

S56 Notification – Relevant Representation - Summary

Boston Alternative Energy Facility, Nursery Road, Boston

We have been engaged with the Applicants team over a significant period of time and have responded to the previous consultations within which we have identified a number of issues which are relevant to the Council. The Inspector may wish to review our stage 3 and 4 responses as areas of comment previously.

We have undertaken a high-level review of the submitted documents and would like to make the following comments:

- Boston Borough Council is broadly supportive of the proposals for a variety of reasons including but not limited to:
 - The proposed use would lead to employment within an area allocated for Employment development in the Local Plan.
 - The proposal would bring significant investment, and create opportunities for improvement in economic conditions, skills, employment and create a lasting legacy for the town.
 - The proposals would see waste products converted to energy, meeting local targets and supporting the national requirement for renewables. Other bi-products would also be captured or reused for other purposes.
 - The use of the River during construction and operation would prevent issues relating to highway use and in-direct impacts such as air quality.

- Boston Borough Council does however believe there are a series of issues which require further detail, clarification, analysis or discussion, these include but are not limited to:
 - Archaeology and Heritage
 - Environmental considerations including landscape, dust, climate change, and Biodiversity
 - Highways and Sustainable Transport
 - Public Rights of Way, Recreation and Tourism
 - Futureproofing – including management of waste and use of bi-products
 - Community impact and maximising opportunities to create a positive legacy for the town
 - Socio-economic benefits

- We have also provided initial comments on the draft DCO, and its schedules, and have suggested some initial changes. We appreciate that the DCO may need to evolve throughout the DCO process as the Applicant seeks to respond to any issues raised.

We remain committed to engaging with the process, and will seek to work proactively with the Applicants to seek agreement on as many matters as possible during the next stages of the process. We hope therefore we can agree Statements of Common Ground and Local Impact Reports which will address these areas of focus.

There will no doubt be other issues which arise throughout the examination processes, including feedback from other relevant statutory and non-statutory bodies, as well as partner organisations and local stakeholders. The Council reserves the right to amend its position or comments following analysis of such comments.

As a general position statement, the Council remains broadly supportive of the development, and believes that it can have a significant positive impact for the town, subject to any adverse impacts being appropriately eliminated or mitigated. We therefore remain committed to engaging with the NSIP process and would seek to work proactively with the Inspector, with the Applicants, and wider partners / stakeholders in connection with this project.

PREPARED BY – Peter Udy

AGREED BY – Mike Gildersleeves

DATE 18 October 2021