



Longfield Solar Farm

Statement of Common Ground – National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET)

Deadline 64

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Longfield Solar Energy Farm Ltd

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1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose of this document

- 1.1.1 This Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) has been prepared as part of the proposed Longfield Solar Farm Development Consent Order (the Application) made by Longfield Solar Energy Farm Ltd (The Applicant) to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (the Secretary of State) pursuant to the Planning Act 2008 (PA 2008).
- 1.1.2 This SoCG does not seek to replicate information which is available elsewhere within the Application documents. All documents are available in the deposit locations and/or the Planning Inspectorate website.
- 1.1.3 This SoCG has been produced to confirm to the Examining Authority (ExA) where agreement has been reached between the parties, and where agreement has not (yet) been reached. SoCGs are an established means in the planning process of allowing all parties to identify and focus on specific issues that may need to be addressed during the examination.

1.2 Parties to this Statement of Common Ground

- 1.2.1 This SoCG has been prepared by (1) Longfield Solar Energy Farm Ltd as the Applicant and (2) National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET).
- 1.2.2 Collectively, Longfield Solar Energy Farm Ltd and NGET are referred to as 'the parties'.

1.3 Terminology

- 1.1.1 In the table in the Issues chapter of this SoCG:
 - “Agreed” indicates where the issue has been resolved.
 - “Not Agreed” indicates a final position, and
 - “Under discussion” indicates where these points will be the subject of on-going discussion wherever possible to resolve, or refine, the extent of disagreement between the parties.

2. Record of Engagement

2.1 Summary of consultation

2.1.1 The parties have been engaged in consultation since the beginning of the proposed development. A summary of the meetings and correspondence that has taken place between Longfield Solar Energy Farm Ltd and NGET in relation to the Application is outlined in **Table 2-1**.

Table 2.1 - Record of Engagement

Date	Form of correspondence	of	Key topics discussed and key outcomes (the topics should align with the Issues tables)
12.05.21	Weekly Minutes	Meeting	Design team topics such as NGET asset protection, grid connection agreements, CEA projects, and NGET input to submission documents
21.05.21	Weekly Minutes	Meeting	Design team topics such as NGET asset protection, grid connection agreements, CEA projects, and NGET input to submission documents
17.06.21	Weekly Minutes	Meeting	Design team topics such as NGET asset protection, grid connection agreements, CEA projects, and NGET input to submission documents
24.06.21	Weekly Minutes	Meeting	Design team topics such as NGET asset protection, grid connection agreements, CEA projects, and NGET input to submission documents
01.07.21	Weekly Minutes	Meeting	Design team topics such as NGET asset protection, grid connection agreements, CEA projects, and NGET input to submission documents
08.07.21	Weekly Minutes	Meeting	Design team topics such as NGET asset protection, grid connection agreements, CEA projects, and NGET input to submission documents
15.07.21	Weekly Minutes	Meeting	Design team topics such as NGET asset protection, grid connection agreements, CEA projects, and NGET input to submission documents
29.07.21	Weekly Minutes	Meeting	Design team topics such as NGET asset protection, grid connection agreements, CEA projects, and NGET input to submission documents

05.08.21	Weekly Minutes	Meeting	Design team topics such as NGET asset protection, grid connection agreements, CEA projects, and NGET input to submission documents
12.08.21	Weekly Minutes	Meeting	Design team topics such as NGET asset protection, grid connection agreements, CEA projects, and NGET input to submission documents
19.08.21	Weekly Minutes	Meeting	Design team topics such as NGET asset protection, grid connection agreements, CEA projects, and NGET input to submission documents
09.09.21	Weekly Minutes	Meeting	Design team topics such as NGET asset protection, grid connection agreements, CEA projects, and NGET input to submission documents
16.09.21	Weekly Minutes	Meeting	Design team topics such as NGET asset protection, grid connection agreements, CEA projects, and NGET input to submission documents
23.09.21	Weekly Minutes	Meeting	Design team topics such as NGET asset protection, grid connection agreements, CEA projects, and NGET input to submission documents
29.09.21	Land Minutes	arrangement	Design team topics such as NGET asset protection, grid connection agreements, CEA projects, and NGET input to submission documents
30.09.21	Weekly Minutes	Meeting	Design team topics such as NGET asset protection, grid connection agreements, CEA projects, and NGET input to submission documents
12.09.21	Weekly Minutes	Meeting	Design team topics such as NGET asset protection, grid connection agreements, CEA projects, and NGET input to submission documents

2.1.2 It is agreed that this is an accurate record of the key meetings and consultation undertaken between (1) Longfield Solar Energy Farm Ltd and (2) NGET in relation to the issues addressed in this SoCG.

