

Heckington Fen Solar Park

EN010123

Joint Position Statement with Beacon Fen Energy Park Ltd

Applicant: Ecotricity (Heck Fen Solar) Limited

Document Reference: ExA.JPSBeaconFen.D5V1

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

Deadline 5: 13th February 2024

Document Revision: 1

February 2024



1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This Position Statement has been prepared between Ecotricity (Heck Fen Solar) Limited (the Applicant) and Beacon Fen Energy Park Limited (Beacon Fen) (together "the Parties") for submission into the examination for the Heckington Fen Solar Park development consent order (DCO).
- 1.2 Beacon Fen is the promoter of the proposed Beacon Fen Energy Park, a solar and battery storage development, on land to the east of Sleaford, Lincolnshire and the holder of a generation licence under section 6(1)(a) of the Electricity Act 1989.
- 1.3 As Beacon Fen Energy Park is a proposed development with a generation capacity of more than 50MW, Beacon Fen has notified the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) of its intention to submit a development consent order application pursuant to section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 and has been allocated PINS case reference number: EN010151.
- 1.4 A Scoping Report in respect of Beacon Fen Energy Park was submitted to PINS on 19th April 2023, with a Scoping Opinion subsequently adopted on 26th May 2023¹. Having carried out non-statutory consultation in Summer 2023, Beacon Fen commenced its statutory consultation on its project proposals on 22 January 2024 (Section 42), with the development consent order application anticipated to be submitted in summer 2024.

2. PROJECT OVERLAP

- 2.1 Whilst recognising that the projects are at different stages of the design and consenting process, as part of the evolution of the Beacon Fen Energy Park proposals, the Parties identified that there were certain areas of potential overlap between the Heckington Fen DCO order limits and the area put forward within the Beacon Fen Preliminary Environmental Information as part of its statutory consultation in relation to the respective cable route/grid connection corridors and the potential accesses to the same.
- 2.2 Accordingly, on the assumption that these areas of overlap are carried forward into Beacon Fen Energy Park's DCO application, both parties have engaged on how best to manage those areas of potential overlap/interface to ensure that the respective projects are designed and programmed in a way which facilitates their mutual delivery in a coordinated and collaborative manner.

3. PROTECTIVE PROVISIONS & CO-OPERATION

- 3.1 Whilst those discussions will continue as the respective project designs/programmes evolve, both parties are satisfied that it will be possible to ensure coordinated/coherent delivery in any overlap area and, in the interim, have agreed a set of protective provisions for inclusion in the Heckington Fen DCO for the benefit of Beacon Fen. These provisions have been included in Part 11, Schedule 13 of the Heckington Fen draft DCO submitted at this deadline (document reference 3.1, version 7), together with the "Interface Area Plan" to which the provisions relate and which is included as a certified plan under Schedule 11 of the draft DCO.
- 3.2 A reciprocal set of provisions will be included in the Beacon Fen draft DCO for the benefit of Heckington Fen as part of the Beacon Fen DCO application.
- 3.3 The parties have agreed to continue discussions and intend to enter into a private co-operation agreement to further expand on the principles outlined in the protective provisions including on matters of co-operation and working as a reasonable and prudent developer in respect of the areas of overlap if/when working in proximity to one another.
- 3.4 Both parties have also agreed to engage with one another on the development of their respective Construction Traffic Management Plans (CTMPs) where it is identified that there is the potential for overlapping construction traffic between the projects. In the context of the Heckington Fen DCO, this commitment is recorded in section 4 of the outline CTMP

¹ <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/EN010151/EN010151-000005-EN010151%20-%20Scoping%20Opinion%202017%20EIA%20Reqs.pdf>

(document reference 7.10, version 5), and reciprocal provision will be made in the equivalent document in the Beacon Fen DCO application.

4. **BEACON FEN POSITION**

- 4.1 Subject to the inclusion of the agreed form of protective provisions, Beacon Fen has no objection to the grant of the Heckington Fen DCO and do not intend to participate further in the examination of the project.

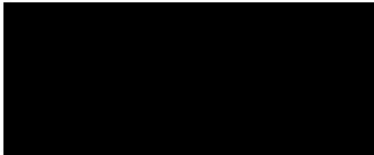
Signed on behalf of Ecotricity (Heck Fen Solar) Limited



Date

5/2/2024

Signed on behalf of Beacon Fen Energy Park Limited



James Hartley-Bond

Date 1 February 2024