

**Tillbridge Solar Project  
EN010142**

**Volume 5  
Consultation Report  
Appendix B – Preparation for Statutory Consultation : Appendix  
B-1 to Appendix B-12  
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**Regulation 5(2)(q)  
Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and  
Procedure) Regulations 2009**

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# Appendix B-1: Section 47 notice publicising the Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC)

**Notice of Consultation  
Tillbridge Solar  
Section 47 Planning Act 2008  
Notice Publicising a Statement of Community Consultation**

Tillbridge Solar Limited ("we") intends to provide a new solar energy and storage scheme (the "Scheme") within the administrative boundary of West Lindsey District Council and Lincolnshire County Council, with the grid connection infrastructure also located within the administrative boundary of Bassetlaw District Council and Nottinghamshire County Council.

As the proposed generating capacity exceeds 50 megawatts (MW), the Scheme, known as Tillbridge Solar, is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) under the Planning Act 2008 (the "Act").

The Scheme will consist of:

- the construction, operation (including maintenance) and decommissioning of ground mounted solar photovoltaic (PV) panel arrays to generate electricity located on a "Principal Site" approximately five kilometres (km) to the east of Gainsborough and approximately 13 km to the north of Lincoln.
- A Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) located on the Principal Site, allowing for the generation, storage, import and export of electricity to the national electricity transmission network.
- Supporting electrical infrastructure on the Principal Site, including up to two substations (with a 400 kilovolt (KV) underground cable circuit interconnecting the two).
- A Cable Route Corridor, comprising underground 400 kV cables connecting the Principal Site in West Lindsey, Lincolnshire, to National Grid's Cottam substation in Bassetlaw, Nottinghamshire.
- Associated infrastructure, mitigation and enhancement measures/green infrastructure, and other ancillary works, for example, fencing, security, local grid connections, temporary access roads, permanent means of access, highway works, temporary works compounds and work sites.

## **Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC)**

We will apply to the Secretary of State, via the Planning Inspectorate, for a Development Consent Order (DCO), which would authorise the construction of the scheme under Section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 (the Act).

In accordance with Section 47 of the Act, before making our application, we have produced a SoCC, setting out how we will consult with the local community about our proposals. The statement is available to the public at the local information points (listed below) between Tuesday 30 May and Tuesday 11 July 2023. Following our provision of the SoCC, we will carry out the consultation in accordance with the SoCC.

This notice contains information on where and when the SoCC can be inspected and provides a summary of the consultation details. Full details of the consultation can be found in the SoCC. The SoCC can be viewed online, alongside our consultation materials, at [www.tillbridgesolar.com/documents-library](http://www.tillbridgesolar.com/documents-library) or at the following local information points during our consultation period (from Tuesday 30 May until Tuesday 11 July 2023). Hard copy documents (including the SoCC) can also be requested by contacting the project team using the details in this notice.

### Local information points

<b>West Lindsey District Council Office</b> Guildhall Marshall's Yard, Marshalls Yard, 13b Beaumont St, Gainsborough DN21 2NA Monday to Friday (9am to 5pm)	<b>Lincoln Central Library*</b> Free School Lane, Lincolnshire LN2 1EZ Monday to Wednesday and Friday (9am to 5pm), Thursday (9am to 6pm), and Saturday (9am to 4pm)
<b>Gainsborough Library*</b> Cobden St, Gainsborough DN21 2NG Monday to Wednesday and Friday (9am to 5pm), Thursday (9am to 6pm), and Saturday (9am to 1pm)	<b>Saxilby Library*</b> St Andrews Centre, William St, Saxilby LN1 2LP Tuesday (10:30am to 3:30pm), Wednesday (10:30am to 4pm) and Friday (10:30am to 1pm)
<b>Retford Library*</b> Churchgate, Retford, Nottinghamshire DN22 6PE Monday to Friday (9am to 6pm) and Saturday (9am to 3:30pm)	

*\*These libraries also have computer and internet access. We recommend contacting the venues to check the opening times before visiting.*

### Public information events

You can also view printed copies of our consultation materials (including the SoCC) at our public information events, where you can speak with our team and share your views. The events will be held at the following venues:

Venue	Date	Times
Glentworth Village Hall, Stoney Lane, Glentworth, Lincolnshire, DN21 5DF	Wednesday 14 June	2:30pm to 7pm
Willingham Village Hall, High St, Willingham by Stow, Gainsborough, DN21 5JZ	Saturday 17 June	10am to 2pm
Sturton by Stow Village Hall, High St, Sturton by Stow, Lincoln, LN1 2AE	Thursday 22 June	1:30pm to 5:30pm
Corringham Village Hall, 10 Middle St, Corringham, Gainsborough, DN21 5QR	Friday 30 June	12pm to 4pm
Rampton Village Hall, Manor Grounds, Rampton, Retford, Nottinghamshire DN22 0JU	Saturday 1 July	10am to 2pm
Hemswell and Harpswell Village Hall, Maypole Street, Hemswell, Lincolnshire, DN21 5UL	Thursday 6 July	2:30pm to 6:30pm

### Online events

In addition to the above in-person events, we are holding two webinar events on:

- Wednesday 7 June 2023 between 6.30pm and 8pm
- Monday 10 July 2023 between 6.30pm and 8pm

Members of the public can join the webinars via telephone or online. To register for a webinar please visit [www.tillbridgesolar.com](http://www.tillbridgesolar.com) or get in touch using the contact details



below. These events will have a question-and-answer facility with members of the project team available to respond during the webinars.

### **Preliminary Environmental Information**

The Scheme is an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) development for the purposes of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017, which means a Preliminary Environmental Information (PEI) Report has been produced (to describe the environmental effects of the Scheme) and is being consulted on, alongside the other consultation documents, as well as a Non-Technical Summary (NTS) of the PEI Report. It also means that an Environmental Statement (ES) will be produced and submitted with the application in due course.

### **Feedback**

You can provide your feedback on the Scheme and the information included in the consultation materials to us either online or in writing, by:

- Going to our website and completing an online feedback questionnaire – **www.tillbridgesolar.com** – you can access the form directly by visiting (**www.tillbridgesolar.com/documents-library**)
- Collecting a questionnaire from one of our consultation events, information points (listed above), or on request (by contacting us by email, phone or post)
- Returning your completed questionnaire to us at one of our events, by email (**info@tillbridgesolar.com**) or by post (by writing 'FREEPOST TILLBRIDGE SOLAR' on a blank envelope – please note you do not need a stamp)
- Providing your free form comments by email or post. Please note that we will not accept comments over the phone, however we can assist you wherever possible.

**The deadline for comments is 23.59 on 11 July 2023.**

**If you require materials in an alternative format (e.g. large print or braille) please let us know.**

### **Contact us**

You can also contact us via email, over the phone, or by post.

- **Email us at:** [info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com)
- **Call our Freephone information line on:** 0800 046 9643
- **Write to us at:** FREEPOST TILLBRIDGE SOLAR (please note that you do not need a stamp).

To find out more about Tillbridge Solar and take part in our statutory consultation go to the project website: [www.tillbridgesolar.com](http://www.tillbridgesolar.com)

## Appendix B-2: SoCC presentation for local authorities



Statement of Community Consultation

- We have previously been engaging on our early-stage proposals for Tillbridge Solar and will be consulting on our more developed proposals in 2023.
- Your feedback on how we will be consulting is important – these methods will be set out in our draft Statement of Community Consultation.
- In accordance with legislation in the Planning Act 2008, we will be formally consulting you for a 28-day period and make relevant changes in response to your comments.
- This SoCC will set out how we are proposing to consult with people living in the vicinity of the scheme (the local community) and wider stakeholders, including statutory and technical consultees.

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A photograph of people's hands working on a table with various documents, sticky notes, and a laptop. The text 'Statement of Community Consultation' is overlaid on the left side. A blue vertical bar on the right contains a bulleted list and the Tillbridge Solar logo at the bottom.

## Tillbridge Solar SoCC – key principles



### Our SoCC will include:

- An introduction to the scheme and its formal definition
- A summary of the planning process and definition as an NSIP
- A summary of our early engagement process, including collaboration workshops
- Our consultation methods
- What we will be consulting on

### We will be asking for feedback on all aspects of the scheme, including (but not limited to):

- Our updated proposals, including Principal Site and Cable Corridor Search Area
- Contents of our PEIR and non-technical summary
- All aspects of the scheme

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## Tillbridge Solar SoCC – key principles



### Our engagement activities will include:

- Face-to-face consultation events (proposing five in total) at local venues, along with online events. We are looking at venues in Glentworth, Corringham, Willingham by Stow, Sturton by Stow, Marton & Gate Burton
- Online webinars, with one at the start and one at the end of the consultation period.

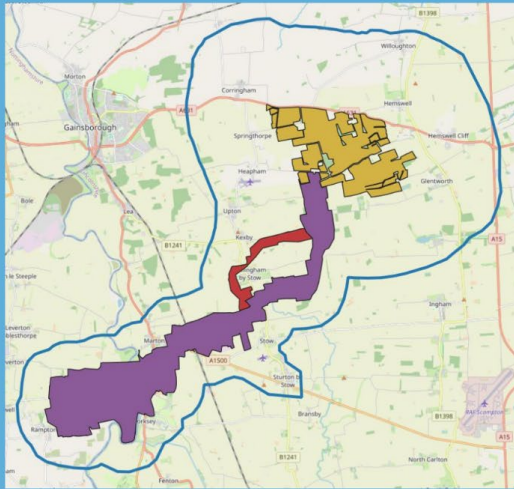
### Raising awareness:

- To help raise awareness of the project and the consultation we will carry out advertising in local newspapers and the media, including the Lincolnshire Echo, Gainsborough Standard, Retford Times, Lincolnshire Life.
- We will be holding briefings with key stakeholders – we welcome any available dates for these and your assistance with organisation.
- We will send emails and letters to key stakeholders, including MPs, ward councillors, parish councils and local interest groups.
- We will publicise the project and consultation as per the relevant statutory requirements (under the Planning Act 2008)
- We will engage with seldom heard groups.

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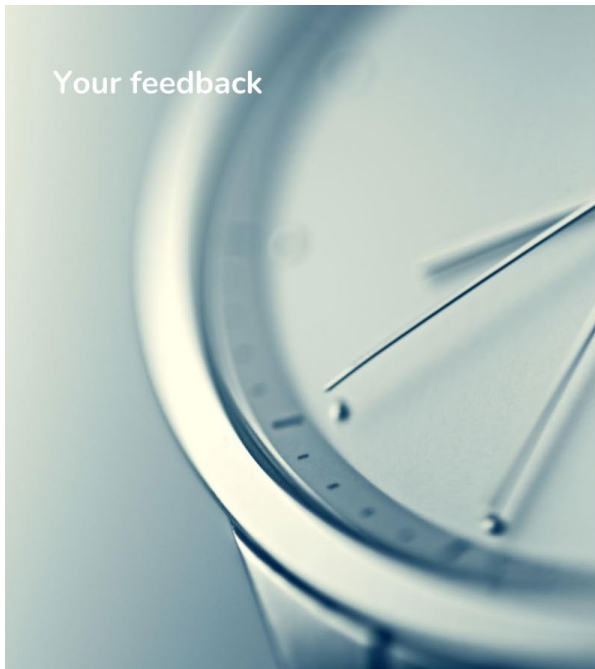
## Tillbridge Solar SoCC – key principles



- We will be consulting with local communities through sending information directly to a dedicated primary consultation zone. This is currently approximately 5,000 properties and will be refined as we continue to define our red line boundary for statutory consultation.
- This boundary is defined by a minimum of 2km from the red line boundary and considers factors such as zone of theoretical view.
- People will receive a consultation leaflet, which will also be sent electronically to key stakeholders, including parish councils, elected representatives and local interest groups.

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## Your feedback



- Your feedback is important in helping us to engage with local communities and stakeholders in the best way possible. We welcome your thoughts/suggestions on:
  - All principles set out in the draft SoCC.
  - Where we hold our consultation events.
  - Who we engage with, including the extent of our consultation zone and suggestions for local interest/seldom heard groups.
  - Any specific briefings you would like us to hold ahead of/during our consultation.
  - The timing and length of our statutory consultation period, including the impact of the local elections in May 2023.
- We will be asking you for your feedback **informally** on our Draft Statement of Community Consultation until Friday 13 January 2023.
- This will then be followed by a formal **28 days** to provide your comments, which can be received by email. This will take place in 2023.
- Please let us know if you will not be able to provide comments in this time or if you have any clarification questions to help inform your response.

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## **Appendix B-3: Draft SoCC supplied for informal consultation (December 2022)**



# **Tillbridge Solar Draft Statement of Community Consultation**

For informal consultation – December 2022

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## Section 1: Introduction

### 1.1 Purpose of the document

1.1.1 Tillbridge Solar Limited ("we" or "the Applicant") is preparing a Development Consent Order (DCO) application under the Planning Act 2008 for a new solar energy and storage scheme located on land to south, east and south east of Gainsborough and to the north west of Lincoln ("the Application").

1.1.2 This document is a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) which sets out how we intend to consult people ahead of our application for development consent for the Tillbridge Solar scheme (hereinafter referred to as the "Scheme").

1.1.3 The Scheme is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) under sections 14(1)(a) and 15(2) of the Planning Act 2008 (the Act) and requires consent from the Secretary of State (SoS) for Business, Energy, and Industrial Strategy (BEIS), via a DCO. Accordingly, this SoCC has been prepared pursuant to section 47(1) of the Act which requires applicants to 'prepare a statement setting out how the applicant proposes to consult about the proposed application with people living in the vicinity of the land' and Regulation 12 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (the Regulations) which outlines the requirements for such statements in respect of environmental information.

1.1.4 This SoCC has been prepared with reference to guidance on pre-application consultation published by the Government and the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) and sets out the approach to consultation with the community in the vicinity of the Scheme.

1.1.5 In accordance with section 47 paragraphs (2) to (5) of the Act, in developing this SoCC, we are consulting with and will have regard to comments from the following section 43(1) local planning authorities:

- West Lindsey District Council;
- Bassetlaw District Council;
- Lincolnshire County Council; and
- Nottinghamshire County Council.

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- 1.1.6 In accordance with section 47, paragraph (6) of the Act, the Applicant will be publishing this document in a newspaper circulating in the vicinity of the land. It will also be shared with neighbouring local planning authorities upon publication.
- 1.1.7 The document outlines how people can learn more about the Scheme and engage with the process, prior to an application for development consent being submitted, provides a brief overview of what we are proposing to develop and what we will be consulting on, and the statutory pre-application consultation process.
- 1.1.8 This document also describes consultation on the Scheme in relation to other solar DCO consultations in the area.
- 1.1.9 Additionally, it sets out how we will have regard to consultation responses in finalising the proposals for the Scheme, which will be submitted as an application for development consent to the SoS.

