

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Cleve Hill Solar Park](#)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** ExA's Further Written Questions - Response on behalf of National Grid [BCLP-Legal.2026502.000296]  
**Date:** 30 August 2019 15:13:01  
**Attachments:** [REDACTED]

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Dear Sirs,

Please see attached response to the Further Written Questions addressed to National Grid.

Kind regards

Abigail



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Cleve Hill Solar Park Development Consent Order

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National Grid's response to ExA's Further Written Questions of the 9th August or similar

30 August 2019



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ExA's Further Written Questions and requests for Information Cleve Hill Solar Park – Issued Friday 9<sup>th</sup> August 2018

Response on behalf of National Grid to question 2.0.6

Question No.	Question	Response
2.0.6	<p>Is the Applicant's assertion correct, that by entering into a connection agreement for the Cleve Hill Solar Park, National Grid has assessed that " connection is possible without detriment to the rights of other users of the system [REP3 -030 Section 8.2] having regard to the National Grid ESO/UK Power Networks project which aims to create a new reactive power market for distributed energy resources and generated additional capacity on the network? Also, could the connection of the Cleve Hill Solar Park to the NETS at Cleve Hill substation adversely affect the potential for any local community energy project to be brought forwards at the local distribution level [REP3 -030 – section 8.6]</p>	<p>As evidenced by the relevant entry on the TEC register published on NGENSO's website (see link below for the page on which the latest version is to be found), Cleve Hill Solar Park Limited (CHSPL) have a signed connection agreement in place with National Grid Electricity System Operator Limited for connection of the Cleve Hill Solar Park (CHSP) to the National Electricity Transmission System (NETS) at Cleve Hill 400kV substation with a connection date of 1 April 2024. This connection agreement allows for the export to the NETS and import from the NETS of up to 350MW of power.</p> <p><a href="https://www.nationalgrideso.com/connections/registers-reports-and-guidance">https://www.nationalgrideso.com/connections/registers-reports-and-guidance</a></p> <p>CHSPL's application for a connection to the NETS, received in 2018, was properly assessed by the System Operator (SO) and Transmission Owner (TO) functions within National Grid Electricity Transmission plc* in accordance with the Grid Code (GC), the Security and Quality of Supply Standards (SQSS), the Connection and Use of System Code (CUSC) (see link below to access these codes) and National Grid's licence obligations with respect to applications for connection to the NETS.</p>

		<p><a href="https://www.nationalgrideso.com/codes">https://www.nationalgrideso.com/codes</a></p> <p>As well as CHSPL's offer for connection to the NETS having to be generally compliant with the GC, SQSS and CUSC, specifically, clause 13.2.4.7 of Section 13 of the CUSC includes an obligation to "avoid any adverse impact on other Users". In practice, this means a new applicant's connection offer cannot adversely affect existing connectees or parties already contracted to connect, but connection applications from parties who are yet to apply for a connection are not considered when an applicant's new connection application is assessed, i.e. applications are dealt with on a 'first come first serve' basis.</p> <p>For information, the generation background that is considered when a new transmission connection application such as Cleve Hill Solar Park is assessed takes into account, amongst other things, existing users and contracted customers not yet connected to the NETS, including DNO demand, other demand connections and embedded generation. In general, DNOs connection agreements can include a headroom allowance to allow for projected future embedded generation behind the DNO connection although this is usually quite a low value, e.g. 50MW. Allowances in specific DNO connection agreements are commercially-sensitive, confidential information.</p> <p>In terms of the potential impact a new transmission-connected generator may have on DNOs or other transmission or distribution-connected parties, National Grid typically recommends to</p>
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		<p>the new connectee that they engage directly with those third parties to discuss any impact they might have on those third parties' network/connections.</p> <p>In terms of the impact of Cleve Hill Solar Park on the operability of the electricity system, NGESO has the following comments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. All generation on the network is positive in so far as it serves to meet GB demand</li> <li>2. CHSP's solar generation and battery storage, like other new connections of this type to the NETS, will positively contribute to the aims of decarbonisation and a more diverse generation mix which are now part of GB Energy Policy and which are themes in the Future Energy Scenarios 2019 publication (<a href="http://fes.nationalgrid.com/fes-document/">http://fes.nationalgrid.com/fes-document/</a>) and the System Operability Framework 2019 publication (<a href="https://www.nationalgrideso.com/insights/system-operability-framework-sof">https://www.nationalgrideso.com/insights/system-operability-framework-sof</a>)</li> <li>3. CHSP's solar generation and battery storage, like other new connections to the NETS, increases the potential number of providers of balancing services to NGESO which supports the meeting of system needs (as outlined in the System Needs and Product Strategy (SNaPS) National Grid publication from 2017 (<a href="https://www.nationalgrideso.com/document/84261/download">https://www.nationalgrideso.com/document/84261/download</a>) which highlighted the growing need for new providers of balancing services) and in so doing helps to expand these markets to enable NGESO to obtain better prices for those services for the ultimate benefit of the GB consumer</li> </ol>
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		<p>* Since CHSPL's connection agreement for CHSP was signed in 2018, the SO function within National Grid has legally separated from the TO function and, effective 1 April 2019, the legal entity National Grid Electricity System Operator Limited was formed and all existing electricity connection agreements which prior to 1 April 2019 were between connection customers and National Grid Electricity Transmission plc were 'bulk-novated' to National Grid Electricity System Operator Limited.</p>
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