed DCO application before it is submitted. Your feedback as part of this consultation will be considered before the DCO application is finalised.

We are writing to you as you have been identified as a consultee for the purpose of Section 42 of the Act and/or Regulation 11 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017, or it has been decided it would be appropriate to consult in any event.

This consultation includes:

- Consultation with prescribed bodies, host and neighbouring authorities (under Section 42 of the Act);
- Consultation with any persons with an interest in the land affected by The Drokes Solar Farm (under Section 42 and Section 44 of the Act);
- Consultation with the local community in the vicinity of The Drokes Solar Farm (under Section 47 of the Act); and
- General public consultation on The Drokes Solar Farm (under Section 48 of the Act).

The consultation will run from Wednesday 21 May 2025 until 23:59 on Wednesday 9 July 2025.

In addition, Section 48 of the Act and Regulation 13 of the 2017 Regulations require the Applicant to publicise its proposed DCO application. A formal Section 48 notice publicising the proposed application is therefore enclosed with this letter and sets out further details regarding the consultation.

Consultation materials

The Applicant has prepared a Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR), which has been informed by the Scoping Opinion issued by the Planning Inspectorate and reports the results of the EIA that has been carried out to date. The PEIR forms the basis of this consultation and also includes a Non-Technical Summary (NTS). The purpose of the PEIR is to enable consultees to understand the likely environmental effects of The Droves Solar Farm and to help inform consultation responses. It should be noted that the EIA is an ongoing process, and the design of The Droves Solar Farm will continue to evolve during the pre-application stage.

Copies of the consultation materials are available free of charge to view and download online under the document library heading on the website for The Droves Solar Farm (<https://drovessolarfarm.co.uk/>) and include:

1. The PEIR (including appendices, plans and figures);
2. A NTS of the PEIR;
3. Plans and maps explaining the details of the nature and location of The Droves Solar Farm; and
4. Additional documents explaining the statutory consultation process including the Consultation Information Booklet, Feedback Form and Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC).

These documents will be free to read and download from The Droves Solar Farm website from Wednesday 21 May 2025 to Wednesday 9 July 2025.

Hard copies of the SoCC, PEIR, NTS, maps and plans, and other consultation materials are available for inspection free of charge at a local information point from Wednesday 21 May 2025 to Wednesday 9 July 2025.

Hard copies of the Consultation Information Booklet and the Consultation Feedback Form will be available at the local information point to take away free of charge.

Hard copies of the other consultation materials, including the PEIR, are also available upon request (some of which are subject to payment). Details of the local information point, how to request these documents and any related charges are set out in the enclosed Section 48 notice.

Consultation events

The Applicant will also hold multiple consultation events in public and online throughout the consultation period, details of which are listed in the enclosed Section 48 notice. If you would like to register for the online webinars, this can be done via a registration form. The link to the registration form will be available on The Droves Solar Farm website, which will also provide joining instructions.

How to respond to this consultation

Any person may comment on the proposed DCO application.

Responses must be received no later than 23:59 on 9 July 2025.

The Applicant will consider all responses received on or before this date. Responses received after this time may not be considered.

Responses and representations will form the basis of a Consultation Report, which will be submitted as part of the DCO application.

Responses may be made public or made available to the SoS, the Planning Inspectorate, and other relevant statutory bodies, in accordance with the requirements of the Act and data protection legislation. Personal details will be kept confidential where possible and only used for purposes in connection with the statutory consultation, the DCO process and further development of The Drovers Solar Farm. You do not have to provide any personal information, but this information will help the Applicant to understand the range of responses and enable the Applicant to send you further information relating to The Drovers Solar Farm.