## Section 2: Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects

- 2.1.1 As the Scheme is an onshore generating station located in England with a proposed generation capacity of more than 50 megawatts (MW), the Scheme will be classified as an NSIP in accordance with sections 14(1)(a) and 15(2) of the Act. The consenting regime for NSIPs comes under the Act and requires the Applicant to apply for a DCO to develop the Scheme.
- 2.1.2 The Applicant intends to submit an application for a DCO under section 37 of the Act to PINS.
- 2.1.3 The Application would be examined by an examining authority appointed through PINS – the independent body responsible for examining NSIPs – who would make a recommendation on the application to the SoS. The SoS makes the final decision on a DCO application. This process is explained further in **Figure 2.1**.
- 2.1.4 Before submitting an application, the Act requires us to carry out consultation with people living in the vicinity of the land and prescribed stakeholders.
- 2.1.5 Early involvement of communities, local authorities and other stakeholders helps to ensure we identify valuable information about the potential effects of the Scheme and provides an opportunity for early feedback from stakeholders to help shape the Scheme's development.

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2.1.6 Early involvement also ensures that potential mitigation measures can be considered and, where appropriate, built into our designs before an application for development consent is submitted.

2.1.7 The Planning Act 2008 process is shown in **Figure 2.1** and in more detail on the Planning Inspectorate's website:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/application-process/the-process/>

2.1.8 PINS has also published a range of advice notes, which intend to inform applicants, consultees, the public and others about a range of process matters in relation to the Planning Act 2008 process. This includes advice note eight, which provides more detail on this process. All advice notes can be found on PINS' website:

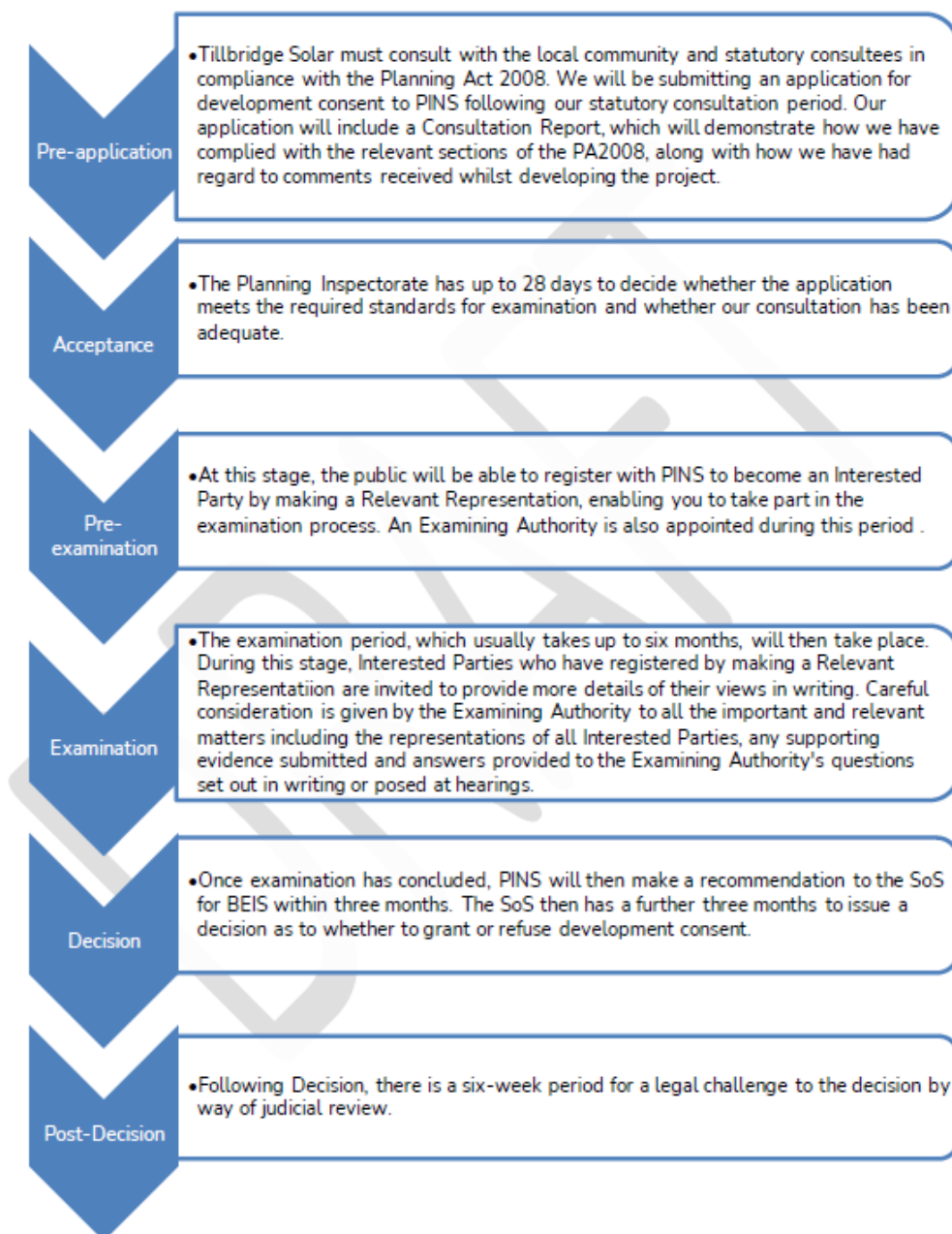
<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/legislation-and-advice/advice-notes/>

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Figure 2.1: Summary of the planning process for Tillbridge Solar



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## Section 3: About Tillbridge Solar

### 3.1 The Developer

#### *Tillbridge Solar Limited*

3.1.1 Tillbridge Solar Limited is a joint venture between Tribus Clean Energy Ltd and Canadian Solar, who are both experienced developers of renewable energy projects. We are being supported by a team of technical specialists.

3.1.2 Founded in 2018, Tribus Clean Energy Ltd specialises in the development of renewable energy projects and has a UK solar PV development pipeline of over 1.5 gigawatts (GW) and a pipeline of over three gigawatt hours (GWh) of Battery and Energy Storage Systems (BESS).

3.1.3 Founded in 2001, Canadian Solar is a leading manufacturer of solar PV modules and provider of solar energy solutions and has a UK solar development pipeline of over 2GW, with over 4GWh of BESS.

## Section 4: The Scheme

### 4.1 The proposed development

4.1.1 The Scheme is located approximately five kilometres (km) to the east of Gainsborough and approximately 13 km to the north of Lincoln.

4.1.2 The Scheme comprises two distinct sections, which are:

- 'the Principal Site', which is the location where ground mounted solar photovoltaic (PV) panels, electrical substations and energy storage facilities will be installed; and
- 'the Cable Route Corridor', which will comprise the underground electrical infrastructure required to connect the Principal Site to the national transmission system.

4.1.3 The Principal Site covers an area of approximately 1,400 hectares (ha) and is located entirely within the administrative area of West Lindsey District Council. The Principal Site comprises:

- Developable areas – where all solar PV panels and associated infrastructure



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would be located. This area sits on approximately 900 ha of predominantly agricultural land; and

- Non-developable areas – areas that are being considered for mitigation and enhancement, such as tree planting and habitat creation. This area amounts to approximately 500 hectares.

4.1.4 The electricity generated from the Scheme would then connect to National Grid's Cottam substation in Nottinghamshire. The Applicant has secured a Bilateral Connection Agreement (BCA) with National Grid to allow 500MW of renewable energy to be transferred in to and out of their substation. We are now working to refine our proposals to ensure the Scheme can generate as much energy as possible in line with this agreement.

4.1.5 The underground Cable Route Corridor would be approximately 16 km in length, and crosses the administrative areas of West Lindsey District Council and Bassetlaw District Council.

4.1.6 The parameters of the Scheme within the Principal Site are at an early stage in the design process and will be refined as the Scheme progresses, taking into account environmental and technical factors, and consultation responses. An indicative parameter plan has been derived providing a snapshot in time showing the potential locations of the key components of the Scheme. This includes the location of the solar PV modules, the battery energy storage system, transformer stations, switchgear, two sub-stations, control room and storage facilities and the access into and through the site for construction and maintenance.

4.1.7 The Scheme would consist of the following principal infrastructure:

- Solar PV modules;
- PV module mounting structures – fixing the PV panels together in groups known as strings;
- String combiner boxes;
- Solar Direct Current (DC)/Alternating Current (AC) Invertors – required to convert the DC electricity collected by the solar PV modules into AC, allowing electricity generated to be exported to the National Grid;
- Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) – providing peak generation and grid balancing services;

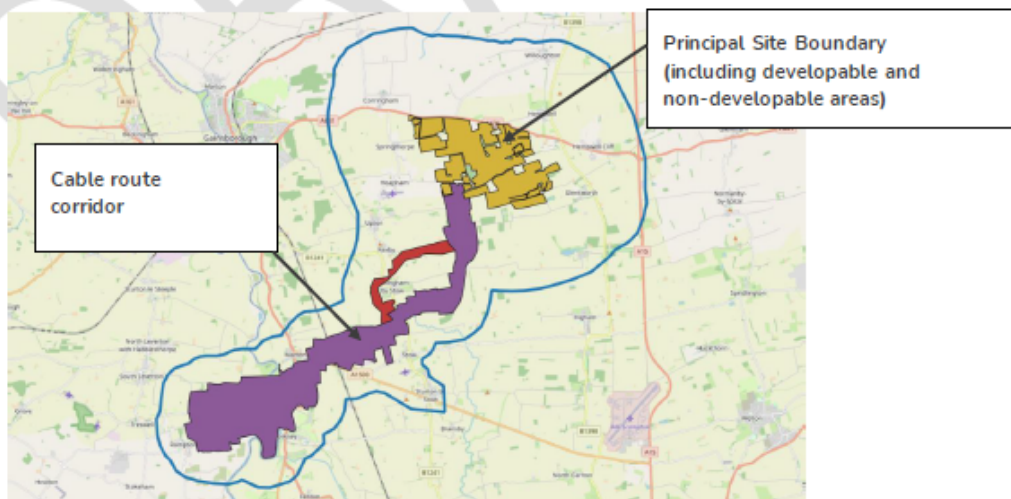


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- Battery DC/DC convertors – which manages the charge and discharge of the battery;
- Low voltage (LV)/Medium Voltage (MV) transformer stations including switchgear – which control the voltage of electricity generated across the site before it reaches the substation;
- MV/HV transformer stations and switch gear;
- On-site cabling – required to connect the solar PV modules and BESS to inverters, and the inverters to the transformers on-site;
- Weather monitoring stations;
- Fencing and security measures;
- Building with control room and operation/maintenance facilities, including storage;
- Grid connection and HV cable route;
- Main access into the site for construction purposes off the main highway; and
- Access tracks for construction and maintenance.

**Figure 4.1: Proposed Principal Site Boundary and cable route corridor for Tillbridge Solar (to be refined for final document)**



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## 4.2 Vision and objectives

4.2.1 Our vision for the Scheme is to deliver cleaner, greener, and lower cost energy, while also enhancing the local environment and ensuring we are a responsible developer.

4.2.2 Our objectives are to:

- Build a solar farm that will contribute to the UK's zero-carbon future and support Lincolnshire's transition to Net Zero.
- Provide equivalent energy needs for around 200,000 households with low-cost energy, generated in the UK at a time of great uncertainty within the energy market.
- Increase biodiversity and enhance existing ecology, to achieve Biodiversity Net Gain and maximise opportunities to create new habitats for wildlife.
- Develop a Scheme in a responsible and considerate way, including collaboration with other local developers.
- Provide opportunities for community involvement from an early stage.
- Ensure the retention of existing woodland and hedgerows where possible and the inclusion of new woodland, hedgerows and planting to enhance the landscape.
- Provide opportunities for local communities and the local economy.

## 4.3 Environmental Impact Assessment

4.3.1 The Scheme is an 'environmental impact assessment (EIA) development' under the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017.

4.3.2 The application for development consent will therefore require an Environmental Impact Assessment ('EIA') to be carried out to ensure the likely significant effects of the Scheme are properly understood and that where available, appropriate mitigation measures are identified to control or reduce environmental effects.

4.3.3 An EIA Scoping Opinion was issued by PINS on 4 November 2022. This identifies the environmental issues and topics relevant to the Scheme, and which should be assessed as part of the EIA. The Scoping Opinion is available to view on the PINS website at: <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/east->

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[midlands/tillbridge-solar-project/?ipcsection=docs](https://www.midlands/tillbridge-solar-project/?ipcsection=docs)

- 4.3.4 A Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) will be produced and publicised and consulted upon as part of the statutory consultation. A Non-Technical Summary (NTS) will also be available, which will summarise the contents of the PEIR in a non-technical manner.
- 4.3.5 The PEIR will build upon the findings from the Scoping Report (submitted in September 2022) and the feedback received through early engagement with stakeholders. It will provide preliminary environmental information on the potential environmental effects of the Scheme and any proposed mitigation to help the local community and consultation bodies to understand the likely significant environmental effects of the Scheme on the environment and inform responses regarding the proposals.
- 4.3.6 We will be inviting feedback and comments on the information presented in the PEIR as part of the statutory consultation. Feedback received will be considered before the DCO application and EIA are finalised for submission.
- 4.3.7 All final environmental findings will be set out in an Environmental Statement (ES), which will form part of the DCO application. The ES will set out the assessment and conclusions of the EIA process. It will build on the content of the PEIR and incorporate the responses from the statutory consultation, stakeholder engagement and the results of surveys undertaken. It will also describe any changes to the project and any mitigation measures that need to be implemented. Consultation and engagement approach

#### **4.4 Aims, objectives and values**

- 4.4.1 The Applicant is committed to engaging and consulting with communities and stakeholders at an early stage of the Scheme, giving people the opportunity to provide feedback and insight at a formative stage ahead of more detailed design work being carried out.
- 4.4.2 The Applicant is committed to being a good, long-term neighbour and wants to ensure that we can build a solar Scheme that benefits the local area.
- 4.4.3 We are undertaking an iterative consultation process for the Scheme. The comments we receive will help inform the final design of the Scheme. Our consultation consists of two broad phases:

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- Ongoing engagement, held from summer 2022 to early-mid 2023; and
- Statutory consultation period lasting for 6 weeks, to be held in 2023

4.4.4 This SoCC relates to the carrying out of the statutory consultation, however a summary of the ongoing engagement and statutory consultation is provided below.

#### 4.5 Ongoing engagement

4.5.1 The initial stage of engagement began in summer 2022 and is ongoing until the start of the statutory consultation in 2023, and beyond.

4.5.2 The primary aim of our initial engagement was to introduce our early-stage proposals for the Scheme, including the early environmental assessments and site selection work carried out to date.

4.5.3 During this initial stage of engagement, we engaged collaboratively with stakeholders to help understand key issues and potential constraints in the local area.

4.5.4 This ongoing period of non-statutory consultation provided the opportunity to engage with key stakeholders on a regular basis, including providing a series of Scheme updates prior to the statutory consultation in 2023.

