



Longfield Solar Farm

Statement of Common Ground – National Grid Electricity Services
Operator

Deadline 6

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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 The purpose of this SoCG is to set out the position of the parties, so far as they relate to matters of concern for National Highways, arising from the construction and operation of the proposed Development Consent Order in interrelation with National Highways' assets in general and with the proposed A12 Chelmsford to A120 Widening scheme. 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 Services Operator (NGESO).
- 1.2.2 Collectively, Longfield Solar Energy Farm Ltd and NGESO are referred to as 'the parties'.

1.3 Terminology

- 1.3.1 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 NGENSO in relation to the Application is outlined in **Table 2-1**.

Table 2.1 - Record of Engagement

Date	Form of correspondence	Key topics discussed and key outcomes
16/06/2022	Face to face meeting	Discussion of Longfield grid connection date
20/07/2022	Face to face meeting	Discussion of Longfield grid connection date
17/08/2022	Face to face meeting	Discussion of Longfield grid connection date
27/09/2022	Face to face meeting	Discussion of Longfield grid connection date
19/10/2022	Face to face meeting	Discussion of Longfield grid connection date
17/11/2022	Face to face meeting	Discussion of Longfield grid connection date
Recurring monthly	Face to face meeting	Discussion of Longfield grid connection date

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) NGENSO in relation to the issues addressed in this SoCG.

3. Issues

3.1 Grid Connection

Ref	Sub-topic	Applicant Comment	Stakeholder Response	Status
1	Grid connection date for Longfield	<p>At time of writing (December 2022) the applicant has signed an ATV for a connection date in 2028, at the Bulls Lodge Substation location. This was signed in October 2022.</p> <p>The Applicant are currently in direct engagement with NGET, with the objective of exploring all opportunities to improved grid connection date.</p> <p>National Grid are undertaking a review of design to establish whether any different outage phasing could be utilised to connect the applicant. NGET are also undertaking power systems modelling to explore options to export at a capacity lower than 500MW at an earlier date.</p> <p>The outcome of this engagement will be fed back to NGENSO and the applicant, and if applicable the grid connection offer will be amended to reflect these works.</p>	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 NGENSO, 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 Services Operator	Name
	Job Title
	Date
	Signature