

Heckington Fen Solar Park

EN010123

Appendix 3 – Example of Change Consultation Letter

Applicant: Ecotricity (Heck Fen Solar) Limited

Document Reference: Pre-ExA.ChangeApp.CCRApp3.V1

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

Document Revision: 1

August 2023



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Dear «Name»

7 July 2023

Heckington Fen Solar Park Development Consent Order (DCO) (application reference: EN010123)

Consultation on proposed changes to the DCO – please respond by 18 August 2023

Ecotricity (Heck Fen Solar) Limited

Ecotricity (Heck Fen Solar) Limited (“Ecotricity”) has launched a targeted consultation for Heckington Solar Project (the “Project”) on its proposals to make changes to its application for a Development Consent Order (DCO).

Ecotricity submitted its application for a DCO for the construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of solar photovoltaic generating panels with a total capacity exceeding 50 megawatts together with associated energy storage and grid connection to, and infrastructure at, the Bicker Fen National Grid substation (the Proposed Development) on 15 February 2023 (the “Application”). The Application was accepted for Examination on 13 March 2023 and the period for relevant representations closed on 9 June 2023.

On 13 June 2023, Ecotricity notified the Examining Authority appointed by the Secretary of State that it was proposing to make a formal request to change an element of the Application. Ecotricity is holding a targeted consultation on the proposed changes, and we are contacting you as someone who may be interested in responding.

This consultation will be undertaken, so far as relevant and proportionate, in accordance with the principles and methods set out in our Statement of Community Consultation. Details on the consultation are provided below.

Summary of changes sought

Following submission of the Application, and as a result of ongoing discussions with National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc (NGET), it has become clear that additional works at Bicker Fen Substation are required to enable the grid connection. These works lie outside of the current Order Limits at the Bicker Fen Substation.

These works are Associated Development and are necessary as a consequence of the Proposed Development and include:

- a new section of NGET infrastructure at the Bicker Fen substation comprising a busbar extension, including a section breaker, a bus coupler, and a feeder circuit on land owned by NGET to the south of Bicker Fen substation; and
- a new cable sealing end compound on land owned by NGET to the west of Bicker Fen Substation.

The Applicant's Proposed Development is the "tipping point" of generation at the Bicker Fen substation, necessitating the above works. The reason for this change now is due to further technical information being known, and for completeness, to ensure that the DCO contains the relevant provisions and permissions to allow the full project to be constructed. It also gives a complete picture of the related environmental impacts associated with the NGET connection works.

Consultation documentation

A consultation document outlining the changes can be viewed and downloaded free of charge online on the Heckington Fen Solar Park page of Ecotricity's website: <https://www.ecotricity.co.uk/our-green-energy/heckington-fen-solar-park>

The consultation document will be available to view online from 11 July 2023 until at least the close of the consultation at 23:59 on Friday 18 August 2023.

If you require a copy of the consultation document to be supplied in hard copy or on a USB stick, this can be provided free of charge. Please use the contact details for Ecotricity below to request for this to be provided.

It is intended that copies of the consultation document will be available in hard copy from 11 July 2023 at the following Community Access Points:

Venue	Opening hours*
Boston Borough Council, Municipal Buildings, West Street, Boston, Lincolnshire, PE21 8QR	08:45 – 17:15 Monday to Thursday 08:45 – 16:45 Friday
Heckington Community Hub, Council Chambers, St Andrew's Street, Heckington, Sleaford, Lincolnshire, NG34 9RE	10:00 – 12:00 Monday to Saturday

**Please note that opening hours are subject to change. Please check and confirm opening times with the venue if planning a visit.*

Responding to the consultation

We are now seeking your views on the changes and are consulting on only these changes between 11 July and 18 August 2023.

Responses to the consultation must be sent to Ecotricity and not to the Planning Inspectorate. If you want to submit your views, you must do so in writing by one of the following means:

- By email to: **heckingtonfensolar@ecotricity.co.uk**
- By post to: **FREEPOST ECOTRICITY SOLAR PARK**

Your response must be received by **23:59 on Friday 18 August 2023**.

Your comments will be analysed by Ecotricity and any of its appointed agents. Copies may be made available in due course to the Secretary of State, the Planning Inspectorate, and other relevant statutory authorities so that your comments can be considered as part of the DCO application process. We will request that your personal details are not placed on public record and will be held securely by Ecotricity in accordance with data protection law and will be used solely in connection with the consultation process and subsequent examination process and, except as noted above, will not be passed to third parties.

If you have any questions about this consultation, please don't hesitate to contact us by email heckingtonfensolar@ecotricity.co.uk, write to FREEPOST ECOTRICITY SOLAR PARK or contact Ecotricity by telephone on 0800 151 0784.

Yours faithfully

Laura White
Project Manager
Ecotricity

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(1) Change Notification Consultation – Information Leaflet

(2) Press notice