4.5.5 A summary of activities carried out during this stage of engagement is provided in Table 4.1, with a more detail on specific consultation activities, including the collaboration workshops, also provided below.

**Table 4.1: Ongoing non-statutory consultation activities for Tillbridge Solar**

Consultation activity	Summary of activity
Early engagement with local planning authorities	Engagement with host local planning authorities started in June 2022 with initial briefings on the Scheme. We engaged with authorities on the approach to consultation and engagement and held specific briefings with their members to provide an overview of the early-stage proposals.

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<p>Site visits with landowners and near neighbours</p>	<p>Engagement also included meeting with near neighbours to the principal site where we introduced our early-stage plans and discussed the Scheme from a landscape and visual perspective.</p> <p>Through a mix of pre-arranged meetings and a 'door-knocking' exercise, a total of 19 properties/sets of interested parties were met with across three separate site visits. This enabled local comments and issues to be fed into the Scheme design.</p> <p>A summary of the site visits, and relevant changes made to the Scheme, is provided in the Tillbridge Solar post-collaboration workshop report (September 2022), which can be found on the Scheme website.</p> <p>Site visits with near neighbours have taken place on a regular basis, which has helped to continually refine the Scheme design and inform the proposals for the statutory consultation.</p>
<p>Collaboration workshops</p>	<p>A series of collaboration workshops were held in July 2022 with the aim of identifying and understand the views and opinions of stakeholders and communities who may be affected by the Scheme.</p> <p>A summary of this approach to engagement is provided in <b>Section 4.6</b>.</p>



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<p>Ongoing engagement with consultees</p>	<p>Following the collaboration workshops, we have continued to engage with key stakeholders on the Scheme. Activities have included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Setting up regular meetings with local planning authorities</li> <li>• Circulating an initial community newsletter to local communities (defined by a primary consultation zone of approximately 4,000 addresses – as shown in Figure 4.1)</li> <li>• Offering and attending meetings with local stakeholders, including parish councils, local residents and landowners</li> <li>• Holding meetings with statutory/technical consultees to assist with the EIA process and design refinement</li> </ul>
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#### 4.6 Collaboration workshops – July 2022

4.6.1 As part of the early-stage engagement for the Scheme, we held a series of collaboration workshops to help understand key issues and potential constraints in the local area. This initial engagement has contributed towards the ongoing refinement of our plans for the Scheme and the information presented during our statutory consultation.

4.6.2 The workshops provided the opportunity to introduce the early-stage plans and explain more about the proposals and to create a platform for active participation in the design process.

4.6.3 Three collaboration workshops were held as follows:

- Wednesday 20 July 2022, from 1pm to 5pm, at Glentworth Village Hall, Stoney Lane, Glentworth, Lincolnshire, DN21 5DF
- Thursday 21 July 2022, from 2pm to 6pm, at Willingham Village Hall, High St,

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Willingham by Stow, Gainsborough, DN21 5JZ

- Friday 22 July 2022, from 10am to 2pm, at Sturton by Stow Village Hall, High St, Sturton by Stow, Lincoln, LN1 2AE

4.6.4 We invited key stakeholders to attend the collaboration workshops, who were selected as being representatives of persons with an interest in the Scheme, from a political, community and technical/environmental perspective. These stakeholders included:

- Relevant county, district, and ward councillors across the districts of West Lindsey and Bassetlaw and Counties of Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire
- Wider council Members, Portfolio Holders, and technical/planning officers
- Representatives of the local community, including parish councils and local interest/ community groups
- Statutory consultees and wider environmental/ technical stakeholders

4.6.5 The approach to engagement during this phase of the Scheme, including specific groups and stakeholders to be invited to the workshops, was discussed with the relevant local planning authorities before the workshops were held.

4.6.6 A range of information was presented during the workshops in order to provide a more detailed understanding of the Scheme and the work carried out to date. This included:

- An introduction to Tillbridge Solar and the needs case for the Scheme, including the location and key elements of the proposals
- The story so far, including site suitability and environmental constraints and opportunities
- A discussion of specific environmental topics in relation to how the Scheme is defined going forwards

4.6.7 Attendees at the workshops were invited to provide feedback and comments throughout the session and discuss the proposals in more detail to help inform this. A full summary of the collaboration workshops can be found in the **Tillbridge Solar post-collaboration workshop report (September 2022)**, which can be found on the Scheme website. This report was uploaded to the website and issued to all stakeholders invited to the workshops.

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## Section 5: Statutory consultation

### 5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 The statutory consultation will run for six weeks and will be held in 2023. All responses to the consultation must be received by **11:59pm** on the closing date.

5.1.2 Held in accordance with section 42 of the Act, this consultation will provide an opportunity for us update you on our proposals for the Scheme. More details on what we will be consulting on and how we propose to consult are listed below.

### 5.2 What will we consult on?

5.2.1 The aim of our pre-application consultation is to ensure that the community, landowners and tenants, stakeholders and technical consultees have the opportunity to understand and influence our proposals. The statutory consultation presents an opportunity to present the more detailed proposals and key refinements made in response to ongoing design work and feedback during the previous stage of engagement.

5.2.2 We will be seeking feedback on all aspects of our plans for the Scheme. This includes inviting comments on issues related (but not limited to):

- The Principal Site, including initial parameters associated with the Scheme and a cable route corridor
- Clear Scheme description, including issues relating to primary and second access to the Principal Site, Drainage Strategy and construction compounds
- Proposed traffic access route(s) and movements
- Preliminary information on environmental impacts as part of the published PEIR. A NTS will accompany the PEIR to summarise the contents of the PEIR in a non-technical manner
- Other plans, maps and documents to accompany the PEIR
- Anything else that you reasonably think we need to consider

5.2.3 The full PEIR, together with the NTS, will be made available electronically on the Scheme website. We will publicise as part of our statutory notices a service for requesting individual hard copies of technical documents, such as the Preliminary

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Environmental Information Report (PEIR), and the process and charge for supplying these.

### 5.3 Who are we consulting?

- 5.3.1 Our consultation process is open to anyone who may be interested in, or in any way feels impacted by our proposals for the Scheme. We welcome all views and will take them into account before we submit our DCO application.
- 5.3.2 In accordance with section 42 of the Act, the Applicant will be consulting with a range of statutory and non-statutory consultees, such as Natural England, the Environment Agency and relevant local planning authorities.
- 5.3.3 Under section 47 of the Act, the Applicant has a duty to consult people living in the vicinity of the land. We are seeking to consult with people who live in the vicinity of the Scheme, including people in areas where the Scheme may have a direct or indirect impact, either permanently or temporarily, as a result of construction, operation and maintenance or decommissioning of the Scheme.
- 5.3.4 Having considered these impacts, we have identified an appropriate primary consultation zone (PCZ) by initially extending a minimum distance of two kilometres from the boundary of the Principal Site Boundary – within which the solar PV panels, energy storage system, on-site substation and supporting infrastructure would be located. The PCZ also extends one kilometre from the edge of the cable route corridor for the grid connection.
- 5.3.5 The PCZ has also been extended in certain areas as considered proportionate. We have considered:
- Zone of theoretical visibility for the Scheme, which assesses areas in vicinity of the Scheme boundary which could experience a degree of visual impact;
  - Existing natural and human geographic boundaries, such as main roads;
  - Capturing entire communities, rather than excluding small numbers of properties;
  - Coverage of the host district council wards and parishes; and
  - Where we propose to undertake additional works to enable construction transport, equipment areas or road modifications.

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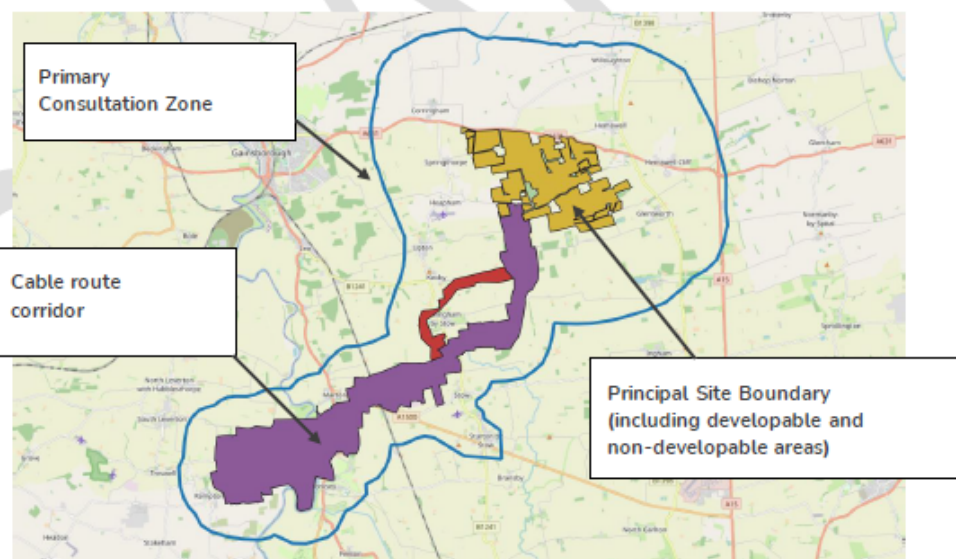


5.3.6 The zone has been extended further where proportionate and reasonable based on existing boundaries in order to avoid inappropriate 'severance' of communities. The PCZ is shown in Figure 5.1.

5.3.7 All homes and businesses within the PCZ will directly receive consultation leaflets in the post at the start of the consultation period. Consultation events will be held within the PCZ, where possible, and relevant groups and organisations such as parish councils and local interest groups will be notified of consultation opportunities.

5.3.8 We also recognise that people who live and work beyond the PCZ may also have an interest in our proposals and may wish to participate in the statutory consultation. We are committed to making sure that individuals and organisations are given the opportunity to participate and will attempt to raise awareness of the consultation using a number of methods such as advertising and direct communication with organisations located in the wider consultation zone. More details on these methods are outlined in Section 5.5: How we will consult.

Figure 5.1: Primary Consultation Zone for Tillbridge Solar (to be refined for final document)



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#### **5.4 Consultation with under-represented or seldom heard groups**

5.4.1 Our consultation has been developed to be accessible to all groups in the community, including 'under-represented' or 'seldom heard' groups and individuals who may be less likely to participate in or respond to traditional consultation techniques.

5.4.2 These groups and individuals that may find it harder to get involved in consultation and/or need additional support to access materials include, but are not limited to:

- The elderly
- People with visual impairments
- People within limited mobility
- Geographically isolated individuals or communities
- Young people

5.4.3 The specific methods to be used to engage with seldom heard groups are outlined in **Section 5.5: How we will consult**.

#### **5.5 How we will consult**

5.5.1 During this statutory consultation, we will use a range of methods to ensure an inclusive, meaningful and open consultation. We will use a range of digital and non-digital methods of communication to ensure that our consultation can be accessed by all members of the community.

5.5.2 Our statutory consultation is planned to take place for six weeks in 2023 and will exceed the statutory minimum period of 28 days as required by the Act).

5.5.3 A proposed schedule for all engagement methods, including activities and materials, is set out in **Table 5.1** below.

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**Table 5.1: Statutory consultation methods for Tillbridge Solar**

Consultation methods	
Method	Detail
Consultation events	<p>We will be holding five consultation events at locations across the PCZ. They will be advertised in consultation leaflets, across the local media and at local information points and through wider publicity for local community groups.</p> <p>We are looking to hold events in Glentworth, Corringham, Willingham by Stow, Sturton by Stow, Marton &amp; Gate Burton. Events will be held on different days of the week with varied hours to accommodate different availability, including on weekdays and at weekends. Final details of the events, including locations and timings, will be provided in the final SoCC, published prior to the start of the statutory consultation.</p> <p>Members of the Tillbridge Solar project team will be at these events to discuss the proposals in more detail and answer any questions. Hard copies of selected materials will also be available to view and take away, with all materials available in digital format via the Scheme website.</p>
Webinars	<p>Two webinars will be held for any member of the public to join via telephone or online. One webinar will be held near to the start of the consultation and one near to the end to present overview information about the Scheme, where participants can also ask questions.</p>



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<p>Telephone call backs</p>	<p>Members of the public will be able to request a call back from a member of the project team (subject to availability) on <b>0800 046 9643</b> or <a href="mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com">info@tillbridgesolar.com</a>. This information will be advertised in the consultation leaflet and on the Scheme website.</p>
<p>Local information points</p>	<p>Hard copies of consultation leaflets and feedback questionnaires, will be available to collect from a number of local information points located in the vicinity of the Scheme, including libraries and council offices. These documents will be available to collect from the start of the consultation period.</p> <p>A full copy of the PEIR and the non-technical summary will be available to view electronically at each local information point (subject to computer and internet availability) and via the Project website, with USBs also available free of charge, by request.</p> <p>A copy of this SoCC will also be able to inspect at these locations.</p> <p>We will check, by telephone, that consultation documentation remains at the information points throughout the consultation period.</p>
<p>Scheme website</p>	<p>A dedicated Scheme website (<a href="http://www.tillbridgesolar.com">www.tillbridgesolar.com</a>) is live for you to find out more information and provide your feedback.</p> <p>All consultation documents will be presented digitally and available for download, free of</p>

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	<p>charge, from a specific consultation section on the website. Information will be consistent with materials available at the consultation events.</p> <p>The latest plans, including the principal site boundary and cable route corridor, will be presented on an Interactive Map, which can be accessed through the Scheme website.</p>
Consultation materials	
Material	Detail
Statutory consultation booklet	A statutory consultation booklet will be published at the start of the consultation, providing a summary of the proposals we are consulting on, details of how people can take part, how feedback will be considered and how their feedback will be used to influence and shape the proposals.
Consultation leaflets	Consultation leaflets will be prepared to provide a high-level overview of the Scheme, the consultation and how people can get involved. The leaflet will indicate where the relevant Scheme information can be found and publicise the consultation events, including locations, dates and timings.
Feedback questionnaire	A feedback questionnaire will be prepared to allow people to provide feedback on the proposals. The questionnaire will ask people to provide feedback on all aspects of the Scheme, including particular issues we are seeking comment.



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	<p>The questionnaire can be completed online or downloaded if required and is also available in hard copy.</p>
<p>Preliminary Environmental Informational Report (PEIR) and Non-technical Summary</p>	<p>The PEIR will contain a description of the Scheme, a preliminary assessment of the potentially significant environmental effects and the initial strategies to mitigate adverse effects. The PEIR will be based on information available at that time, but the assessments will be developed once further detail is available and reported within an Environmental Statement submitted with the DCO application.</p> <p>An NTS of the PEIR can also be downloaded from the Scheme website and will be available in printed format free of charge on request from the community relations team and at the consultation events.</p>
<p>Technical Scheme documentation, including maps and plans of the Scheme</p>	<p>We will be producing technical maps and plans for the Scheme, which will be available to view at the consultation events and on the Scheme website.</p> <p>Plans showing the location and aspects of the Scheme will be available at all times during and following the consultation period.</p>
<p>Materials in alternative formats</p>	<p>Upon request, all documents will be available in alternative accessible formats, such as braille, speaking text and alternative languages. All requests should be made to the community relations team by email (<a href="mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com">info@tillbridgesolar.com</a>) or phone (0800 046 9643), or can be made to the project team at the consultation events.</p>

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5.5.4 All consultation documents can be downloaded free of charge from the Scheme website., with hard copy documents also available at the consultation events.