Your views are also likely to be recorded or paraphrased in the Consultation Report which will be submitted with the DCO application. Please refer to our Privacy Notice for more details: <https://drovessolarfarm.co.uk/privacy-and-cookie-policy/>

When providing your response, please include your name and contact details (a postal or email address) and confirm the nature of your interest in The Drovers Solar Farm. Completed responses must be submitted:

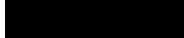
- a. By email to info@drovessolarfarm.co.uk
- b. Online at <https://drovessolarfarm.co.uk/>
- c. Returning hard copy Feedback Form to FREEPOST THE DROVES SOLAR FARM

Further information

If you would like further information about this letter, the consultation or The Drovers Solar Farm please contact the Applicant project team by using one of the contact methods provided below:

- **Emailing:** info@drovessolarfarm.co.uk
- **Calling our Freephone:** 0800 0129 154
- **Visiting our website at:** <https://drovessolarfarm.co.uk/>

Yours faithfully,



Project Development Manager
On behalf of The Drovers Solar Farm Limited

15th May 2025

Dear Sir/Madam

The Drovers Solar Farm

Statutory Consultation

Section 42 of the Planning Act 2008 ("the Act"), Regulation 3 of the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 and Regulations 11 and 13 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 ("the 2017 Regulations")

Notice is hereby given that The Drovers Solar Farm Limited ("the Applicant") (Company registration number 14684480) of Unit 25.7 Coda Studios, 189 Munster Road, London, England SW6 6AW, proposes to apply to the Secretary of State ("SoS") for Energy Security and Net Zero under Section 37 of the Act for a Development Consent Order for The Drovers Solar Farm. The Applicant is a subsidiary of Island Green Power.

The Site comprises approximately 825 hectares (ha) and is located south of South Acre, West Acre and Castle Acre. River Road bisects the Site, routing in a general south-northwest direction. West Acre Road and Narford Lane border the Site along the southern and south-western boundary. The Site's north-eastern boundary routes parallel to the south of South Acre Road to the junction to the A1065. Castle Acre Road (merging into the A1065) runs in a general north-south direction routing parallel along the eastern boundary of the Site.

The Site is wholly located within the administrative boundary of Breckland Council ('BC') and Norfolk County Council ('NCC'), who are the host authorities.

The Drovers Solar Farm will consist of:

- The solar array sites, which will include solar panels, conversion units and inverters.
- A Customer Substation, which comprises electrical infrastructure such as transformers, switchgear and metering equipment required to facilitate the export of electricity up to 400kV (kilovolt) from The Drovers Solar Farm to the National Grid Substation.
- A 400kV National Grid Substation operated by National Grid Electricity Transmission and associated electrical infrastructure and other ancillary works required to facilitate the export of electricity from The Drovers Solar Farm to the National Grid
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- Grid Connection Infrastructure - Underground and/or overhead lines, including the construction of new pylons between the National Grid Substation and the point of connection.

The proposed DCO will, among other things, authorise:

- Construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of the solar PV electricity generating station and associated development including grid connection and energy storage facility;
- Compulsory acquisition of land, including interests in land, rights over land and imposition of restrictions, powers to override, suspend or extinguish rights over land and powers for the temporary use of land;
- The application, modification and/or disapplication of legislation including legislation relating to compulsory purchase and landlord and tenant; and
- Such ancillary, incidental and consequential provisions, licenses, property rights, permits and consents as are necessary and/or convenient.

The Drovers Solar Farm is an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) development for the purposes of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017. This means that the proposed works constitute development for which an EIA is required and the proposed application for a DCO will therefore be accompanied by an Environmental Statement.

The Environmental Statement will provide a detailed description of The Drovers Solar Farm and assess its likely significant environmental effects.

Consultation on The Drovers Solar Farm

The Drovers Solar Farm is currently in the pre-application stage of the DCO application process. As such, the Applicant is required to carry out consultation on the proposed DCO application before it is submitted. Your feedback as part of this consultation will be considered before the DCO application is finalised.

We are writing to you as you have been identified as a consultee for the purpose of section 42(1)(d) of the Act as someone with one or more of the following interests in land that may be affected by The Drovers Solar Farm:

- you are an owner, lessee, tenant or occupier of land which is in our proposed application boundary;
- you have an interest in the land or have the power to sell or convey some of the land which is in our proposed application boundary; or
- your property or land may, in due course, be affected by the carrying out of or the use of The Drovers Solar Farm.

This consultation includes:

- Consultation with prescribed bodies, host and neighbouring authorities (under Section 42 of the Act);
- Consultation with any persons with an interest in the land affected by The Drovers Solar Farm (under Section 42 and Section 44 of the Act);
- Consultation with the local community in the vicinity of The Drovers Solar Farm (under Section 47 of the Act); and
- General public consultation on The Drovers Solar Farm (under Section 48 of the Act).

