

The Planning Inspectorate

FAO Simon Raywood Temple Quay House 2 The Square, Temple Quay Bristol BSI 6PN

4 May 2023

Dear Simon

## Byers Gill Solar – Planning Act 2008 Section 46: Duty to notify Secretary of State of a proposed Application

I am hereby notifying you under Section 46 of the Planning Act 2008 that JBM Solar Limited ("the Applicant") intends to apply under Section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 ("the Act") for a Development Consent Order ("DCO") for the Byers Gill Solar Farm (the "Proposed Development").

The submission of the application will follow a period of statutory pre-application consultation carried out pursuant to section 42, section 47 and section 48 of the Act, the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedures) Regulations 2009 and the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017.

## **Summary of the Proposed Development**

The Proposed Development will comprise a solar farm capable of generating over 50MW Alternating Current (AC) of electricity with co-located Battery Energy Storage System ("BESS"), located between Darlington and Stockton-on-Tees in north-east England. The Proposed Development's site area is approximately 563 hectares and comprises six solar photovoltaic (PV) panel areas (Panel Areas A-F). An on-site substation would be located within Panel Area C.

The Proposed Development would comprise:

- up to 21km of 33kilovolt (kV) underground cabling between the Panel Areas and the on-site substation;
- approximately 10km of 132kV underground cable to connect the Proposed Development to the grid connection at the existing Norton substation (located to the north-west of Stocktonon-Tees);



- supporting infrastructure comprising BESS; transformers and inverters for managing the
  electricity produced; storage containers to hold this equipment; and security measures
  such as fencing, CCTV and lighting; and
- environmental mitigation and enhancement measures to avoid or reduce adverse impacts on the surrounding environment and nearby communities.

While the Proposed Development could include compulsory acquisition powers, the Applicant is seeking to avoid the use of such powers if at all possible.

In addition to the above, any necessary rights and powers may be sought to ensure delivery of the Scheme, including compulsory acquisition and temporary use powers and, if required, powers to apply and/or disapply legislation relevant to the Proposed Development.

## **Consultation Information**

The Applicant will be undertaking statutory pre-application consultation under Section 42 of the Act between 5 May 2023 and 16 June 2023.

Section 46 of the Act requires the Applicant to send to the Secretary of State the information that it intends to provide to consultees under section 42 of the Act, on or before coming section 42 consultation.

Please find a secure link to a private folder which has available the information being supplied to consultees as part of this organisation: Hardcopies are also available on request.

The covering letters provided confirm how this information has been supplied to the consultees. The contents of the secure link includes:

- covering letters sent to consultees under Section 42 of the Act as follows:
  - letter sent to consultees prescribed in Schedule I of the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedures) Regulations 2009
  - o letter sent to host local authorities as defined in Section 43 of the Act
  - letter sent to neighbouring local authorities as defined in Section 43 of the Act
  - letter sent to categories I and 2 land interests as defined in Section 44 of the Act
  - letter sent to non-statutory consultees
- section 48 notice
- consultation booklet
- consultation feedback questionnaire
- preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR), accompanied by a Non-Technical Summary
- consultation plans and drawings



## **Consultation arrangements**

Consultation materials will be made available at a deposit location, at public consultation events and online at Further details of the consultation arrangements can be found on the website and in the enclosed Section 48 notice.

Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me using the details provided below or the project team on 0800 197 0018.

Please acknowledge that this notice has been received as a record of compliance.

Yours Sincerely



Michael Baker

DCO Project Manager, Byers Gill Solar @jbm-solar.com

Telephone: