**BEACON FEN ENERGY PARK**

**The Planning Act 2008 - Section 48**

**The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 - Regulation 4**

**Notice Publicising a Proposed Application for a Development Consent Order**

**Beacon Fen Energy Park**

1. Notice is hereby given that Beacon Fen Energy Park Limited (the ‘Applicant’), whose registered office is Stirling Square, 5-7 Carlton Gardens, London, England, SW1Y 5AD, intends to submit an application (the ‘Proposed Application’) to the Secretary of State (the ‘SoS’) for a Development Consent Order (‘DCO’) under Section 37 of the Planning Act 2008.
2. The Proposed Application comprises the construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of a solar photovoltaic (‘PV’) farmwith a capacity of around 400 megawatts (‘MW’) and a Battery Energy Storage System (‘BESS’) with a capacity of approximately 600MW (together the ‘Beacon Fen Energy Park’ or ‘the Project’).
3. The land required for Beacon Fen Energy Park (the ‘Project Site’) comprises of land sited approximately 6.5 km northeast of the town of Sleaford and 2.5 km north of the village of Heckington forming a solar array area comprising solar PV panels and BESS facilities of approximately 517 hectares (‘ha’). The Project Site includes a bespoke access route corridor between the A17 and the solar array area, which comprises approximately 125 ha of land. It also includes an approximately 13-kilometre (‘km’) cable corridor between the solar array area and the existing Bicker Fen National Grid 400kV Substation lying 2.3 km west of Bicker, which comprises approximately 900 ha of land.
4. The Project Site is located within the administrative boundaries of Lincolnshire County Council, North Kesteven District Council and Boston Borough Council.
5. The Project includes the following components:
* Solar PV panels and modular ground-mounting structures.
* A BESS for onsite electricity storage and export to the National Grid.
* Supporting infrastructure including inverters, combiner boxes and transformers.
* Onsite cables connecting the solar PV modules and energy storage system to inverters which, in turn, connect to the transformers.
* Onsite substation within the solar array area to export electricity from the solar energy park to the National Grid, including a control building comprising office, welfare space and storage.
* Associated development including:
	+ Fencing with security measures including closed circuit television (CCTV) around the site perimeter.
	+ Access tracks and roadways within the site and between the site and the public highway for construction and for operational maintenance.
	+ Temporary construction compounds and roadways.
	+ Landscaping and biodiversity enhancement areas around the site perimeter and within the solar PV area.
1. The DCO will also seek, if required, the compulsory acquisition of land and/or rights in, on, under or over land required for the Project, as well as rights authorising the temporary occupation of land for the Project.
2. Other powers that the DCO may seek, if required, include the extinguishment and/or overriding of easements and other rights over or affecting land required for the Project; the application and/or disapplication of legislation relevant to the Project; the temporary stopping up or diversion of public footpaths during construction works; permanent and temporary alterations to the highway network for and in the vicinity of the Project Site, and such ancillary, incidental and consequential works, provisions, permits, consents, waivers or releases as are necessary and convenient for the successful construction, operation and maintenance of the Project.
3. The Project is an Environmental Impact Assessment Development ‘EIA development’ as defined by the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (the ‘EIA Regulations’) and an Environmental Statement ('ES') will form part of the Application. The Applicant has notified the SoS in writing under Regulation 8(1)(b) of the EIA Regulations that it intends to provide an Environmental Statement (‘ES’) in respect of the Project. The ES will provide a detailed description of the Project and its likely significant environmental effects. Information compiled so far about the Project’s likely environmental impacts is contained in a Preliminary Environmental Information Report (‘PEIR’) and summarised in a Non-Technical Summary, both of which form part of the consultation material.
4. Consultation on the proposals will take place from 22 January 2024 to 3 March 2024 (the 'Consultation Period'). Responses must be received no later than 11:59pm on 3 March 2024 and responses received after that date may not be considered.
5. The consultation documents show the nature and location of the Project and will include: plans; maps; and the PEIR and its Non-Technical Summary among other documents (‘the Consultation Documents’). The Consultation Documents are available to view or download free of charge from <https://www.beaconfenenergypark.co.uk> (the ‘Project Website’) from 22 January 2024 to 11:59pm on 3 March 2024. This comprises a single website page, and the Consultation Documents will be labelled ‘Statutory Consultation’.
6. Hard copies of the Consultation Documents can be provided upon request. A charge may be incurred to cover the printing and/or postage costs for some larger documents. The full Preliminary Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) and the Non-technical Summary of the PEIR will be charged at £1,000 and £20 respectively. Printing and postage timescales will depend on the documents you request and could be longer than a week for the largest documents.
7. To request hard copies, please telephone: 0330 0571943 (24hr voicemail service) or email: **info@beaconfenenergypark.co.uk**. Any details you provide to us will be subject to our Privacy Notice at the Project Website.
8. Hard copies of the Consultation Documents, including the Non-Technical Summary of the PEIR and the Statement of Community Consultation, will be available to view free of charge at the locations listed below during the Consultation Period, subject to permission from venues. If for any reason the Consultation Documents cannot be deposited at a particular location, an alternative location will be identified as a replacement. The libraries listed below also provide computers with internet access where stakeholders can view digital copies of all Consultation Documents.