5.5.5 We will publicise as part of our statutory notices a service for requesting individual hard copies of technical documents, such as the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR), and the process and charge for supplying these. A USB containing all Scheme documentation can be requested free of charge from the community relations team.

5.5.6 In the event of changing Government guidelines due to COVID-19, or other unforeseen circumstances meaning the consultation events must be cancelled, or the display of materials prevented, the Applicant will inform people as early as possible of the cancellation or expected change via the project website and electronic communication with key stakeholders.

5.5.7 In the event of face-to-face consultation events being cancelled, replacement online events will be organised, which will provide the same information as presented at the in-person events.

## 5.6 Promoting the consultation

5.6.1 We will use a variety of methods to make people aware of the Scheme and advertise the statutory consultation. These methods are outlined in Table 5.2 below.

**Table 5.2: Methods for promoting the statutory consultation for Tillbridge Solar**

Method	Detail
Consultation leaflet	Consultation leaflets will be posted to all homes and businesses in the PCZ at the start of the statutory consultation period. The leaflet will also be issued to wider consultees by email, including local planning authorities, parish councils, local interest groups and technical consultees.
Press releases	To promote awareness of the Scheme and the consultation both within and beyond the PCZ we will publish a press release at the start of the consultation. This will be sent to the following local and regional media outlets:

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BBC Look North</li> <li>• BBC Radio Lincolnshire</li> <li>• BBC Radio Nottingham</li> <li>• The Gainsborough Standard</li> <li>• The Grantham Journal</li> <li>• The Lincolnite</li> <li>• Lincolnshire Echo</li> <li>• Lincolnshire Free Press</li> <li>• Lincolnshire in Focus</li> <li>• Lincolnshire Life</li> <li>• Lincolnshire Live</li> <li>• Lincolnshire Reporter</li> <li>• Lincolnshire Today</li> <li>• Lincolnshire World</li> <li>• Market Rasen Mail</li> <li>• Nottinghamshire in Focus</li> <li>• Nottinghamshire Live</li> <li>• Nottingham Local News</li> <li>• Nottingham Post</li> </ul>
<p>Newspaper advertisements</p>	<p>Two rounds of newspaper advertisements will be undertaken – one before and one during the consultation. Advertisements will provide details of the consultation, where more information can be found, how to respond, and the dates of the engagement activities.</p> <p>Advertisements will be placed in both print and digital publications to ensure wider coverage within and beyond the</p>

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	<p>core and wider consultation zones. The publications could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lincolnshire Live</li> <li>• The Lincolnlite</li> <li>• Lincolnshire World</li> <li>• Lincolnshire Echo</li> <li>• Gainsborough Standard</li> <li>• Retford Times</li> <li>• Lincolnshire Life</li> <li>• Retford Life</li> <li>• Gainsborough Life</li> <li>• Market Rasen Mail</li> </ul> <p>A specific list of advertisements will be provided in the final SoCC.</p>
<p>Stakeholder briefings</p>	<p>We will issue communications to key stakeholders, including local political representatives (Councillors and MPs) and local planning authority Members and Parish Council clerks representing wards, constituencies, and parishes within the consultation zone to provide information about the proposals we are consulting on and invite them to take part in the consultation.</p> <p>We will also offer briefings and organise online webinars with these stakeholders to provide information about the consultation. We will consider invitations to, or requests for, meetings with other local groups or special interest organisations on a case-by-case basis.</p>
<p>Emails and letters</p>	<p>We will send either emails or hard copy letters about the consultation and how to get involved to the following:</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• host constituency and neighbouring constituency area MPs;</li> <li>• elected representatives at West Lindsey District Council, Bassetlaw District Council, Nottinghamshire County Council and Lincolnshire County Council</li> <li>• host parish councils;</li> <li>• neighbouring local authorities;</li> <li>• neighbouring parish councils; and</li> <li>• local interest groups, such as community and environmental groups.</li> </ul> <p>Formal notifications will be issued to stakeholders as required in accordance with section 42 of the Act.</p>
Statutory notices	Statutory notices to publicise the consultation in accordance with section 48 of the Act will be published once in a national newspaper (The Guardian) and the London Gazette and twice (across two successive weeks) in local circulating papers (Lincolnshire Echo, Retford Times and Gainsborough Standard).
Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC)	This SoCC document will be made available online as part of the consultation and in hard copy at the consultation events.
Information posters	<p>Posters including details of the consultation, how to access Scheme information, and how to get involved, will be displayed at well-used public locations within and outside of the PCZ, including libraries, shops and civic buildings. These will be hosted in agreement with relevant groups and venues, including where consultation events will take place.</p> <p>Information posters will also be sent to all host and neighbouring parish councils to help raise awareness of the consultation.</p>



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## 5.7 Wider engagement

5.7.1 Ongoing engagement with relevant stakeholders will be undertaken ahead of the launch of the statutory consultation, including local authorities, MPs, the Environment Agency, Natural England, and Historic England (where possible) and with local interest groups, residents, and landowners who get in touch.

## 5.8 Engagement with seldom heard groups

5.8.1 We are committed to ensuring that our consultation is accessible and inclusive for all stakeholders, includes groups and individuals that may find it harder to get involved in consultation and/or need additional support to access materials.

5.8.2 Consultation methods used to engage with these groups are set out below. We will continue to liaise with local groups representing seldom heard organisations to ensure accessibility to the consultation and that materials can be made available in the appropriate format.

- Providing details about how information on the Scheme can be accessed, including online and hard copy.
- Providing materials in alternative formats, including dementia friendly, Braille and large print (upon request).
- Assisting with providing feedback where possible, including via the communications lines and at face-to-face consultation events.

## 5.9 Information channels

5.9.1 The following enquiry channels will continue to be available throughout the consultation for members of the community and other stakeholders to get in touch with the project team, ask questions, request further information or request printed copies of consultation materials and documents. These channels are provided in Table 5.3. These communication channels will continue to be active throughout the pre-application period.

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**Table 5.3: Information channels for Tillbridge Solar**

Method	Contact details	Hours of operation
Online	Website enquiries available via <a href="http://www.tillbridgesolar.com">www.tillbridgesolar.com</a>	Enquiries can be submitted 24 hours a day. We will aim to issue a response within five working days of receipt.
Telephone	<u>0800 046 9643</u>	9am–5:30pm weekdays (with an answerphone facility to take messages outside these hours).
Email	<a href="mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com">info@tillbridgesolar.com</a>	People can email 24 hours a day, with emails being monitored between 9am and 5:30pm weekdays. We will aim to issue a responses within five working days of receipt.
Post	FREEPOST TILLBRIDGE SOLAR (please note that you do not need a stamp)	Should enquiries received via post require a response, this will be issued within five working days of receipt. Urgent enquiries should be directed to the Scheme’s email address.

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## Section 6: Responding to the consultation

### 6.1 How to respond to the consultation

6.1.1 Feedback to the consultation should be submitted in writing or online to the Scheme by **11:59pm** on the closing date. Responses received after that date may not be considered.

6.1.2 Consultation responses can be made in the following ways:

- Completing the feedback questionnaire online, which can be accessed via the Scheme website: [www.tillbridgesolar.com](http://www.tillbridgesolar.com)
- Attending a consultation event and completing a printed feedback questionnaire, which can be handed to the project team in person, or taken a way and sent to use via freepost (using FREEPOST TILLBRIDGE SOLAR). Questionnaires can also be collected from one of our local information points or requested from the community relations team, as detailed in **Table 5.3**.
- Emailing [info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com)
- Writing to us at FREEPOST TILLBRIDGE SOLAR (please note that no stamp is required) (please note that you do not need a stamp)

### 6.2 How we will use consultation feedback

6.2.1 When our statutory consultation closes, we will have regard to all comments received. All feedback, including ongoing engagement with communities and stakeholders, is important to us and will help influence our designs for the Scheme.

6.2.2 Once we have reviewed and finalised our proposed application, we will produce a Consultation Report, which set out how the feedback from the pre-application consultation has shaped and influenced our proposed application.

6.2.3 This Consultation Report will be submitted to the SoS for BEIS as part of the DCO application.

6.2.4 Any comments received could be made public, but no personal information will be published. Any personal data received as part of the Consultation will be stored and protected in accordance with the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulation. The privacy notice for those visiting the Scheme website is available

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at: <https://tillbridgesolar.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Tillbridge-Solar-Privacy-Policy.pdf>

## Section 7: Further consultation

7.1.1 If, following the statutory consultation, we consider it is necessary to undertake further targeted or supplementary consultation, this would be undertaken, so far as relevant and proportionate, in accordance with the principles and methods set out in this SoCC.

## Section 8: Other solar DCO consultations in the area

8.1.1 We are aware there are a number of other proposed solar developments in the area and understand the need to ensure that communities in the area are aware of the other proposals, notably Low Carbon's plans for Gate Burton Energy Park and Island Green Power's plans for Cottam Solar and West Burton Solar. A map showing the location of the Scheme in relation to other solar developments will be available in the final version of this document, to be published before our statutory consultation.

8.1.2 We have been and will continue to work constructively with these other developers to ensure:

- People are easily able to engage with our consultation processes and have opportunities to get involved, including ensuring that consultation periods are distinct and do not clash.
- All environmental effects are fully assessed, including any cumulative impacts.
- A common-sense approach to construction is taken in order to minimise disruption, including sharing infrastructure and construction timelines, where feasible.
- Shared infrastructure is used where possible, such as a cable route corridor.

8.1.3 We have been in conversation with Low Carbon and Island Green Power in regard to their Cottam and West Burton Solar Projects and Gate Burton Energy Park, respectively. These conversations, which have been held on a regular basis since,

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have taken place with the purpose of understanding the progress of each respective project, how they interact with each other and how information and proposals can be shared. This includes work to support the refinement of the Scheme's cable route corridor, with view to sharing a common route, where possible.

- 8.1.4 Our statutory consultation materials will indicate to local communities how our proposals for the Scheme relate to proposals from Low Carbon and Island Green Power, with information up to date and correct at the time of finalisation and publication of the Scheme's PEIR (2023).

## Section 9: Contact details

- 9.1.1 Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you would like to find out more information about the Scheme. You can get in touch with members of our community relations team using any of the communications lines listed in **Table 5.3**.

- 9.1.2 Should you require any documents in large print, audio or Braille then please contact us using the details provided. All graphs and maps in this document are for illustrative purposes only.



## Appendix B-4: Letters issues to LPAs and draft SoCC

### B-4.1: Letters issued to LPAs on 13 February 2023

#### B-4.1.1: Letter issued to Bassetlaw District Council



Clare Cook  
Development Management Team Manager  
Bassetlaw District Council  
Queens Buildings  
Potter Street  
Worksop  
S80 2AH

Sent via email to: [REDACTED] (cc: [REDACTED])

[planning@bassetlaw.gov.uk](mailto:planning@bassetlaw.gov.uk)

Monday 13 February 2023

Dear Clare,

**Subject: Tillbridge Solar**

**Planning Act 2008 Section 47: Duty to Consult Local Community – Request for comments on the draft Statement of Community Consultation**

Please find enclosed the draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) for the Tillbridge Solar scheme. In accordance with the requirements of section 47(2) of the Planning Act 2008 we are formally issuing this to you in order to obtain your comments which we will have regard to in the version which we will subsequently carry out our consultation in accordance with.

Further to our previous correspondence and engagement with you, including your initial informal review of this document between 20 December 2022 and 13 January 2023, we are now able to share an updated version of the SoCC for your comments as provided for pursuant to section 47(3) of the Planning Act 2008. This document provides updated details on the scheme, who we will be consulting, how we will consult them, where our consultation documents will be located, when our consultation events will take place and how people can give us their views.

Further to this, we have also provided a list of your previous comments and how these have been addressed, as shown in **Appendix A**.

In accordance with Section 47 (3) of the Planning Act 2008 the deadline for the receipt of your response to this consultation is 28 days from receipt of this letter.

Please respond to this letter with your comments on the draft SoCC by 11.59pm on Tuesday 14 March 2023. Comments can be received by email, either to [info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com) or [REDACTED]



Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any queries or wish to discuss the approach to consultation in more detail.

Yours sincerely

Caroline Reeve

Associate Director  
AECOM, acting on behalf of Tillbridge Solar



**Appendix A – Informal comments on draft SoCC and response to comments from Tillbridge Solar**

Comment	Response to comments
<b>Bassetlaw District Council</b>	
This reads well	Comment noted
The communities of North Leverton, South Leverton, and Treswell (in Bassetlaw) appear to be just outside the primary consultation zone, and may benefit from being included. Elements of the three parishes are included already (hence the parish councils will likely be consulted), but the majority of households are currently outside the boundary.	Comment noted. The PCZ has now been extended to include these communities.
At least one event in Bassetlaw would be welcome, as although proximate 'as the crow flies', the proposed venues are a more significant distant from the impacted Bassetlaw communities when travelling by road, and particularly difficult to reach via public transport.	Comment noted. One event is proposed in Rampton, Nottinghamshire.
Additional outlets of relevance to the Bassetlaw communities would include BBC East Midlands, BBC Look North (Yorkshire), ITV Calendar, Notts TV, and Retford Times.	The suggested outlets have been added as relevant outlets to issue press releases to.
Yes, please; this will be really useful	Noted, a map showing all relevant solar developments has been included as <b>Appendix B</b> , with an updated version to be provided.

## B-4.1.2: Letter issued to Lincolnshire County Council

The logo for Tillbridge Solar, featuring the word "Tillbridge" in a large, white, sans-serif font with a small orange dot above the 'i', and the word "Solar" in a smaller, white, sans-serif font below it, all set against a blue rectangular background.

Neil McBride  
Head of Planning  
Lincolnshire County Council  
County Offices  
Newland  
Lincoln  
LN1 1YL

Sent via email to : [REDACTED] (cc: [REDACTED])  
[dev\\_planningsupport@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:dev_planningsupport@lincolnshire.gov.uk)

Monday 13 February 2023

Dear Neil,

**Subject: Tillbridge Solar**

**Planning Act 2008 Section 47: Duty to Consult Local Community – Request for comments on the draft Statement of Community Consultation**

Please find enclosed the draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) for the Tillbridge Solar scheme. In accordance with the requirements of section 47(2) of the Planning Act 2008 we are formally issuing this to you in order to obtain your comments which we will have regard to in the version which we will subsequently carry out our consultation in accordance with.

Further to our previous correspondence and engagement with you, including your initial informal review of this document between 20 December 2022 and 13 January 2023, we are now able to share an updated version of the SoCC for your comments as provided for pursuant to section 47(3) of the Planning Act 2008. This document provides updated details on the scheme, who we will be consulting, how we will consult them, where our consultation documents will be located, when our consultation events will take place and how people can give us their views.