The consultation will run from Wednesday 21 May 2025 until 23:59 on Wednesday 9 July 2025.

In addition, Section 48 of the Act and Regulation 13 of the 2017 Regulations require the Applicant to publicise its proposed DCO application. A formal Section 48 notice publicising the proposed application is therefore enclosed with this letter and sets out further details regarding the consultation.

Consultation materials

The Applicant has prepared a Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR), which has been informed by the Scoping Opinion issued by the Planning Inspectorate and reports the results of the EIA that has been carried out to date. The PEIR forms the basis of this consultation and also includes a Non-Technical Summary (NTS). The purpose of the PEIR is to enable consultees to understand the likely environmental effects of The Drovers Solar Farm and to help inform consultation responses. It should be noted that the EIA is an ongoing process, and the design of The Drovers Solar Farm will continue to evolve during the pre-application stage.

Copies of the consultation materials are available free of charge to view and download online under the document library heading on the website for The Drovers Solar Farm (<https://drovessolarfarm.co.uk/>) and include:

1. The PEIR (including appendices, plans and figures);
2. A NTS of the PEIR;
3. Plans and maps explaining the details of the nature and location of The Drovers Solar Farm; and
4. Additional documents explaining the statutory consultation process including the Consultation Information Booklet, Feedback Form and Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC).

These documents will be free to read and download from The Drovers Solar Farm website from Wednesday 21 May 2025 to Wednesday 9 July 2025.

Hard copies of the SoCC, PEIR, NTS, maps and plans, and other consultation materials are available for inspection free of charge at a local information point from Wednesday 21 May 2025 to Wednesday 9 July 2025.

Hard copies of the Consultation Information Booklet and the Consultation Feedback Form will be available at the local information point to take away free of charge.

Hard copies of the other consultation materials, including the PEIR, are also available upon request (some of which are subject to payment). Details of the local information point, how to request these documents and any related charges are set out in the enclosed Section 48 notice.

Consultation events

The Applicant will also hold multiple consultation events in public and online throughout the consultation period, details of which are listed in the enclosed Section 48 notice. If you would like to register for the online webinars, this can be done via a registration form. The link to the registration form will be available on The Droves Solar Farm website, which will also provide joining instructions.

How to respond to this consultation

Any person may comment on the proposed DCO application.

Responses must be received no later than 23:59 on 9 July 2025.

The Applicant will consider all responses received on or before this date. Responses received after this time may not be considered.

Responses and representations will form the basis of a Consultation Report, which will be submitted as part of the DCO application.

Responses may be made public or made available to the SoS, the Planning Inspectorate, and other relevant statutory bodies, in accordance with the requirements of the Act and data protection legislation. Personal details will be kept confidential where possible and only used for purposes in connection with the statutory consultation, the DCO process and further development of The Droves Solar Farm. You do not have to provide any personal information, but this information will help the Applicant to understand the range of responses and enable the Applicant to send you further information relating to The Droves Solar Farm.

Your views are also likely to be recorded or paraphrased in the Consultation Report which will be submitted with the DCO application. Please refer to our Privacy Notice for more details: <https://drovessolarfarm.co.uk/privacy-and-cookie-policy/>

When providing your response, please include your name and contact details (a postal or email address) and confirm the nature of your interest in The Droves Solar Farm. Completed responses must be submitted:

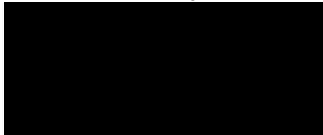
- a. By email to info@drovessolarfarm.co.uk
- b. Online at <https://drovessolarfarm.co.uk/>
- c. Returning hard copy Feedback Form to FREEPOST THE DROVES SOLAR FARM

Further information

If you would like further information about this letter, the consultation or The Drovers Solar Farm please contact the Applicant project team by using one of the contact methods provided below:

- **Emailing:** info@drovessolarfarm.co.uk
- **Calling our Freephone:** 0800 0129 154
- **Visiting our website at:** <https://drovessolarfarm.co.uk/>

Yours faithfully,



Project Development Manager
On behalf of The Drovers Solar Farm Limited

SECTION 48 PLANNING ACT 2008

Regulation 4 of The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009.