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| **Location and Address** | **Opening Times (Subject to change)** |
| Heckington Community Library, St Andrew's Street, Heckington, Sleaford, Lincolnshire, NG34 9RE | Monday 10:00 - 12:00Tuesday 10:00 - 12:00Wednesday 10:00 - 12:00Thursday 10:00 - 12:00Friday 10:00 - 12:00Saturday 10:00 - 12:00 |
| Sleaford Library, 13-16 Market Place, Sleaford, Lincolnshire, NG34 7SR | Monday 09:00 - 17:00Tuesday 09:00 - 17:00Wednesday 09:00 - 17:00Thursday 09:00 - 18:00Friday 09:00 - 17:00Saturday 09:00 - 13:00 |
| South Kyme Golf Club, 1 Skinner's Lane, South Kyme, Lincolnshire, LN4 4AT | Monday 07:00 - 16:30 Tuesday 07:00 - 16:30 Wednesday 07:00 - 16:30 Thursday 07:00 - 16:30 Friday 07:00 - 16:30 Saturday 07:00 - 16:30 Sunday 07:00 - 16:30  |
| Swineshead Pre-School Centre, North End, Swineshead, Boston, Lincolnshire, PE20 3LZ | Monday 08:00 - 15:00 Tuesday 08:00 - 17:00 Wednesday 08:00 - 17:00 Thursday 08:00 - 17:00 Friday 08:00 - 17:00 |
| Lincolnshire County Council Offices, Newland, Lincoln, LN1 1YL | Monday 08:00 - 17:00 Tuesday 08:00 - 17:00 Wednesday 08:00 - 17:00 Thursday 08:00 - 17:00 Friday 08:00 - 17:00  |
| Boston Library, Bank Street Entrance, County Hall, Boston, PE21 6DY | Monday 09:00 - 17:00 Tuesday 09:00 - 17:00 Wednesday 09:00 - 17:00 Thursday 09:00 - 18:00 Friday 09:00 - 17:00 Saturday 09:00 – 16:00  |

1. The Consultation Documents will also be available at public consultation events to be held as follows:

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| **Venue** | **Date** | **Time** |
| Bicker Village Hall, Cemetery Road, Bicker, Boston PE20 3BT  | Friday 26 January 2024 | 13:30 – 19:30 |
| Ewerby Reading Rooms, 75 Main St, Ewerby, Sleaford NG34 9PJ  | Saturday 27 January 2024 | 10:00 – 16:00 |
| South Kyme Coronation Hall, High St, South Kyme, Lincoln LN4 4AD   | Wednesday 21 February 2024 | 10:00 – 16:00 |
| Heckington Village Hall, 9-11 High Street, NG34 9RA  | Thursday 22 February 2024 | 14:00 – 20:00 |

**Responding to this consultation**

1. Any person may respond to this consultation. Comments must be received by the Applicant by no later than 11:59pm on 3 March 2024. When providing your comments, please include your name and an address where any correspondence relating to the Project can be sent. Comments and representations may be submitted in the following ways:

**Feedback Form:**  Hard copy available at events listed above or can be completed on the Project Website (https://www.beaconfenenergypark.co.uk).

**Email:** info@beaconfenenergypark.co.uk

**Post:** FREEPOST BEACON FEN ENERGY PARK

**Telephone:**  Freephone 0330 0571943

1. Any comments received will be analysed by the Applicant and any appointed agent of the Applicant, and copies may be made available in due course to the SoS, the Planning Inspectorate and other relevant statutory authorities so that regard can be had to your comments. For certain parties, those who own an interest in land or are affected by the Project, the Applicant is under a statutory duty to publish names and addresses as part of its DCO application. In respect of other parties we will request that personal details are not placed on public record and these will be held securely by the Applicant in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998 and the General Data Protection Regulation and used solely in connection with the consultation process and subsequent DCO application and, except as noted above, will not be passed to third parties. Please refer to our Privacy Notice at the Project Website for further details.
2. Please note that all comments and representations must be received by the Applicant **no later than 11:59pm on 3 March 2024.**
3. If you would like any further information in respect of this notice or the Project, please contact the Applicant using one of the contact methods set out above.

**Beacon Fen Energy Park Limited**

**January 2024**