Further to this, we have also provided a list of your previous comments and how these have been addressed, as shown in **Appendix A**.

In accordance with Section 47 (3) of the Planning Act 2008 the deadline for the receipt of your response to this consultation is 28 days from receipt of this letter.

Please respond to this letter with your comments on the draft SoCC by 11.59pm on Tuesday 14 March 2023. Comments can be received by email, either to [info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com) or [REDACTED]

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any queries or wish to discuss the approach to consultation in more detail.

1



Yours sincerely

Caroline Reeve

Associate Director  
AECOM, acting on behalf of Tillbridge Solar





**Appendix A – Informal comments on draft SoCC and response to comments from Tillbridge Solar**

Comment	Response to comments
<b>Lincolnshire County Council</b>	
Some areas to consider including or expanding on in the SoCC (To be in line with other SoCCs for similar projects)  Reference is made to seldom heard groups, but strategies for reaching out to them are short on detail.	More detail around consultation with seldom heard groups has been added to Section 5.4, specifically around contact with groups before the consultation period.
Include more detail on specific local seldom heard groups or minority groups / bodies or organisations that represent them (e.g. traveller communities)	The list of seldom heard groups to be contacted ahead of the consultation is provided in <b>Appendix A: Consultee lists</b> . A footnote has also been added to state that we will be contacting relevant representatives/officers from Local planning authorities.
Consider referencing other groups e.g. working families and meeting their needs	More detail on consultation events and efforts to accommodate groups, such as working families, has been provided in Table 5.1 – 'Consultation Events'. This includes holding events during the evening and at weekends to give them the opportunity to attend.
Project timeline is present but could include more specific dates	An indicative consultation timeline has been added as Figure 4.2.
Consider including visual diagrammatic explanation of the scheme in this document (although reference is made to this being available at a later date)	A diagram showing key elements of the scheme (to be presented at the statutory consultation) will be provided at the point of final publication of this SoCC. This will be shown in Section 4.1 – The proposed development.
Reference should be made to engagement with local businesses	Table 5.2 notes that all local businesses within the primary consultation zone will be sent a consultation leaflet, inviting them to take part in the consultation and attend a consultation event. Section 5.7 also noted that where identified, local businesses and representatives of business groups will be contacted at the start of the consultation period to help raise awareness of the consultation.
Consider including detail of statutory and non-statutory stakeholders (lists)	The list of consultees to be engaged as part of this consultation is provided in <b>Appendix A</b> of the draft SoCC.



Reference should be made to an Equality Impact Assessment being carried out, detailing the positive and negative impacts of the scheme on people with protected characteristics	Reference to the completion of an Equality Impact Assessment is made in Section 5. This will be undertaken and submitted as part of the application to support the Examining Authority and Secretary of State in its decision-making.
Provision of a FAQ document	Table 5.1 notes that FAQs will be available at the start of the consultation period.
Specific information on the locations / venues for public information events.  This information should include the locations themselves / their suitability (e.g., accessibility)	The six venues we are looking to use for the consultation are listed in Table 5.1. Final details around dates and times are still to be confirmed and will be provided at the point of final publication of this SoCC.  All venues are located within the Primary Consultation Zone and have full accessibility (including disabled access).
Dates and times of events to be held (including how account has been taken to ensure that they are made available to range of stakeholders. E.g., working families may require events beyond the normal working hours.)	This information has been provided in Table 5.1, including a summary of the events and locations. Dates and times are still to be confirmed, however will be organised to accommodate working families.
Possible telephone call back service to people who have questions and when this would be available (E.g., out of normal office hours when required to allow people to discuss the project at a suitable time for them.)	Information on telephone call backs is provided in Table 5.1. People are able to request a call back from a member of the project team at a time that is suitable to them.
Details of locations of where documents will be available including times of opening	Details of local information point locations and opening times (subject to agreement and availability) has now been provided in Table 5.1.
How social media will be used as a means to publicise the engagement; this should be an integral part of ensuring information is widely disseminated. This should include how other organisations will be encouraged to share social media posts to increase their reach into communities.	Information on how social media will be used is provided in Table 5.1.



Consider listing the local interest groups to be engaged with (e.g., local Wildlife Trusts).	A list of local interest groups to be engaged is provided in <b>Appendix A: Consultee lists</b> .
Consider listing when newspaper / radio / tv / media will be used to publicise the engagement.	Advertisements are currently being organised and specific dates for the advertisements will be provided in the final SoCC.
Consider using local commercial radio stations to publicise as well as BBC stations	We welcome suggestions for specific radio stations that can be used.

## B-4.1.3: Letter issued to Nottinghamshire County Council

The logo for Tillbridge Solar, featuring the word "Tillbridge" in a large, white, sans-serif font with a small orange dot above the 'i', and the word "Solar" in a smaller, white, sans-serif font below it, all set against a blue rectangular background.

Nina Wilson  
Principal Planner  
Nottinghamshire County Council  
County Hall  
West Bridgford  
NG2 7QP

Sent via email to: [REDACTED] (cc: [REDACTED])  
[planning.policy@nottscc.gov.uk](mailto:planning.policy@nottscc.gov.uk)

Monday 13 February 2023

Dear Nina,

**Subject: Tillbridge Solar**

**Planning Act 2008 Section 47: Duty to Consult Local Community – Request for comments on the draft Statement of Community Consultation**

Please find enclosed the draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) for the Tillbridge Solar scheme. In accordance with the requirements of section 47(2) of the Planning Act 2008 we are formally issuing this to you in order to obtain your comments which we will have regard to in the version which we will subsequently carry out our consultation in accordance with.

Further to our previous correspondence and engagement with you, including your initial informal review of this document between 20 December 2022 and 13 January 2023, we are now able to share an updated version of the SoCC for your comments as provided for pursuant to section 47(3) of the Planning Act 2008. This document provides updated details on the scheme, who we will be consulting, how we will consult them, where our consultation documents will be located, when our consultation events will take place and how people can give us their views.

In accordance with Section 47 (3) of the Planning Act 2008 the deadline for the receipt of your response to this consultation is 28 days from receipt of this letter.

Please respond to this letter with your comments on the draft SoCC by 11.59pm on Tuesday 14 March 2023. Comments can be received by email, either to [info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com) or [REDACTED]

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any queries or wish to discuss the approach to consultation in more detail.

Yours sincerely

Caroline Reeve

1



Associate Director, AECOM, acting on behalf of Tillbridge Solar



## B-4.1.4: Letter issued to West Lindsey District Council

The logo for Tillbridge Solar, featuring the word "Tillbridge" in a large, white, sans-serif font with a small orange dot above the 'i', and the word "Solar" in a smaller, white, sans-serif font below it, all set against a blue rectangular background.

Russell Clarkson  
Development Management Team Manager  
West Lindsey District Council  
Guildhall  
Marshall's Yard  
Gainsborough  
Lincolnshire  
DN21 2NA

Sent via email to: [REDACTED] (cc: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] [planning.applications@west-lindsey.gov.uk](mailto:planning.applications@west-lindsey.gov.uk))

Monday 13 February 2023

Dear Russell,

**Subject: Tillbridge Solar**

**Planning Act 2008 Section 47: Duty to Consult Local Community – Request for comments on the draft Statement of Community Consultation**

Please find enclosed the draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) for the Tillbridge Solar scheme. In accordance with the requirements of section 47(2) of the Planning Act 2008 we are formally issuing this to you in order to obtain your comments which we will have regard to in the version which we will subsequently carry out our consultation in accordance with.

Further to our previous correspondence and engagement with you, including your initial informal review of this document between 20 December 2022 and 13 January 2023, we are now able to share an updated version of the SoCC for your comments as provided for pursuant to section 47(3) of the Planning Act 2008. This document provides updated details on the scheme, who we will be consulting, how we will consult them, where our consultation documents will be located, when our consultation events will take place and how people can give us their views.

Further to this, we have also provided a list of your previous comments and how these have been addressed, as shown in **Appendix A**.

In accordance with Section 47 (3) of the Planning Act 2008 the deadline for the receipt of your response to this consultation is 28 days from receipt of this letter.

Please respond to this letter with your comments on the draft SoCC by 11.59pm on Tuesday 14 March 2023. Comments can be received by email, either to [info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com) or [REDACTED]



Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any queries or wish to discuss the approach to consultation in more detail.

Yours sincerely

Caroline Reeve

Associate Director  
AECOM, acting on behalf of Tillbridge Solar



**Appendix A – Informal comments on draft SoCC and response to comments from Tillbridge Solar**

Comment	Response to comments
<b>West Lindsey District Council</b>	
Paragraph 1.1.6 – it would be helpful to name the newspaper(s).	As now noted in Paragraph 1.1.6, the publication schedule, in accordance with section 47, will be provided as part of the final SoCC. Notices will be placed in the Lincolnshire Echo, Retford Times and Gainsborough Standard.
Paragraph 5.1.1 – we welcome a six week consultation, over and above the statutory 28 days.	Comment noted.
Paragraph 5.3.4 – we note the intended primary consultation zone (PCZ) will be a minimum of 2km, and will be extended in order not to sever communities (5.3.6).	Comment noted.
5.3.7 “Consultation events will be held within the PCZ, where possible” – will they, or won’t they?	This point has now been clarified to state that all venues are located within the PCZ.
Fig 5.1 is at quite a low scale – it would be more helpful to put a higher scale. It does however suggest that local settlements will be included in the PCZ.	Given the scale of the Scheme and the PCZ, this scale shows the entirety of the area covered. Figure 5.1 has now been updated to reflect the revised red line boundary and PCZ, ensuring all suitable local communities have been included.
Table 5.1 – We’d expect the final SoCC to set out dates and venues for consultation. We would suggest adding Hemswell and/or Hemswell Cliff. We agree to using webinars to “book-end” the consultations.	Hemswell and Harpswell Village Hall has now been added as an event venue. This will be used subject to availability.
8.1.1 – “A map showing the location of the Scheme in relation to other solar developments will be available.” We strongly encourage this.	Comment noted. An early version of this map (shown at the collaboration workshops in July 2022) has been included and will be updated for the final SoCC and as part of the statutory consultation.

## **B-4.2: Draft SoCC supplied for formal consultation (February 2023)**



# **Tillbridge Solar Draft Statement of Community Consultation**

For formal consultation – February 2023

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Updated draft – February 2023



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## Section 1: Introduction

### 1.1 Purpose of the document

- 1.1.1 Tillbridge Solar Limited ("we" or "the Applicant") is preparing a Development Consent Order (DCO) application under the Planning Act 2008 for a new solar energy and storage scheme located on land to south, east and south east of Gainsborough and to the north west of Lincoln ("the Application").
- 1.1.2 This document is a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) which sets out how we intend to consult people ahead of our application for development consent for the Tillbridge Solar scheme (hereinafter referred to as the "Scheme").
- 1.1.3 The Scheme is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) under sections 14(1)(a) and 15(2) of the Planning Act 2008 (the Act) and requires consent from the Secretary of State (SoS) for Business, Energy, and Industrial Strategy (BEIS), via a DCO. Accordingly, this SoCC has been prepared pursuant to section 47(1) of the Act which requires applicants to 'prepare a statement setting out how the applicant proposes to consult about the proposed application with people living in the vicinity of the land' and Regulation 12 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (the Regulations) which outlines the requirements for such statements in respect of environmental information.
- 1.1.4 This SoCC has been prepared with reference to guidance on pre-application consultation published by the Government and the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) and sets out the approach to consultation with the community in the vicinity of the Scheme.
- 1.1.5 In accordance with section 47 paragraphs (2) to (5) of the Act, in developing this SoCC, we are consulting with and will have regard to comments from the following section 43(1) local planning authorities:
- West Lindsey District Council;
  - Bassetlaw District Council;
  - Lincolnshire County Council; and
  - Nottinghamshire County Council.
- 1.1.6 In accordance with section 47, paragraph (6) of the Act, the Applicant will be publishing this document in a newspaper circulating in the vicinity of the land and will provide details of where the statement can be inspected.
- 1.1.7 It will also be shared with neighbouring local planning authorities upon publication. The publication schedule, will be provided as part of the final SoCC, with notices to be placed in the Lincolnshire Echo, Retford Times and Gainsborough Standard.
- 1.1.8 The document outlines how people can learn more about the Scheme and engage with the process, prior

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to an application for development consent being submitted, provides a brief overview of what we are proposing to develop and what we will be consulting on, and the statutory pre-application consultation process.

1.1.9 This document also describes consultation on the Scheme in relation to other solar DCO consultations in the area.

1.1.10 Additionally, it sets out how we will have regard to consultation responses in finalising the proposals for the Scheme, which will be submitted as an application for development consent to the SoS.

## Section 2: Nationally Significant infrastructure Projects

2.1.1 As the Scheme is an onshore generating station located in England with a proposed generation capacity of more than 50 megawatts (MW), the Scheme will be classified as an NSIP in accordance with sections 14(1)(a) and 15(2) of the Act. The consenting regime for NSIPs comes under the Act and requires the Applicant to apply for a DCO to develop the Scheme.

2.1.2 The Applicant intends to submit an application for a DCO under section 37 of the Act to PINS.

2.1.3 The Application would be examined by an examining authority appointed through PINS – the independent body responsible for examining NSIPs – who would make a recommendation on the application to the SoS. The SoS makes the final decision on a DCO application. This process is explained further in **Figure 2.1**.

2.1.4 Before submitting an application, the Act requires us to carry out consultation with people living in the vicinity of the land, prescribed consultation bodies, such as Natural England and relevant parish council's, relevant statutory undertakers, such as, the Environment Agency and Local Authorities and those with an interest in the land.

2.1.5 Early involvement of communities, local authorities and other stakeholders helps to ensure we identify valuable information about the potential effects of the Scheme and provides an opportunity for early feedback from stakeholders to help shape the Scheme's development.

2.1.6 Early involvement also ensures that potential mitigation measures can be considered and, where appropriate, built into our designs before an application for development consent is submitted.

2.1.7 The Planning Act 2008 process is shown in **Figure 2.1** and in more detail on the Planning Inspectorate's website: <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/application-process/the-process/>

2.1.8 PINS has also published a range of advice notes, which intend to inform applicants, consultees, the public and others about a range of process matters in relation to the Planning Act 2008 process. This includes advice note eight, which provides more detail on this process. All advice notes can be found on PINS' website: <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/legislation-and-advice/advice-notes/>



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Figure 2.1: Summary of the planning process for Tillbridge Solar







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## Section 3: About Tillbridge Solar

### 3.1 The Developer – Tillbridge Solar Limited

3.1.1 Tillbridge Solar Limited is a joint venture between Tribus Clean Energy Ltd and Canadian Solar, who are both experienced developers of renewable energy projects. We are being supported by a team of technical specialists.

