

# Heckington Fen Solar Park

EN010123

## Navigation Document

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## NAVIGATION DOCUMENT

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# 1 NAVIGATION DOCUMENT

## 1.1 INTRODUCTION

1.1.1 This Navigation Document summarises the structure of Ecotricity (Heck Fen Solar) Limited (hereafter referred to as the "Applicant") application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) Application for Heckington Fen Solar Park (hereafter referred to as "the Proposed Development") to the Planning Inspectorate. The Proposed Development comprises three main elements; the construction, operation (including maintenance), and decommissioning of a ground mounted solar photovoltaic (PV) electricity generation and energy storage facility (hereafter referred to as "the Energy Park"), cable route to ("Offsite Grid Connection"), and above ground works and extension at, the National Grid Bicker Fen Substation.

1.1.2 Heckington Fen Solar Park, as the project title for the draft Development Consent Order document, is interchangeably referenced as Heckington Fen Energy Park within the documentation as the Energy Park main site which includes an energy storage element.

1.1.3 Its purpose is to provide the reader with a clear understanding of the structure of the DCO Application and briefly explains the contents of each of the Application documents submitted.

## 1.2 DOCUMENT CATEGORIES

1.2.1 The DCO Application includes seven categories of documents, plans and reports listed below to accord with the Planning Inspectorate's (PINS) Advice Note Six: Preparation and submission of application documents (version 11):

- 1: Application Forms
- 2: Plans
- 3: Development Consent Order
- 4: Compulsory Acquisition Information
- 5: Reports and Statements
- 6: Environmental Statement
- 7: Other Documents

1.2.2 Referencing has been used throughout, with each document having its own individual reference number to help navigate the reader through the various documentation submitted.

1.2.3 The documents included in the DCO Application also contain a cross-reference to The Infrastructure Planning (Application: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 referred to in this Application as the "APFP Regulations".

1.2.4 All document references can be found in the **Guide to the Application** document (document reference 1.4).

1.2.5 The information below summarises the contents of each category.

## 1.3 DOCUMENT CATEGORY 1- APPLICATION FORMS

1.3.1 This category contains the:

- **DCO Application Cover Letter** (document reference 1.1) - provides a brief description of the Proposed Development, what is included in the application documentation, and compliance with the APFP Regulations;

- **DCO Application Form** (document reference 1.3) - a standard application form required by Section 37(3)(b) of the Planning Act 2008 to be submitted with the application and sets out a brief summary of the Proposed Development and gives reference numbers for all documents;
- **Section 55 Checklist** (document reference 1.2) - provides a schedule of compliance, completed by the Applicant, to demonstrate the DCO Application can be accepted pursuant to Section 55 of the Planning Act 2008;
- **Guide to the DCO Application** (document reference 1.4)- intended to provide an overview of the DCO Application to interested parties and a summary of the documentation submitted; this document will be updated at each deadline during the Examination; and this
- **Navigation Document** (document reference 1.5)- a simplified structure of the content of the DCO Application.

## **1.4 DOCUMENT CATEGORY 2- PLANS**

1.4.1 This category contains the various plans provided to accompany the DCO Application pursuant to section 5(2) of the APFP Regulations. These are explained below.

1.4.2 The following plans form part of the draft Development Consent Order (DCO) as they identify the Order limits, the location of the works for which development consent is sought or are related to powers sought in the DCO:

- **Land and Crown Land Plan** (document reference 2.1) - including Order Limits and corresponds to the Book of Reference. This plan, provided pursuant to Regulation 5(2)(i), identifies the land which will be affected by the Proposed Development and shows land in ownership of the Crown within the Order Limits as required by Regulation 5(2)(n);
- **Works Plan** (document reference 2.2) - this plan, in accordance with Regulation 5(2)(j), shows the location of the works and the limits within which the Proposed Development and works may be carried out. The areas on the Works Plan are numbered, and these correspond to the numbered works set out in Schedule 1 of the draft DCO;
- **Rights of Way Plan** (document reference 2.3) - this plan, in accordance with Regulation 5(2)(k), shows the Public Rights of Way within the Order limits that are to be temporarily stopped up;
- **Statutory / Non-statutory Nature Conservation Designations Plan** (document reference 2.4) - sets out nature conservation sites, habitats of protected species, important habitats or other diversity features in the vicinity of the Proposed Development as required by Regulation 5(2)(l);
- **Water Bodies in a River Basin Management Plan** (document reference 2.5) - shows water bodies in a river basin management plan in the vicinity of the Proposed Development as required by Regulation 5(2)(l);
- **Statutory / Non-statutory Historic Environment Designations Plan** - (document reference 2.6) shows statutory or non-statutory historic or scheduled monument sites/features of the historic environment including scheduled monuments, World Heritage sites, listed buildings and other historic structures, archaeological sites and registered battlefields in the vicinity of the Proposed Development as required by Regulation 5(2)(m);
- **Streets and Access Plan** (document reference 2.7) - illustrates any new or altered means of access, stopping up of streets or roads and, where details are known, the route of any proposed diversion as required by Regulation 5(2)(k);