Notice publicising a proposed application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) to construct, operate, maintain and decommission a solar photovoltaic (PV) generating station, with a generating capacity of more than 50 megawatts and associated infrastructure on land north of Swaffham and south of Castle Acre, West Norfolk.

1. Notice is hereby given that The Drovers Solar Farm Limited (“the Applicant”) (Company registration number 14684480) of Unit 25.7 Coda Studios, 189 Munster Road, London, England SW6 6AW, proposes to apply to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero under Section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 for a Development Consent Order for The Drovers Solar Farm (“the Application”).
2. The Drovers Solar Farm will cover a combined area of approximately 825 hectares of land (“the Site”). The Site is located south of South Acre, West Acre and Castle Acre. River Road bisects the Site, routing in a general south-northwest direction. West Acre Road and Narford Lane border the Site along the southern and south-western boundary. The Site’s north-eastern boundary routes parallel to the south of South Acre Road to the junction to the A1065. Castle Acre Road (merging into the A1065) runs in a general north-south direction routing parallel along the eastern boundary of the Site.
3. The Drovers Solar Farm will consist of:
 - a) The solar array sites, which will include solar panels, conversion units and inverters
 - b) A Customer Substation, which comprises electrical infrastructure such as transformers, switchgear and metering equipment required to facilitate the export of electricity up to 400kV (kilovolt) from The Drovers Solar Farm to the National Grid Substation
 - c) A 400kV National Grid Substation operated by National Grid Electricity Transmission and associated electrical infrastructure and other ancillary works required to facilitate the export of electricity from The Drovers Solar Farm to the National Grid
 - d) A Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) area
 - e) Associated infrastructure, mitigation and enhancement measures and other ancillary works, for example, enclosures and fencing, security, drainage, earthworks, highways and access works, mitigation and enhancement measures, temporary works compounds and work sites.
 - f) Cable Route Corridor – underground cabling connecting the solar array sites and Conversion Units to the BESS and the Customer Substation
 - g) Grid Connection Corridor - cabling connecting the Customer Substation to the National Grid Substation point of connection to transfer the energy generated to the national grid system, which may be underground or via overhead lines

- h) Grid Connection Infrastructure - Underground and/or overhead lines, including the construction of new pylons between the National Grid Substation and the point of connection.
4. The proposed DCO will, among other things, authorise:
- Construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of the solar PV electricity generating station and associated development including grid connection and energy storage facility;
 - Compulsory acquisition of land, including interests in land, rights over land and imposition of restrictions, powers to override, suspend or extinguish rights over land and powers for the temporary use of land;
 - The application, modification and/or disapplication of legislation including legislation relating to compulsory purchase and landlord and tenant; and
 - Such ancillary, incidental and consequential provisions, licenses, property rights, permits and consents as are necessary and/or convenient.
5. The Drovers Solar Farm is an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) development for the purposes of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017. This means that the proposed works constitute development for which an EIA is required and the proposed application for a DCO will therefore be accompanied by an Environmental Statement. The Environmental Statement will provide a detailed description of The Drovers Solar Farm and assess its likely significant environmental effects. Information compiled so far about The Drovers Solar Farm's likely significant environmental effects is set out for consultation in a Preliminary Environmental Information Report (the PEIR) and summarised in a Non-Technical Summary (NTS).

Statutory consultation

6. The Applicant is undertaking a statutory consultation on the proposals for The Drovers Solar Farm between Wednesday 21 May 2025 and Wednesday 9 July 2025.
7. A copy of the PEIR, together with the PEIR NTS, the Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC), and other consultation documents, plans and maps explaining the consultation process and details of the nature and location of The Drovers Solar Farm can be found on the Applicant's website in the documents library at www.drovessolarfarm.co.uk. These documents will be free to read, download and print from Wednesday 21 May 2025 to Wednesday 9 July 2025.
8. Hard copies of the PEIR, PEIR NTS SoCC, maps and plans will be available for inspection free of charge from Wednesday 21 May 2025 and Wednesday 9 July 2025 at the below information point. Hard copies of the Consultation Information Booklet and the Consultation Feedback Form will be available to take away free of charge from the below information point.
9. Electronic copies of the SoCC, PEIR and NTS can also be viewed on the library's computer. While access to the computer at the library is free, a membership for the library may be required. We recommend contacting the library to check the opening times prior to visiting.