3.1.2 Founded in 2018, Tribus Clean Energy Ltd specialises in the development of renewable energy projects and has a UK solar PV development pipeline of over 1.5 gigawatts (GW) and a pipeline of over three gigawatt hours (GWh) of Battery and Energy Storage Systems (BESS).

3.1.3 Founded in 2001, Canadian Solar is a leading manufacturer of solar PV modules and provider of solar energy solutions and has a UK solar development pipeline of over 2GW, with over 4GWh of BESS.

## Section 4: The Scheme

### 4.1 The proposed development

4.1.1 The Scheme is located approximately five kilometres (km) to the east of Gainsborough and approximately 13 km to the north of Lincoln.

4.1.2 The Scheme comprises two distinct sections, which are:

- 'the Principal Site', which is the location where ground mounted solar photovoltaic (PV) panels, electrical substations and energy storage facilities will be installed; and
- 'the Cable Route Corridor', which will comprise the underground electrical infrastructure required to connect the Principal Site to the national transmission system.

4.1.3 The Principal Site covers an area of approximately 1,400 hectares (ha) and is located entirely within the administrative area of West Lindsey District Council. The Principal Site comprises:

- Developable areas – where all solar PV panels and associated infrastructure would be located. This area sits on approximately 900 ha of predominantly agricultural land; and
- Non-developable areas – areas that are being considered for mitigation and enhancement, such as tree planting and habitat creation. This area amounts to approximately 500 hectares.

4.1.4 The electricity generated from the Scheme would then connect to National Grid's Cottam substation in Nottinghamshire. The Applicant has secured a Bilateral Connection Agreement (BCA) with National Grid to allow 500MW of renewable energy to be transferred in to and out of their substation. We are now working to refine our proposals to ensure the Scheme can generate as much energy as possible in line with this agreement.

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4.1.5 The underground Cable Route Corridor would be approximately 16 km in length, and crosses the administrative areas of West Lindsey District Council and Bassetlaw District Council.

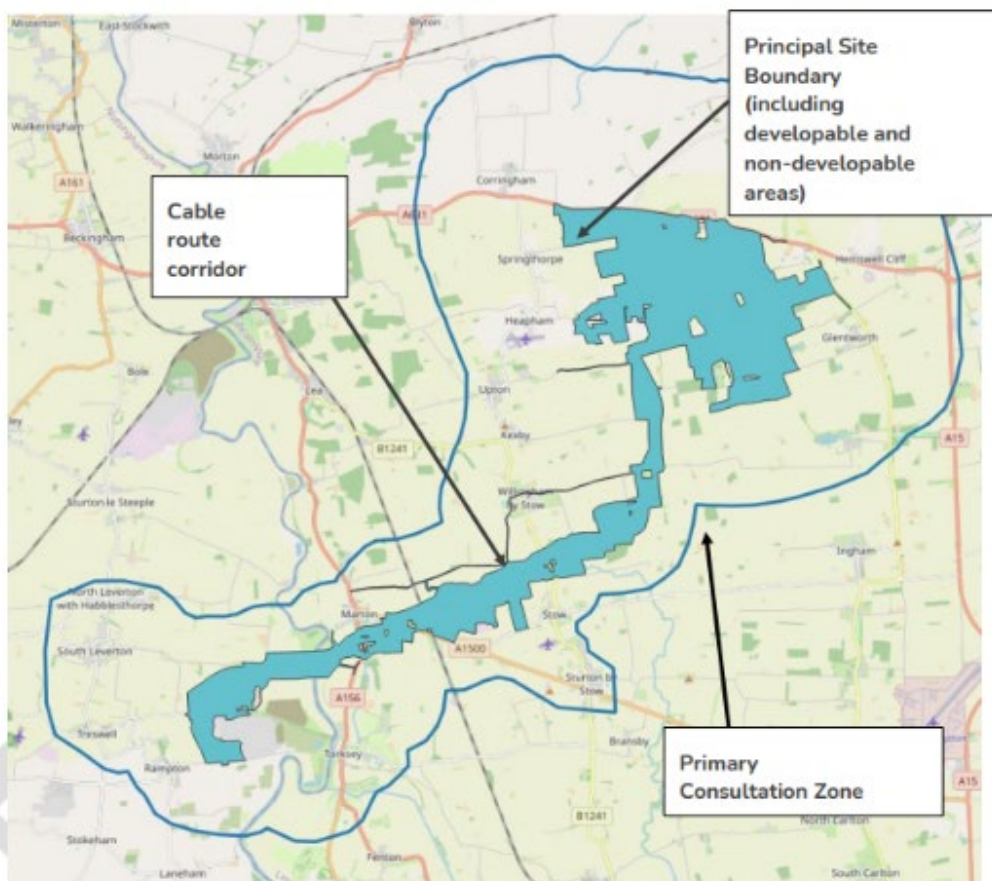
4.1.6 The parameters of the Scheme within the Principal Site are at an early stage in the design process and will be refined as the Scheme progresses, taking into account environmental and technical factors, and consultation responses. An indicative parameter plan has been derived providing a snapshot in time showing the potential locations of the key components of the Scheme. This includes the location of the solar PV modules, the battery energy storage system, transformer stations, switchgear, two sub-stations, control room and storage facilities and the access into and through the site for construction and maintenance.

4.1.7 The Scheme would consist of the following principal infrastructure:

- Solar PV panels (also known as solar modules);
- Solar stations (inverter, transformer and switchgear);
- Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) – providing peak generation and grid balancing services;
- Solar Direct Current (DC)/Alternating Current (AC) Invertors – required to convert the DC electricity collected by the solar PV modules into AC, allowing electricity generated to be exported to the National Grid;
- On-site cabling;
- On-site sub-stations;
- Solar farm control centre;
- Equipment storage;
- Lightning rods
- Fencing, security and lighting;
- Site access and access tracks;
- Surface water drainage;
- Electricity connection to National Grid via cable route corridor. The Tillbridge circuit will be connected to an existing bay at Cottam sub-station.

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Figure 4.1: Proposed Principal Site Boundary and cable route corridor for Tillbridge Solar



## 4.2 Vision and objectives

4.2.1 Our vision for the Scheme is to deliver cleaner, greener, and lower cost energy, while also enhancing the local environment and ensuring we are a responsible developer.

4.2.2 Our objectives are to:

- Build a solar farm that will contribute to the UK's zero-carbon future and support Lincolnshire's transition to Net Zero.
- Provide equivalent energy needs for around 200,000 households with low-cost energy, generated in the UK at a time of great uncertainty within the energy market.



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- Increase biodiversity and enhance existing ecology, to achieve Biodiversity Net Gain and maximise opportunities to create new habitats for wildlife.
- Develop a Scheme in a responsible and considerate way, including collaboration with other local developers.
- Provide opportunities for community involvement from an early stage.
- Ensure the retention of existing woodland and hedgerows where possible and the inclusion of new woodland, hedgerows and planting to enhance the landscape.
- Provide opportunities for local communities (such as community benefits) and the local economy.

### 4.3 Environmental Impact Assessment

4.3.1 The Scheme is an 'environmental impact assessment (EIA) development' under the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017.

4.3.2 The application for development consent will therefore require an Environmental Impact Assessment ('EIA') to be carried out to ensure the likely significant effects of the Scheme are properly understood and that where available, appropriate mitigation measures are identified to control or reduce environmental effects.

4.3.3 An EIA Scoping Opinion was issued by PINS on 4 November 2022. This identifies the environmental issues and topics relevant to the Scheme, and which should be assessed as part of the EIA. The Scoping Opinion is available to view on the PINS website at <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/east-midlands/tillbridge-solar-project/?ipcsection=docs>

4.3.4 A Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) will be produced and publicised and consulted upon as part of the statutory pre-application consultation obligations under s42 of The Planning Act 2008. A Non-Technical Summary (NTS) will also be available, which will summarise the contents of the PEIR in a non-technical manner.

4.3.5 The PEIR will build upon the findings from the Scoping Report (submitted in September 2022) and the feedback received through early engagement with stakeholders. It will provide preliminary environmental information on the potential environmental effects of the Scheme and any proposed mitigation to help the local community and consultation bodies to understand the likely significant environmental effects of the Scheme on the environment and inform responses regarding the proposals.

4.3.6 We will be inviting feedback and comments on the information presented in the PEIR as part of the statutory consultation. Feedback received will be considered before the DCO application and EIA are finalised for submission.

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4.3.7 All final environmental findings will be set out in an Environmental Statement (ES), which will form part of the DCO application. The ES will set out the assessment and conclusions of the EIA process. It will build on the content of the PEIR and incorporate the responses from the statutory consultation, stakeholder engagement and the results of surveys undertaken. It will also describe any changes to the project and any mitigation measures that need to be implemented. Consultation and engagement approach

#### **4.4 Aims, objectives and values**

4.4.1 The Applicant is committed to engaging and consulting with communities and stakeholders at an early stage of the Scheme, giving people the opportunity to provide feedback and insight at a formative stage ahead of more detailed design work being carried out.

4.4.2 The Applicant is committed to being a good, long-term neighbour and wants to ensure that we can build a solar Scheme that benefits the local area.

4.4.3 We are undertaking an iterative consultation process for the Scheme. The comments we receive will help inform the final design of the Scheme. Our consultation consists of two broad phases:

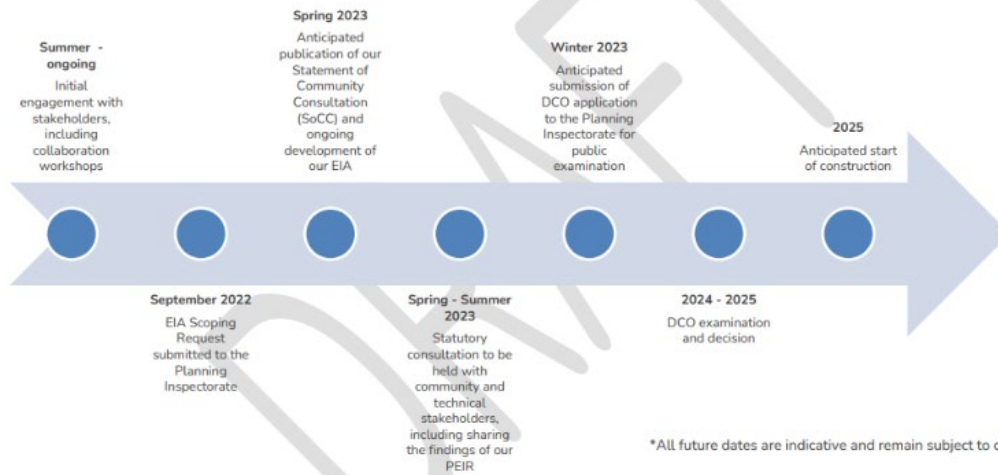
- Ongoing engagement, held from summer 2022 to early-mid 2023; and
- Statutory consultation period lasting for 6 weeks, from 9 May 2023 to 20 June 2023.

4.4.4 This SoCC sets out how we will undertake the statutory consultation, however a summary of the ongoing engagement and non-statutory consultation activities is provided below.

4.4.5 The timeline for the scheme is shown in **Figure 4.2**.

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Figure 4.2: Indicative consultation timeline



\*All future dates are indicative and remain subject to change.





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#### 4.5 Ongoing engagement

- 4.5.1 The initial stage of engagement began in summer 2022 and is ongoing until the start of the statutory consultation in May 2023, and beyond.
- 4.5.2 The primary aim of our initial engagement was to introduce our early-stage proposals for the Scheme, including the early environmental assessments and site selection work carried out to date.
- 4.5.3 During this initial stage of engagement, we engaged collaboratively with stakeholders to help understand key issues and potential constraints in the local area.
- 4.5.4 This ongoing period of non-statutory consultation provided the opportunity to engage with key stakeholders on a regular basis, including providing a series of Scheme updates prior to the statutory consultation in May 2023.
- 4.5.5 A summary of activities carried out during this stage of engagement is provided in **Table 4.1**, with more detail on specific consultation activities, including the collaboration workshops, also provided below.

**Table 4.1: Ongoing non-statutory consultation activities for Tillbridge Solar**

Consultation activity	Summary of activity
Early engagement with local planning authorities	Engagement with host local planning authorities started in June 2022 with initial briefings on the Scheme. We engaged with authorities on the approach to consultation and engagement and held specific briefings with their members to provide an overview of the early-stage proposals.
Site visits with landowners and near neighbours	Engagement also included meeting with near neighbours to the principal site where we introduced our early-stage plans and discussed the Scheme from a landscape and visual perspective.  Through a mix of pre-arranged meetings and a 'door-knocking' exercise, a total of 19 properties/sets of interested parties were met with across three separate site visits. This enabled local comments and issues to be fed into the Scheme design.

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	<p>A summary of the site visits, and relevant changes made to the Scheme, is provided in the Tillbridge Solar post-collaboration workshop report (September 2022), which can be found on the Scheme website.</p> <p>Site visits with near neighbours have taken place on a regular basis, which has helped to continually refine the Scheme design and inform the proposals for the statutory consultation.</p>
<p>Collaboration workshops</p>	<p>A series of collaboration workshops were held in July 2022 with the aim of identifying and understanding the views and opinions of stakeholders and communities who may be affected by the Scheme.</p> <p>A summary of this approach to engagement is provided in <b>Section 4.6</b>.</p>
<p>Ongoing engagement with consultees</p>	<p>Following the collaboration workshops, we have continued to engage with key stakeholders on the Scheme. Activities have included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Setting up regular meetings with local planning authorities</li> <li>• Circulating an initial community newsletter to local communities (defined by a primary consultation zone of approximately 4,000 addresses – as shown in <b>Figure 4.1</b>)</li> <li>• Offering and attending meetings with local stakeholders, including parish councils, local residents and landowners</li> <li>• Holding meetings with statutory/technical consultees to assist with the EIA process and design refinement.</li> </ul>

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#### 4.6 Collaboration workshops – July 2022

4.6.1 As part of the early-stage engagement for the Scheme, we held a series of collaboration workshops to help understand key issues and potential constraints in the local area. This initial engagement has contributed towards the ongoing refinement of our plans for the Scheme and the information presented during our statutory consultation.

4.6.2 The workshops provided the opportunity to introduce the early-stage plans and explain more about the proposals and to create a platform for active participation in the design process.

4.6.3 Three collaboration workshops were held as follows:

- Wednesday 20 July 2022, from 1pm to 5pm, at Glentworth Village Hall, Stoney Lane, Glentworth, Lincolnshire, DN21 5DF
- Thursday 21 July 2022, from 2pm to 6pm, at Willingham Village Hall, High St, Willingham by Stow, Gainsborough, DN21 5JZ
- Friday 22 July 2022, from 10am to 2pm, at Sturton by Stow Village Hall, High St, Sturton by Stow, Lincoln, LN1 2AE

4.6.4 We invited key stakeholders to attend the collaboration workshops, who were selected as being representatives of persons with an interest in the Scheme, from a political, community and technical/environmental perspective. These stakeholders included:

- Relevant county, district, and ward councillors across the districts of West Lindsey and Bassetlaw and Counties of Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire
- Wider council Members, Portfolio Holders, and technical/planning officers
- Representatives of the local community, including parish councils and local interest/ community groups
- Statutory consultees and wider environmental/ technical stakeholders

4.6.5 The approach to engagement during this phase of the Scheme, including specific groups and stakeholders to be invited to the workshops, was discussed with the relevant local planning authorities before the workshops were held.

