



Oaklands Farm Solar Park

Consultation Report

Appendix 16.1 - Targeted Update Letter 5 October 2023

January 2024

Applicant: Oaklands Farm Solar Ltd

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Pursuant to: APFP Regulation: 5(2)(q)

Author: Thirty4/7 Communications Ltd

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The Planning Inspectorate
National Infrastructure Directorate
Temple Quay House
Temple Quay
Bristol
BS1 6PN

Date
5th October 2023

Oaklands Farm Solar Limited: Update on proposals for specific stakeholders – minor changes in the vicinity of the National Grid Drakelow Substation

Oaklands Farm Solar Limited ("the Applicant") intends to develop a large-scale solar farm plus energy storage facility, known as Oaklands Farm Solar Park ("the Project"). Oaklands Farm Solar Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary of BayWa r.e. UK Ltd.

The Project will be located on land west of the village of Rosliston, and east of Walton on Trent. The current proposals comprise a solar farm plus energy storage covering approximately 410 acres, connected to the national electricity network by a new underground cable.

As the expected generating capacity of the Project is over 50MW the Project is a nationally significant infrastructure project as defined by Section 15(3) of the Planning Act 2008 (as amended) ("the 2008 Act"). The applicant is required to make an application to the Secretary of State for a Development Consent Order ("DCO"). If the DCO application is accepted, the Planning Inspectorate will then process and examine the application and then make a recommendation to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero. The final decision on the DCO application will be made by the Secretary of State.

The DCO application will contain full details of the Project and will be accompanied by an Environmental Statement in accordance with the 2008 Act and the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017.

Update on the Project and targeted consultation

Statutory consultation on the proposals was undertaken between 21st April and 6th June 2022. That was followed by a targeted non-statutory consultation between 9th March and 21st April 2023 to give stakeholders the opportunity to comment on a number of changes to the proposals since the first statutory consultation.

Since then the Applicant has been reviewing the responses received and preparing the application and during the course of that work some further changes have been made to the Project. Those changes are minor and do not extend the order limits outside those which formed the basis of the original statutory consultation. We are not therefore undertaking any further formal consultation regarding the proposals. However, we did want to contact stakeholders with an interest in land in the vicinity of specific changes, to inform you of those updates and to provide the opportunity for comment ahead of the application being submitted.

The specific changes are:

- The use of the existing National Grid Drakelow Substation access from Walton Road for the purposes of intermittent vehicle movements during the lifetime of the project for the purpose of maintaining the grid connection point within the substation;
- The creation of an access into the land to the north of Walton Road beside the Drakelow substation, for the purpose of constructing, maintaining and decommissioning the underground electrical cable running from the solar farm into the Drakelow substation;



- The improvement of an existing farm access off Walton Road to provide an 'in only' construction access for HGVs and other construction traffic during the construction of the Project.

The enclosed plans illustrate the approach being taken by the Project, which include the accesses above.

All responses made during the earlier statutory and non-statutory consultation periods will continue to be taken into account as the Applicant finalises its DCO application and will also be reported to the Planning Inspectorate when the application is submitted.

Any comments on this letter can be made:

- (a) By emailing: info.oaklands-solarfarm@baywa-re.co.uk
- (b) In writing to: FREEPOST TC CONSULTATION (no further address or stamp required)

When providing your response, please include your name and contact details (a postal or email address) and confirm the nature of your interest in the proposed scheme.

The documents relating to this update and to previous consultations on this Project are available in different formats on request (some of which are subject to a subsidised payment), by contacting the Project Team on the details below.

Further information

If you would like further information about this letter, the consultation or Oaklands Farm Solar, please contact the project team by using one of the contact methods provided below:

- Email: info.oaklands-solarfarm@baywa-re.co.uk
- Post: FREEPOST TC CONSULTATION (no further address or stamp required)
- Phone: [REDACTED]

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]

Ashley McInnes

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