Venue	Address	Opening times	Contact details
Swaffham Library	Swaffham Library, The Pightle, Swaffham, PE37 7DF	<p>During staffed hours, a membership is not required to access the library.</p> <p>Staffed hours: Tuesday and Thursday 10am-7pm Friday 1 pm-7pm Saturday 1 0am-4pm</p> <p>During open access hours, a membership is required to access the library.</p> <p>Open access hours: Monday: 8am to 7pm - Open Library access Tuesday: 8am to 10am - Open Library access Wednesday: 8am to 7pm - Open Library access Thursday: 8am to 10am - Open Library access Friday: 8am to 1 pm - Open Library access Saturday: 8am to 1 0am - Open Library access Sunday: 10am to 4pm - Open Library access</p> <p><i>Please note: Membership is free, and we recommend getting in touch with the library for more details.</i></p>	<p>Email: libraries@norfolk.gov.uk</p> <p>Phone: 01760 721513</p>

10. The Applicant will host public information events to provide interested parties with the opportunity to view the consultation materials as well as speak with members of the project team. The details of the events can be found below.
11. These consultation events offer an opportunity to find out more about The Drovers Solar Farm. Attendees do not need to register in advance to attend an in-person consultation event.

Venue	Date and Time
Sporle Community Centre 78 The Street, Sporle, King's Lynn, PE32 2DR	Saturday 31 May 2025 11:00- 17:00
Narborough Community Centre Chalk Lane, Narborough, PE32 1SR	Monday 2 June 2025 10:00- 14:00

Swaffham Assembly Rooms 1 Market Place, Swaffham, PE37 7AB	Wednesday 11 June 2025 12:00- 19:00
Westacre Theatre River Road, West Acre, King's Lynn, PE32 1UD	Friday 20 June 2025 10:00- 14:00

12. The Applicant will also host two webinars for interested parties to join via telephone or online via Livestorm, a conferencing platform.

Date	Time
Thursday 5 June 2025	12:30- 13:30
Wednesday 25 June 2025	18:30- 19:30

13. We will require attendees to register for these online events in advance via a registration form. The link to the registration form will be available on The Drovers Solar Farm website, which will also provide joining instructions.
14. For further information or queries, please call 0800 0129 154 (free of charge); write by letter to FREEPOST THE DROVES SOLAR FARM (no stamp or further details required); email info@drovessolarfarm.co.uk or visit www.drovessolarfarm.co.uk.

To obtain hard copies of the consultation documents

15. Hard copies of all other consultation materials, including the PEIR, may be requested during the consultation period by contacting the Applicant on FREEPHONE 0800 0129 154 or by email to info@drovessolarfarm.co.uk.
16. Requests for consultation materials in an alternative format such as large print or audio for those with visual impairments or in an alternative language for those who do not speak English as their first language will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Requests for multiple copies of these documents will be considered on a case-by-case basis and a reasonable charge may apply to cover printing and postage costs.
17. A printed hard copy of the PEIR will cost £750 (which includes printing and postage costs).

Have your say

18. Feedback can be provided through the Consultation Feedback Form on the Applicant's website at www.drovessolarfarm.co.uk. Hardcopy feedback forms will also be available at the information point detailed above and at the in-person consultation events.
19. The Consultation Feedback Form, responses to the consultation or other representations in respect of The Drovers Solar Farm can also be sent to the Applicant by email to

info@drovessolarfarm.co.uk or by post to FREEPOST THE DROVES SOLAR FARM (no stamp or further details required).

20. Any response or representation in respect of the proposed DCO must be received by the Applicant on or before 23:59 on Wednesday 9 July 2025.

The Applicant will consider and have regard to all responses to consultation and publicity when developing its DCO application. Individual responses may be made publicly available, or made available to the Secretary of State, the Planning Inspectorate and other relevant statutory authorities, in accordance with the requirements of the Planning Act 2008 and data protection legislation.

Respondents do not have to provide any personal information, but this information will help the Applicant to understand the range of responses and enable the Applicant to send you further information relating to The Droles Solar Farm. Personal information will be kept confidential where possible. Please refer to our Privacy Notice for more details on The Droles Solar Farm website: www.drovessolarfarm.co.uk/