4.6.6 A range of information was presented during the workshops in order to provide a more detailed understanding of the Scheme and the work carried out to date. This included:

- An introduction to Tillbridge Solar and the needs case for the Scheme, including the location and key elements of the proposals



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- The story so far, including site suitability and environmental constraints and opportunities
- A discussion of specific environmental topics in relation to how the Scheme is defined going forwards

4.6.7 Attendees at the workshops were invited to provide feedback and comments throughout the session and discuss the proposals in more detail to help inform this. A full summary of the collaboration workshops can be found in the **Tillbridge Solar post-collaboration workshop report (September 2022)**, which can be found on the Scheme website ([tillbridgesolar.com](http://tillbridgesolar.com)). This report was uploaded to the website and issued to all stakeholders invited to the workshops.

## Section 5: Statutory consultation (9 May 2023 to 20 June 2023)

### 5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 The statutory consultation will run for six weeks from 9 May 2023 until 20 June 2023. All responses to the consultation must be received by **11:59pm** on 20th June 2023.

5.1.2 Held in accordance with section 42 of the Act, this consultation will provide an opportunity for us update you on our proposals for the Scheme and provide a consultation response. More details on what we will be consulting on and how we propose to consult are listed below.

### 5.2 What will we consult on?

5.2.1 The aim of our pre-application consultation is to ensure that the community, landowners and tenants, stakeholders and technical consultees have the opportunity to understand and influence our proposals. The statutory consultation presents an opportunity to present the more detailed proposals and key refinements made in response to ongoing design work and feedback during the previous stage of engagement.

5.2.2 We will be seeking feedback on all aspects of our plans for the Scheme. This includes inviting comments on issues related (but not limited to):

- The Principal Site, including initial parameters associated with the Scheme and a cable route corridor.
- Clear Scheme description, including issues relating to primary and second access to the Principal Site, Drainage Strategy and construction compounds.
- Proposed traffic access route(s) and movements.
- Preliminary information on environmental impacts as part of the published PEIR. A NTS will accompany the PEIR to summarise the contents of the PEIR in a non-technical manner.
- Other plans, maps and documents to accompany the PEIR.

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- Anything else that you reasonably think we need to consider.

5.2.3 The full PEIR, together with the NTS, will be made available electronically on the Scheme website and for inspection electronically at the local information points. We will publicise as part of our statutory notices a service for requesting individual hard copies of technical documents, such as the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR), and the process and charge for supplying these.

### 5.3 Who are we consulting?

5.3.1 Our consultation process is open to anyone who may be interested in, or in any way feels impacted by our proposals for the Scheme. We welcome all views and will take them into account before we submit our DCO application.

5.3.2 In accordance with section 42 of the Act, the Applicant will be consulting with a range of statutory and non-statutory consultees, such as Natural England, the Environment Agency and relevant local planning authorities.

5.3.3 Under section 47 of the Act, the Applicant has a duty to consult people living in the vicinity of the land. We are seeking to consult with people who live in the vicinity of the Scheme, including people in areas where the Scheme may have a direct or indirect impact, either permanently or temporarily, as a result of construction, operation and maintenance or decommissioning of the Scheme.

5.3.4 Having considered these impacts, we have identified an appropriate primary consultation zone (PCZ) by initially extending a minimum distance of two kilometres from the boundary of the Principal Site Boundary – within which the solar PV panels, energy storage system, on-site substation and supporting infrastructure would be located. The PCZ also extends one kilometre from the edge of the cable route corridor for the grid connection.

5.3.5 The PCZ has also been extended in certain areas as considered proportionate. We have considered:

- Zone of theoretical visibility for the Scheme, which assesses areas in vicinity of the Scheme boundary which could experience a degree of visual impact;
- Existing natural and human geographic boundaries, such as main roads;
- Capturing entire communities, rather than excluding small numbers of properties;
- Coverage of the host district council wards and parishes; and
- Where we propose to undertake additional works to enable construction transport, equipment areas or road modifications.

5.3.6 The zone has been extended further where proportionate and reasonable based on existing boundaries in order to avoid inappropriate 'severance' of communities. The PCZ is shown in **Figure 5.1**.

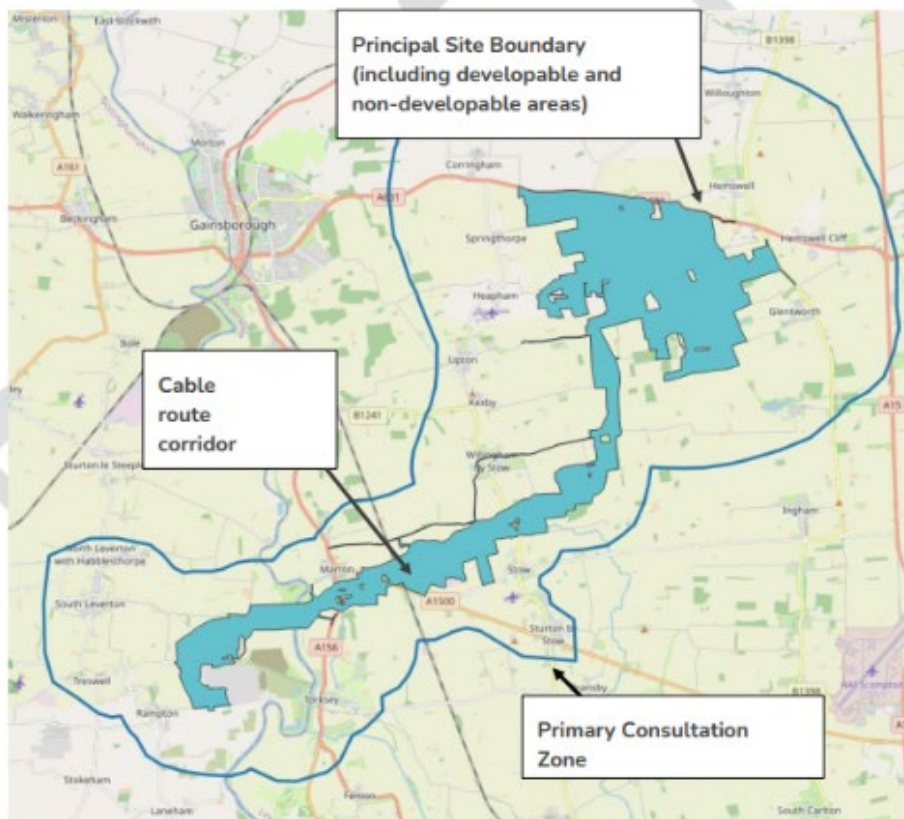


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5.3.7 All homes and businesses within the PCZ will directly receive consultation leaflets in the post at the start of the statutory consultation period. Consultation events will be held within the PCZ, where possible, and relevant groups and organisations such as parish councils and local interest groups will be notified of consultation opportunities.

5.3.8 We also recognise that people who live and work beyond the PCZ may also have an interest in our proposals and may wish to participate in the statutory consultation. We are committed to making sure that individuals and organisations are given the opportunity to participate and will attempt to raise awareness of the consultation using a number of methods such as advertising and direct communication with organisations located in the wider consultation zone. More details on these methods are outlined in **Section 5.5: How we will consult**.

**Figure 5.1: Primary Consultation Zone for Tillbridge Solar**



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#### 5.4 Consultation with under-represented or seldom heard groups

5.4.1 Our consultation has been developed to be accessible to all groups in the community, including 'under-represented' or 'seldom heard' groups and individuals who may be less likely to participate in or respond to traditional consultation techniques. These methods are outlined in **Section 5.5: How we will consult**.

5.4.2 These organisations will be contacted, by email and/or post, ahead of consultation to ensure that our approach best meets the needs of their members, including whether any consultation materials are required in a specific format. We will also contact these organisations and invite suggestions for any additional groups that should be contacted as part of the consultation.

5.4.3 We are hosting different formats of free-to use communications channels to ensure our consultation is as accessible as possible, including include email, phone and post. We will also be using a combination of in person and digital formats such as in person events and webinars. We will also continue to notify them of consultation opportunities.

5.4.4 These groups and individuals that may find it harder to get involved in consultation and/or need additional support to access materials include, but are not limited to:

- The elderly
- People with visual impairments
- People with limited mobility
- Geographically isolated individuals or communities<sup>1</sup>
- Young people

5.4.5 The list of seldom heard groups and non-statutory groups we will be contacting as part of this consultation is provided in **Appendix A – Consultee lists**.

5.4.6 Whilst the completion of an Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) is a duty placed on the public sector under section 149 of the Equality Act, we will produce an EqIA to demonstrate how the public sector equality duty has been considered and taken into account as part of the application to support the Examining Authority and Secretary of State in its decision-making.

#### 5.5 How we will consult

5.5.1 During this statutory consultation, we will use a range a methods to ensure an inclusive, meaningful and open consultation. We will use a range of digital and non-digital methods of communication to ensure

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<sup>1</sup> We will also contact relevant representatives/officers from local planning authorities and ask them to help engage with any travellers communities.

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that our consultation can be accessed by all members of the community.

5.5.2 Our statutory consultation is planned to take place for six weeks from 9 May 2023 until 20 June 2023 and will exceed the statutory minimum period of 28 days as required by the Planning Act 2008.

5.5.3 A proposed schedule for all engagement methods, including activities and materials, is set out in **Table 5.1**.

**Table 5.1: Statutory consultation methods for Tillbridge Solar**

Consultation methods	
Method	Detail
Consultation events	<p>We will be holding six consultation events at locations across the PCZ. They will be advertised in consultation leaflets, in the local media and at local information points and through wider publicity for local community groups.</p> <p>All venues are located within the PCZ and have full disabled access, ensuring accessibility for all attendees.</p> <p>Events will be held on different days of the week with varied hours to accommodate different availability, including on weekdays and at weekends.</p> <p>The provisional locations for the events are included below and will be finalised and provided in the final SoCC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Glentworth Village Hall, Stoney Lane, Glentworth, Lincolnshire, DN21 5DF – <b>timings and dates TBC</b></li> <li>• Hemswell and Harpswell Village Hall, Maypole Street, Hemswell, Lincolnshire, DN21 5UL – <b>timings and dates TBC</b></li> <li>• Willingham Village Hall, High St, Willingham by Stow, Gainsborough, DN21 5JZ – <b>timings and dates TBC</b></li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sturton by Stow Village Hall, High St, Sturton by Stow, Lincoln, LN1 2AE – <b>timings and dates TBC</b></li> <li>• Corringham Village Hall, 10 Middle St, Corringham, Gainsborough, DN21 5QR – <b>timings and dates TBC</b></li> <li>• Rampton Village Hall, Manor Grounds, Rampton, Retford, Nottinghamshire DN22 0JU – <b>timings and dates TBC</b></li> </ul> <p>Members of the Tillbridge Solar project team will be at these events to discuss the proposals in more detail and answer any questions. Hard copies of selected materials will also be available to view and take away, with all materials available in digital format via the Scheme website.</p> <p>All venues have been selected based on their accessibility. Some events will be running later in the evenings to cater for working people who cannot attend during normal working hours.</p>
Webinars	<p>Webinars will be held for any member of the public to join via telephone or online. Details of the specific sessions will be available in the final version of the SoCC.</p> <p>Attendees will be able to register for these online events on the project website or by emailing <a href="mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com">info@tillbridgesolar.com</a></p>
Telephone call backs	<p>Members of the public will be able to request a call back from a member of the project team (subject to availability) on <a href="tel:08000469643">0800 046 9643</a> or <a href="mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com">info@tillbridgesolar.com</a>. The phone line will be operational 9am–5:30pm weekdays (with an answerphone facility to take messages outside these hours). People can arrange a call back at a time suitable to them.</p>



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	<p>This information will be advertised in the consultation leaflet and on the Scheme website.</p>
<p>Local information points</p>	<p>Hard copies of consultation leaflets and feedback questionnaires, will be available to collect from a number of local information points located in the vicinity of the Scheme, including libraries and council offices. These documents will be available to collect from the start of the consultation period.</p> <p>The locations (subject to agreement and availability) are listed below.</p> <p><b><u>Lincolnshire</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• West Lindsey County Council, Guildhall Marshall's Yard, Marshalls Yard, 13b Beaumont St, Gainsborough DN21 2NA. Opening hours: 9am – 5pm Monday to Friday.</li> <li>• Lincoln Central Library, Free School Lane, Lincolnshire, LN2 1EZ. Opening hours: 9am – 5pm Monday-Wednesday and Friday, 9am – 6pm Thursday and 9am – 4pm Saturday.</li> <li>• Gainsborough Library, Gainsborough Cobden St, Gainsborough DN21 2NG. Opening hours: 9am – 5pm Monday to Friday, 9am – 1pm Saturday.</li> <li>• Saxilby Library, St Andrews Centre, William St, Saxilby LN1 2LP. Opening hours: 10:30am – 3:30pm Tuesday to Wednesday, 10:30am – 1pm Friday.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Nottinghamshire</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Retford Library, Churchgate, Retford, Nottinghamshire DN22 6PE. Opening hours: 9am – 6pm Monday to Friday, 9am – 3pm Saturday.</li> </ul>



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	<p>A full copy of the PEIR and the non-technical summary will be available to view electronically at each local information point (subject to computer and internet availability) and via the Project website, with USBs also available free of charge, by request. USBs will be limited to one per household.</p> <p>A copy of this SoCC will also be able to inspect at these locations.</p> <p>We will check, by telephone, that consultation documentation remains at the information points throughout the consultation period.</p>
Scheme website	<p>A dedicated Scheme website (<a href="http://www.tillbridgesolar.com">www.tillbridgesolar.com</a>) is live for you to find out more information and provide your feedback.</p> <p>All consultation documents will be presented digitally and available for download, free of charge, from a specific consultation section on the website. Information will be consistent with materials available at the consultation events.</p> <p>The latest plans, including the principal site boundary and cable route corridor, will be presented on an Interactive Map, which can be accessed through the Scheme website.</p>
<b>Consultation materials</b>	
<b>Material</b>	<b>Detail</b>
Statutory consultation booklet	A statutory consultation booklet will be published at the start of the consultation, providing a summary of the proposals we are consulting on, details of how people can take part, how feedback will be considered and how

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	their feedback will be used to influence and shape the proposals.
Consultation leaflets	Consultation leaflets will be prepared to provide a high-level overview of the Scheme, the consultation and how people can get involved. The leaflet will indicate where the relevant Scheme information can be found and publicise the consultation events, including locations, dates and timings.
Feedback questionnaire	<p>A feedback questionnaire will be prepared to allow people to provide feedback on the proposals. The questionnaire will ask people to provide feedback on all aspects of the Scheme, including particular issues we are seeking comment.</p> <p>The questionnaire can be completed online or downloaded if required and is also available in hard copy.</p>
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)	A FAQs document will be available on the Scheme website at the start of the consultation period.
Preliminary Environmental Informational Report (PEIR) and Non-technical Summary	<p>The PEIR will contain a description of the Scheme, a preliminary assessment of the potentially significant environmental effects and the initial strategies to mitigate adverse effects. The PEIR will be based on information available at that time, but the assessments will be developed once further detail is available and reported within an Environmental Statement submitted with the DCO application.</p> <p>An NTS of the PEIR can also be downloaded from the Scheme website and will be available in printed format free of charge on request from the community relations team and at the consultation events.</p>
Technical Scheme documentation, including maps and plans of the Scheme	We will be producing plans for the Scheme, which will be available to view at the consultation events and on the Scheme website.