- **Location and Order Limits Plan** (document reference 2.8) - identifies the location of the Proposed Development in its wider geographical context as required by Regulation 5(2)(o);
- **Important Hedgerows Plan** (document reference 2.9) - shows where important hedgerows that could be removed pursuant to the Proposed Development as required by Regulation 5(2)(o); and

## 1.5 DOCUMENT CATEGORY 3- DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER

1.5.1 This category contains the draft Development Consent Order (DCO) and the Explanatory Memorandum which set out the consents, licences and powers sought through the DCO Application. The following documents are included:

- **Draft Development Consent Order** (document reference 3.1) - contains the powers sought by the Applicant to carry out, operate and maintain the Proposed Development which is described in Schedule 1 of the draft DCO. It is required to be submitted under Regulation 5(2)(b); and
- **Explanatory Memorandum** (document reference 3.3) - explains the provisions in the DCO setting out their effect and reasoning behind their inclusion. It is required to be submitted under Regulation 5(2)(c).

## 1.6 DOCUMENT CATEGORY 4- COMPULSORY ACQUISITION INFORMATION

1.6.1 This category contains compulsory acquisition information comprising the Statement of Reasons, the Funding Statement, Book of Reference and the Schedule of Negotiations with Statutory Undertakers and Landowners.

1.6.2 Compulsory acquisition is required because powers of compulsory acquisition of land, interests and/or rights are being sought in the Application.

1.6.3 The following documents are included:

- **Statement of Reasons and Appendix to Statement of Reasons: Grid Route Selection Report** (document reference 4.1) - explains that there is a compelling case in the public interest which would justify the Applicant's exercise of powers of compulsory acquisition in order to acquire land and rights permanently and to use land temporarily to enable it to construct, operate (including maintenance) and decommission the Proposed Development as per Regulation 5(2)(h);
- **Funding Statement** (document reference 4.2) - details how the Proposed Development, including any compulsory purchase acquisition, would be funded as per Regulation 5(2)(h);
- **Book of Reference** (document reference 4.3)- Regulation 5(2)(d) requires applications for an order for development consent to be accompanied by "where applicable, the book of reference". It identifies all the parties who own or occupy land and/or have an interest in or right over the land affected by the Scheme, and/or who may be entitled to make a 'relevant claim' as defined in Section 57 of the Planning Act 2008. It is structured in five parts, in accordance with the regulatory requirements; and
- **Schedule of Negotiations with Statutory Undertakers and Landowners** (document reference 4.4)- should be read alongside the Statement of Reasons and sets out the status of negotiations with landowners and the powers sought over the Order land as required by Regulation 5(2)(h).

## 1.7 DOCUMENT CATEGORY 5- REPORTS AND STATEMENTS

1.7.1 This category contains reports and statements that are required for development consent:

- **Consultation Report and Appendices** (document reference 5.1) - is required to be submitted under Section 37 of the Planning Act 2008. It details the consultation undertaken by the Applicant before submitting the Application, both formal and informal, including the statutory consultation undertaken pursuant to the Planning Act 2008. It summarises responses received and explains how the Applicant has had regard to those responses in finalising the Proposed Development;
- **Shadow HRA to Inform Appropriate Assessment** (document reference 5.2) - a document to inform if the Proposed Development has the potential to have an adverse effect on a protected 'European site', to which Regulation 48 of the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994(3) applies or any Ramsar site, due to the project's nature, size or location. Sufficient scientific evidence is submitted on behalf of the Applicant to allow the Commission to make an appropriate assessment of the implications for the Proposed Development;
- **Statement in Respect of Statutory Nuisance** (document reference 5.3)- in compliance with Regulation 5(2)(f), the Application includes a statement pursuant to Section 79(1) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 identifying where the proposals engage one or more of the matters set out in Section 79 relating to statutory nuisances. Where any matters may be potentially engaged, this statement sets out its proposals for mitigating or limiting them;
- **Grid Connection Statement** (document reference 5.4) - in compliance with Regulation 6(a)(i), the Application includes a statement of who will be responsible for designing and building the connection to the electricity grid; and
- **Technical Guide** (document reference 5.5) - a document outlining the operation and interaction of the Energy Park infrastructure functions in non-technical language under Regulation 5(2)(q).

