Notice of Acceptance of an Application for a Development Consent Order for Stonestreet Green Solar Application Reference: EN010135

Notice under Section 56 Planning Act 2008, Regulation 9 of the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 and Regulation 16 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017

Notice is hereby given that an application for a Development Consent Order under section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 has been made by EPL 001 Limited (company number: 12444050) ('the Applicant') of registered office 2nd Floor, Regis House, 45 King William Street, London, United Kingdom, EC4R 9AN to the Planning Inspectorate (on behalf of the Secretary of State) ('the Application').

The Application was made on 11 June 2024 and accepted for examination by the Planning Inspectorate (on behalf of the Secretary of State) on 09 July 2024 (Application Reference: EN010135). The Application is for the proposed Stonestreet Green Solar project (the 'Project').

Summary of the Project

The Project Site is located approximately 6.5km to the south east of Ashford Town Centre and approximately 13.7km to the west of Folkestone Town Centre, in the county of Kent. The Site is situated on land located to the north and west of the village of Aldington. A map showing the location of the Project can be viewed online on the Stonestreet Green Solar page of the Planning Inspectorate's National Infrastructure Planning website at: https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-

content/ipc/uploads/projects/EN010135/EN010135-000386-

SSG 2.6 Illustrative%20Project%20Drawings%20-%20Not%20for%20Approval.pdf

The Project comprises the construction, operation and decommissioning of solar photovoltaic arrays and energy storage, together with associated infrastructure and an underground cable connection to the existing National Grid Sellindge Substation. The Project will include a generating station (incorporating solar arrays) with a total capacity exceeding 50 megawatts ('MW'). The agreed grid connection for the Project will allow the export and import of up to 99.9 MW of electricity to the grid. The Project will connect to the existing National Grid Sellindge Substation via a new 132 kilovolt substation constructed as part of the Project and cable connection under the Network Rail and High Speed 1 railway.

The Application is required because the Project is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project pursuant to sub sections 14(1)(a) and 15(1) and (2) of the Planning Act 2008, as an onshore generating station in England with a capacity exceeding 50 MW. As such, the decision whether to grant development consent will be made by the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero (the 'Secretary of State').

The DCO, if granted, would authorise the compulsory acquisition of land, interests in land and rights over land, and the powers to use land permanently and temporarily. The DCO would also authorise alterations to the layout of streets, the construction of accesses to the Project, the permanent and temporary stopping up of the public rights of way, street works, removal of hedgerows, and the application, disapplication and modification of legislation.

Environmental Impact Assessment

The Project is Environmental Impact Assessment development, as defined by the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 and, accordingly, an Environmental Statement accompanies the Application.

Application form and accompanying documents

The Application form and its accompanying documents, drawings, plans and maps, including the Environmental Statement and draft Development Consent Order, are available to view electronically and download, free of charge, under the "Documents" tab on the Stonestreet Green Solar page of the Planning Inspectorate's National Infrastructure Planning website, being a website maintained by or on behalf of the Secretary of State: <u>https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010135/documents</u>

The Application documents will be available to view online at least until the end of the Relevant Representation period at 23:59:59 on 12 September 2024.

The Application documents are available for electronic inspection via computer free of charge at the following venues and times set out below. These documents will be available to view at least until the end of the Relevant Representation period at 23:59:59 on 12 September 2024.

Venue	Opening Hours
Ashford Borough Council Offices	Monday to Friday: 9am to 4pm; Saturday
	and Sunday: closed
Civic Centre, Tannery Lane, Ashford TN23 1PL	
Folkestone and Hythe Council Offices	Monday to Friday: 10am to 4pm; Saturday
_	and Sunday: closed
Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone	
CT20 2QY	
Ashford Library	Information on the opening hours for the
	libraries listed to the left can be viewed on
Ashford Gateway Plus, Church Road,	Kent County Council's website at:
Ashford, Kent, TN23 1AS	
New Romney Library	https://www.kent.gov.uk/leisure-and-
	community/libraries/visiting-a-library
82 High Street, New Romney, TN28 8AU	
Lyminge Library	
Station Road, Lyminge, CT18 8HS	
Hythe Library	
1 Stade Street, Hythe, CT21 6BQ	

On request, an electronic copy of the Application documents can be supplied free of charge on a USB memory stick which will be limited to one USB per household or business. Contact details to request the USB can be found at the end of this notice. You can also contact the Applicant using these contact details if you have any enquiries in relation to the Application form and its accompanying documents, plans and maps.

The complete set of Application documents can be made available in hard copy format subject to a fee of £1,800. Copies of individual documents are also available on request and a

reasonable printing charge may apply. The Applicant will also consider any reasonable requests for bespoke or hard copy document formats and will accommodate such requests where it is feasible to do so and for which a reasonable charge may apply. In relation to any request, please contact the Applicant using the contact details set out at the end of this notice.

Making a representation

Any person may make representations on the Application to the Secretary of State (including giving notice of any interest in, comment on, objection to or support for the Application). All representations relating to the Application <u>must</u> be made on the Planning Inspectorate's Registration and Relevant Representation Form and give the grounds on which it is made.

The Registration and Relevant Representation Form will be made available by the Planning Inspectorate. The form can be found on the Stonestreet Green Solar page for the Application via the Planning Inspectorate's National Infrastructure Planning website: <u>https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010135</u>

The Planning Inspectorate has issued detailed advice on making and registering a relevant representation and becoming an Interested Party, to which you should have regard. This Advice Note (8.2 - How to Register to Participate in an Examination) is published on the Government's website under the heading 'Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: Advice notes' and can be found at: <u>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/nationally-significant-infrastructure-projects-advice-note-eight-overview-of-the-nationally-significant-infrastructure-planning-process-for-members/nationally-significant-infrastructure-projects-advice-note-82-how-to-register-to-participate-in-an-examination</u>

If you require guidance on obtaining or completing the Registration and Relevant Representation Form or you are unable to complete the form online and you would like to register your interest and/or request a hard copy, please telephone the Planning Inspectorate on **0303 444 5000** quoting the name of the Application and the Planning Inspectorate's reference number EN010135.

Any Registration and Relevant Representation Form must be received by the Planning Inspectorate no later than 23:59:59 on 12 September 2024.

All representations must include details of the maker's name, address and telephone number, along with an outline of the points intended to be made at the examination stage. Please ensure that you quote reference number EN010135 in all correspondence with the Planning Inspectorate about the Application.

Please note that any submitted representations to the Planning Inspectorate will be published on the Planning Inspectorate's National Infrastructure Planning website for the Application and will subject to their privacy policy which be can be viewed at: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/planning-inspectorate-privacy-notices/customerprivacy-notice

A completed hard copy form to be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate should be sent to:

The Planning Inspectorate Temple Quay House 2 The Square Bristol BS1 6PN

Applicant's contact details

For further information about the Application, or to request copies of documents, the Applicant can be contacted by using the following details:

Telephone: 08081 698335 (free of charge)

Email: info@stonestreetgreensolar.co.uk

Post: FREEPOST Stonestreet Green Solar (free of charge; no stamp required)

Any details you provide to the Applicant via telephone or e-mail will be subject to its privacy policy linked here: <u>https://stonestreetgreensolar.co.uk/privacy+policy</u> and will be treated confidentially and processed and handled in accordance with the relevant data protection legislation.

EPL 001 Limited