3. Issues

3.1 Asset protection

Ref	Sub-topic	Applicant's Position	Stakeholder Response	Status
1	Fencing	Fencing has been agreed to be a minimum 15m standoff from NGET towers with adequate Earthing every 5m up to 30m from NGET towers. Longfield to list earthing study within the pre-construction information requirements.	Agreed	Agreed
2	CCTV	CCTV poles/ CCTV feed/ Weather stations agreed at a minimum 30m standoff from NGET towers to prevent potential Transient faults.	Agreed	Agreed
3	Clearance	5.3m minimum clearance agreed to be maintained in still & conductor swing. This is taken from Technical Guidance Note 287 - Third-party guidance for working near National Grid Electricity. "The required clearance from the point where a person can stand to the conductors is 5.3m. To be clear, this means there should be at least 5.3m from where someone could stand on any structure (i.e. mobile and construction equipment) to the conductors."	Agreed	Agreed
4	Maintenance Access	Maintenance access is agreed to be maintained to NGET towers. This is secured via the Design Principles [APP-206] with which the Scheme must comply (in line with Requirements in Schedule 2 of the draft DCO [APP-011]).	Agreed	Agreed

Ref	Sub-topic	Applicant's Position	Stakeholder Response	Status
5	Support zones	Longfield to not infringe on pillar of support zones around NGET towers – This is taken as 15m from all OHL tower bases.	Agreed	Agreed
6	Protective Provisions	Longfield and NGET will seek to finalise a set of protective provisions, this is currently under negotiation	Agreed	Under discussion

3.2 Other matters

Ref	Sub-topic	Applicant's Position	Stakeholder Response	Status
6	Operation	It is agreed that NGET will be provided unrestricted access for their planned re-stringing works and that there are no negative impacts on those works because of the solar farm works.	<p>This matter is still being discussed with the Applicant with specific consideration to the likely timing of the NGET re-stringing works and how unrestricted access would be provided.</p> <p>This issue has been resolved with the Applicant, and text has been added to the applicants outline Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) to commit to this agreement</p>	Agreed
7	Construction Methodology	Longfield to complete rating and thermal studies and outline construction methodology for the HV cable crossing location south of Bulls Lodge Substation	Agreed	Agreed
8	400 kV Cable Connection	Longfield agree to comply with any information requests received from NGET regarding cable crossings on or in proximity to land owned by NGET.	Agreed	Agreed
9	Description of NGET works	NGET agree with the description of their works provided by Longfield Solar, as contained in the Environmental Statement - Scheme Description Chapter 2	Agreed	Agreed
10	Grid Connection Statement	NGET agree with the text within the Grid Connection Statement [APP-208]	Agreed	Agreed
11	Provision of Relevant Information	NGET agree that it provided all the relevant information to Longfield Solar to allow for the assessment if its works in the preparation of this DCO application	Agreed	Agreed

Ref	Sub-topic	Applicant's Position	Stakeholder Response	Status
12	Bulls Lodge Substation Extension	NGET and Longfield Solar agree that the proposed Bulls Lodge Substation extension reflects current GIS equipment commercial availability and therefore reflects the smallest footprint available currently for the extension	Agreed	Agreed

4. Signatories

4.1 Overview

4.1.1 The above SoCG is agreed between Longfield Solar Farm Limited (LFS Limited) (the Applicant) and NGET, as specified below.

Duly authorised for and on behalf of Longfield Solar Limited	Name
	Job Title
	Date
	Signature
Duly authorised for and on behalf of National Grid Electricity Transmission	Name
	Job Title
	Date
	Signature