

# Heckington Fen Solar Park

EN010123

## Appendix 9 Equality Impact Assessment

Applicant: Ecotricity (Heck Fen Solar) Limited

Document Reference: 5.1.9

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

February 2023



## CONSULTATION REPORT – APPENDIX 9 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

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# Appendix 9 Equality Impact Assessment

## Equality Impact Assessment

Question	Response
1. Name of the event being assessed?	Heckington Fen Solar Park public exhibitions and statutory consultation (in person events dependent on covid restrictions).
2. Summary of aims and objectives of the event	The statutory consultation including public exhibitions aim to introduce stakeholders to the proposed development if they have not seen it before, and provide an update to those who have. The objectives include sourcing feedback on the proposals which can be considered before the design is finalised for submission to the Planning Inspectorate. The consultation will facilitate a presentation of information including questions to members of the team.
3. What involvement and consultation has been done in relation to this? (e.g. with relevant groups and stakeholders)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The statutory consultation including exhibitions will be advertised locally in a variety of media, and a newsletter sent to the closest residents. The address database contains nearly 6000 addresses and a comprehensive consultation list has been developed to include local groups, schools, village halls and seldom heard groups. This list has been consulted on via the draft Statement of Community Consultation with the Local Planning Authorities.</li> <li>Three previous online exhibitions have been held and were attended by 50 people who registered their interest in advance. A newsletter and postcard have been sent to the address database in Autumn 2021 and Winter 2022. A website has been available since September 2021, with contact details of the team, this includes freepost, freephone and email.</li> </ul>
4. Who is affected by the proposed development?	<p>Short-term:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attendees and team members.</li> <li>Local viewing venues such as libraries.</li> <li>Those involved in organising the events not directly employed by the organisers.</li> </ul> <p>Long-term:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An environmental impact assessment will be completed as part of the submission, which will consider the impact on all known receptors, for example local residents and ecological receptors.</li> <li>The EIA will cover a multitude of disciplines including, but not limited to, landscape, noise, hydrology, climate change, agricultural land, heritage and archaeology.</li> </ul>

Protected Characteristic Group	What is the potential for a positive or negative impact?	Please explain and give examples of any evidence/data used	Action to address negative impact (adjustment to the event)
Disability	Potentially negative	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Accessibility of exhibitions</li> <li>Potential difficulties understanding discussion for those with hearing/visual impairment.</li> <li>Potential difficulties with concentration for attendees with neuro-</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sessions will be held online and in accessible locations.</li> <li>Option to have documentation converted into accessible format on request. Hard copies will be available.</li> <li>A total of 5 events are planned, with documentation available at a number of viewing venue for further</li> </ol>

Equality Impact Assessment

<b>Protected Characteristic Group</b>	<b>What is the potential for a positive or negative impact?</b>	<b>Please explain and give examples of any evidence/data used</b>	<b>Action to address negative impact (adjustment to the event)</b>
		disabilities may experience.	reference at a later date. Non-technical summaries provided.
Gender reassignment	No known negative impacts	-	-
Marriage or civil partnership	No known negative impacts	-	-
Pregnancy, maternity and parenthood	Potentially negative	Potential difficulties attending in person events	Exhibitions planned across the day, and online with a variety of dates to ensure maximum opportunity to attend.
Race	No known negative impacts	-	-
Religion or belief	No known negative impacts	-	Consultation spread across 9 weeks to ensure diary clashes with religious events are avoided.
Sexual orientation	No known negative impacts	-	-
Sex (gender)	No known negative impacts	-	-
Age	No known negative impacts	-	A variety of media will be used to advertise the statutory consultation.
Other: caring responsibilities	Potentially negative	Potential difficulties attending in person events	Exhibitions planned across the day, and online with a variety of dates to ensure maximum opportunity to attend.