## 1.8 DOCUMENT CATEGORY 6- ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

1.8.1 The Applicant has undertaken an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) of the Proposed Development to consider what significant effects the Proposed Development is likely to have on the environment.

1.8.2 This category contains the **Environmental Statement (ES)** (document reference 6.1) including a **Non-Technical Summary (NTS)** (document reference 6.4) of the ES. Other supporting assessments and documents are provided in the Environmental Statement appendices and as separate documents within this document category.

1.8.3 The ES is submitted as required by Regulation 5(2)(a) and includes the Flood Risk Assessment (document reference 6.3.9.1) required to be submitted under Regulation 5(2)(e).

1.8.4 The main written statement of the ES provides a clear, objective and realistic description of the likely significant effects of the development. Information is presented so as to be comprehensible to the specialist and non-specialist, alike.

1.8.5 The ES has been prepared under the provisions of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017.

1.8.6 The ES is divided into 3 volumes:

- **Volume 1- Main Text** (document reference 6.1), contains the written chapters;
- **Volume 2- Figures** (document reference 6.2), contains a series of figures which support the findings of the EIA;
- **Volume 3- Technical Appendices** (document reference 6.3), contains a series of appendices which support the written chapters.

1.8.7 The **NTS** (document reference 6.4) provides a full summary of the ES in non-technical language. An ES contents and glossary of acronyms is also provided.

## 1.9 DOCUMENT CATEGORY 7- OTHER DOCUMENTS

1.9.1 This category contains other documents which the Applicant has submitted to adhere with the APFP Regulations, under Regulation 5(2)(q), and/or which are considered by the Applicant to be required to support the Application to provide further information or secure mitigation. The other documents include:

- **Outline Design Principles** (document reference 7.1) - this document sets out the broad design principles within which the Proposed Development will be constructed and operated linked to DCO Schedule 1 and the Requirements in Schedule 2;
- **Mitigation Schedule** (document reference 7.2) - this document summarises the mitigation measures outlined within the ES;
- **Statement of Need and Planning Statement** (document reference 7.3)- this document explains the rationale for the development and includes a detailed explanation of how the development complies with relevant policy. It also includes the need for the Proposed Development and extends the case made in the National Policy Statements relevant to energy infrastructure for low carbon energy generation;
- **Design and Access Statement** (document reference 7.4) - this document provides a framework to explain how the proposed development is a suitable response to the Proposed Development and its setting, and to demonstrate that it can be adequately accessed by prospective users. It explains the design approach that underpins the proposals. It outlines the key design requirements that will form part of the detailed design proposals and explains the broad approach to the infrastructure that is proposed as part of the Proposed Development;
- **Consents and Licenses Required Under Other Legislation** (document reference 7.5) - this document sets out the other consents and licences besides the DCO that may be required to facilitate the Proposed Development but are not sought explicitly through the DCO;
- **Template Statement of Common Ground** (document reference 7.6) - this document sets out the template and structure for the statements of common ground to be used with relevant interested parties / stakeholders as will be requested by the Examining Authority. Each relevant statement of common ground will then be submitted during the Examination and included as a sub-set of document reference 7.6.;
- **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan** (document reference 7.7) - this document sets out a management framework for the planning and implementation of construction activities for the Proposed Development during the construction phase to minimise potential effects through construction on the environment and local community;
- **Outline Landscape Ecological Management Plan** (document reference 7.8)- this document sets out a management framework to ensure the



protection and enhancement of the ecology and biodiversity on, and around the Proposed Development during the construction, operation and decommissioning phases;

- **Outline Decommissioning and Restoration Plan** (document reference 7.9) - this document sets out a management framework for the decommissioning strategy to minimise potential effects;
- **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan** (document reference 7.10) - this document sets out a management framework for the impact of construction traffic on the existing road network during construction and ensures construction traffic is appropriately managed while also maintaining safety for the public and workers;
- **Outline Energy Storage Safety Management Plan** (document reference 7.11) - this document sets out a management framework to ensure all safety concerns around Energy Storage System elements are minimised;
- **Outline Supply Employment and Skills Plan** (document reference 7.12) - this document sets out a management framework to maximise and proactively expand the economic benefits of the Proposed Development for the local community;
- **Outline Written Scheme of Investigation- Evaluation** (document reference 7.13) - this document sets out a management framework for the proposed archaeological evaluation; and
- **Outline Written Scheme of Investigation- Mitigation** (document reference 7.14)- this document sets out a management framework for the proposed archaeological mitigation.