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	Plans showing the location and aspects of the Scheme will be available at all times during and following the consultation period.
Materials in alternative formats	Upon request, all documents will be available in alternative accessible formats, such as braille, speaking text and alternative languages. All requests should be made to the community relations team by email ( <a href="mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com">info@tillbridgesolar.com</a> ) or phone (0800 046 9643), or can be made to the project team at the consultation events.

5.5.4 All consultation documents can be downloaded free of charge from the Scheme website, with hard copy documents also available at the consultation events.

5.5.5 We will publicise as part of our statutory notices a service for requesting individual hard copies of technical documents, such as the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR), and the process and charge for supplying these. A USB containing all Scheme documentation can be requested free of charge from the community relations team. USBs will be limited to one per household.

5.5.6 In the event of changing Government guidelines due to COVID-19, or other unforeseen circumstances meaning the consultation events must be cancelled, or the display of materials prevented, the Applicant will inform people as early as possible of the cancellation or expected change via the project website and electronic communication with key stakeholders.

5.5.7 In the event of face-to-face consultation events being cancelled, replacement online events will be organised, which will provide the same information as presented at the in-person events.

## 5.6 Promoting the consultation

5.6.1 We will use a variety of methods to make people aware of the Scheme and advertise the statutory consultation. These methods are outlined in **Table 5.2** below.

**Table 5.2: Methods for promoting the statutory consultation for Tillbridge Solar**

Method	Detail
Consultation leaflet	Consultation leaflets will be posted to all homes and businesses in the PCZ at the start of the statutory consultation period. The leaflet will also be issued to wider consultees by email, including the non-statutory consultees listed in Appendix A.

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<p>Press releases</p>	<p>To promote awareness of the Scheme and the consultation both within and beyond the PCZ we will publish a press release at the start of the consultation. This will be sent to the following local and regional media outlets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BBC Look North</li> <li>• BBC Radio Lincolnshire</li> <li>• BBC Radio Nottingham</li> <li>• BBC East Midlands</li> <li>• BBC Look North (Yorkshire)</li> <li>• ITV Calendar</li> <li>• Notts TV</li> <li>• Retford Times</li> <li>• The Gainsborough Standard</li> <li>• The Grantham Journal</li> <li>• The Lincolnite</li> <li>• Lincolnshire Echo</li> <li>• Lincolnshire Free Press</li> <li>• Lincolnshire in Focus</li> <li>• Lincolnshire Life</li> <li>• Lincolnshire Live</li> <li>• Lincolnshire Reporter</li> <li>• Lincolnshire Today</li> <li>• Lincolnshire World</li> <li>• Market Rasen Mail</li> <li>• Nottinghamshire in Focus</li> <li>• Nottinghamshire Live</li> <li>• Nottingham Local News</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nottingham Post</li> </ul>
Newspaper advertisements	<p>Two rounds of newspaper advertisements will be undertaken – one before and one during the consultation. Advertisements will provide details of the consultation, where more information can be found, how to respond, and the dates of the engagement activities.</p> <p>Advertisements will be placed in both print and digital publications to ensure wider coverage within and beyond the core and wider consultation zones. The publications could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lincolnshire Live</li> <li>• The Lincolnite</li> <li>• Lincolnshire World</li> <li>• Lincolnshire Echo</li> <li>• Gainsborough Standard</li> <li>• Retford Times</li> <li>• Lincolnshire Life</li> <li>• Retford Life</li> <li>• Gainsborough Life</li> <li>• Market Rasen Mail</li> </ul>
Stakeholder briefings	<p>We will issue communications to key stakeholders, including local political representatives (Councillors and MPs) and local planning authority Members and Parish Council clerks representing wards, constituencies, and parishes within the consultation zone to provide information about the proposals we are consulting on and invite them to take part in the consultation.</p> <p>We will also offer briefings and organise online webinars with these stakeholders to provide information about the consultation. We will consider invitations to, or requests for, meetings with other local groups or special interest organisations on a case-by-case basis.</p>



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<p>Emails and letters</p>	<p>We will send either emails or hard copy letters about the consultation and how to get involved to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• host constituency and neighbouring constituency area MPs;</li> <li>• elected representatives at West Lindsey District Council, Bassetlaw District Council, Nottinghamshire County Council and Lincolnshire County Council</li> <li>• host parish councils;</li> <li>• neighbouring local authorities;</li> <li>• neighbouring parish councils; and</li> <li>• local interest groups, such as community and environmental groups.</li> </ul> <p>Formal notifications will be issued to stakeholders as required in accordance with section 42 of the Act.</p>
<p>Statutory notices</p>	<p>Statutory notices to publicise the consultation in accordance with section 48 of the Act will be published once in a national newspaper (The Guardian) and the London Gazette and twice (across two successive weeks) in local circulating papers (Lincolnshire Echo, Retford Times and Gainsborough Standard).</p>
<p>Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC)</p>	<p>This SoCC document will be made available online as part of the consultation and in hard copy at the consultation events. Copies will also be available for inspection only (and not to take away) at the local information points listed above.</p>
<p>Information posters</p>	<p>Posters including details of the consultation, how to access Scheme information, and how to get involved, will be displayed at well-used public locations within the PCZ or locations in the immediate vicinity of the PCA, including libraries, shops and civic buildings. These will be hosted in agreement with relevant groups and venues, including where consultation events will take place.</p> <p>Information posters will also be sent to all host and neighbouring parish councils to help raise awareness of the consultation. Parish Councils will be encouraged to post details of the consultation on their social media channels.</p>



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Social media	<p>Digital versions of consultation materials will be sent directly to key stakeholders to enable them to advertise and promote the consultation through their own online channels, including their websites, forums and social media channels.</p> <p>We will also contact groups and stakeholders, such as local planning authorities, to encourage them to share information on social media</p>
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### 5.7 Wider engagement

5.7.1 Ongoing engagement with stakeholders will be undertaken ahead of the launch of the statutory consultation, including local authorities, MPs, the Environment Agency, Natural England, and Historic England (where possible) and with local interest groups, residents, and landowners who get in touch.

5.7.2 Local businesses and representatives of business groups within the PCZ will be sent a consultation leaflet at the start of the consultation period, inviting them to attend one of our consultation events.

### 5.8 Engagement with seldom heard groups

5.8.1 We are committed to ensuring that our consultation is accessible and inclusive for all stakeholders, includes groups and individuals that may find it harder to get involved in consultation and/or need additional support to access materials.

5.8.2 Consultation methods used to engage with these groups are set out below. We will continue to liaise with local groups representing seldom heard organisations to ensure accessibility to the consultation and that materials can be made available in the appropriate format.

- Providing details about how information on the Scheme can be accessed, including online and hard copy.
- Providing materials in alternative formats, including dementia friendly, Braille and large print (upon request).
- Assisting with providing feedback where possible, including via the communications lines and at face-to-face consultation events.

### 5.9 Information channels

5.9.1 The following enquiry channels will continue to be available throughout the consultation for members of the community and other stakeholders to get in touch with the project team, ask questions, request further information or request printed copies of consultation materials and documents. These channels are provided in **Table 5.3**. These communication channels will continue to be active throughout the pre-application period.



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**Table 5.3: Information channels for Tillbridge Solar**

Method	Contact details	Hours of operation
Online	Website enquiries available via <a href="http://www.tillbridgesolar.com">www.tillbridgesolar.com</a>	Enquiries can be submitted 24 hours a day. We will aim to issue a response within five working days of receipt.
Telephone	<a href="tel:08000469643">0800 046 9643</a>	9am–5:30pm weekdays (with an answerphone facility to take messages outside these hours).
Email	<a href="mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com">info@tillbridgesolar.com</a>	People can email 24 hours a day, with emails being monitored between 9am and 5:30pm weekdays. We will aim to issue a responses within five working days of receipt.
Post	FREEPOST TILLBRIDGE SOLAR (please note that you do not need a stamp)	Should enquiries received via post require a response, this will be issued within five working days of receipt. Urgent enquiries should be directed to the Scheme's email address.

## Section 6: Responding to the consultation

### 6.1 How to respond to the consultation

6.1.1 Feedback to the consultation should be submitted in writing or online to the Scheme by **11:59pm** on the 20th June 2023. Responses received after that date may not be considered.

6.1.2 Consultation responses can be made in the following ways:

- Completing the feedback questionnaire online, which can be accessed via the Scheme website: [www.tillbridgesolar.com](http://www.tillbridgesolar.com)
- Attending a consultation event and completing a printed feedback questionnaire, which can be handed to the project team in person, or taken a way and sent to use via freepost (using FREEPOST TILLBRIDGE SOLAR). Questionnaires can also be collected from one of our local information points or requested from the community relations team, as detailed in **Table 5.3**.





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- Emailing [info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com)
- Writing to us at FREEPOST TILLBRIDGE SOLAR (please note that no stamp is required)

## 6.2 How we will use consultation feedback

- 6.2.1 When our statutory consultation closes, we will have regard to all comments received. All feedback, including ongoing engagement with communities and stakeholders, is important to us and will help influence our designs for the Scheme.
- 6.2.2 Once we have reviewed and finalised our proposed application, we will produce a Consultation Report, which set out how the feedback from the pre-application consultation has shaped and influenced our proposed application.
- 6.2.3 This Consultation Report will be submitted to the SoS for BEIS as part of the DCO application.
- 6.2.4 Any comments received could be made public, but no personal information will be published. Any personal data received as part of the Consultation will be stored and protected in accordance with the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulation. The privacy notice for those visiting the Scheme website is available at: <https://tillbridgesolar.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Tillbridge-Solar-Privacy-Policy.pdf>

## Section 7: Further consultation

- 7.1.1 If, following the statutory consultation, we consider it is necessary to undertake further targeted or supplementary consultation, this would be undertaken, so far as relevant and proportionate, in accordance with the principles and methods set out in this SoCC.

## Section 8: Other solar DCO consultations in the area

- 8.1.1 We are aware there are a number of other proposed solar developments in the area and understand the need to ensure that communities in the area are aware of the other proposals, notably Low Carbon's plans for Gate Burton Energy Park and Island Green Power's plans for Cottam Solar and West Burton Solar. A map showing the location of the Scheme in relation to other solar developments will be available in the final version of this document, to be published before our statutory consultation in May 2023.
- 8.1.2 We have been and will continue to work constructively with these other developers to ensure:
- People are easily able to engage with our consultation processes and have opportunities to get involved, including ensuring that consultation periods are distinct and do not clash.
  - All environmental effects are fully assessed, including any cumulative impacts.

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- A common-sense approach to construction is taken in order to minimise disruption, including sharing infrastructure and construction timelines, where feasible.
- Shared infrastructure is used where possible, such as a cable route corridor.

8.1.3 We have been in conversation with Low Carbon and Island Green Power in regard to their Cottam and West Burton Solar Projects and Gate Burton Energy Park, respectively. These conversations, which have been held on a regular basis, have taken place with the purpose of understanding the progress of each respective project, how they interact with each other and how information and proposals can be shared. This includes work to support the refinement of the Scheme's cable route corridor, with view to sharing a common route, where possible.

8.1.4 At our statutory consultation events, we will indicate how the scheme relates geographically to the other developments, with information up to date and correct at the time of finalisation and publication of the Scheme's PEIR (May 2023).

## Section 9: Contact details

9.1.1 Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you would like to find out more information about the Scheme. You can get in touch with members of our community relations team using any of the communications lines listed in **Table 5.3**.

9.1.2 Should you require any documents in large print, audio or Braille then please contact us using the details provided. All graphs and maps this document are for illustrative purposes only.



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## Appendix A – Consultee lists

<p><b><u>Non-statutory consultees</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Environmental and Energy groups</u></b></p> <p>Natural England Historic England The Environment Agency Council for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE) The Council for British Archaeology Lincoln Archaeology Group RSPB Woodland Trust The British Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership Society Society for Lincolnshire History &amp; Archaeology National Trust Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust Lincolnshire Rivers Trust North Lincolnshire Local Access Forum Scunthorpe &amp; Gainsborough Water Management Board Upper Witham Internal Drainage Board Nottinghamshire Local Access Forum UK Alternative Energy Lincolnshire Energy Centre Lincolnshire Bird Club</p> <p><b><u>Sports and Leisure groups</u></b></p> <p>Walking in England Active Lincolnshire Ramblers - Lincolnshire Area Lincs Inspire Lincoln &amp; District Angling Association (LDAA) Sport England Cycling UK Lincolnshire</p>
--

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Gainsborough Aegir Cycling Club
Spalding Cycling Club
Cycling UK Nottinghamshire
Lincolnshire Walking Group
Sustrans (East Midlands)
The Ramblers (Nottinghamshire Representative)
Nottinghamshire Footpaths Preservation Society
British Horse Society (Nottinghamshire and Lincolnshire representative)
The Ramblers Association
Lincolnshire Gliding Club
North Lincs Riding Club
<b><u>Economic and Business groups</u></b>
Lincolnshire Chamber of Commerce
Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership
Invest North East Lincolnshire
Business Lincolnshire
Confederation of British Industry
Lincoln Business Improvement Group
Team Lincolnshire
<b><u>Local groups and 'near neighbours'</u></b>
Lincolnshire Conservation Group
Willingham by Stow Horticultural Society
Churches Together in All Lincolnshire
Springline Parish (group of churches)
St Andrew's Church,
Fillingham Church
'Glentworth St Michael's Church
'St Chad's Church Harpswell
RAF Ingham Heritage Centre
RAF Scampton
Lincoln Aero Club
Millhaven Canine Rehabilitation
Lincolnshire Rescue Kennels
Lincoln Golf Club

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<p><b><u>Charitable organisations and religious groups</u></b></p> <p>The Victorian Society</p> <p>Salvation Army</p> <p>Christians Against Poverty</p> <p>CARE</p> <p>Islamic Association of Lincoln</p> <p>Sleaford Islamic Centre</p> <p>East Midlands Synod</p> <p>Lincolnshire Jewish Community</p> <p>The Jack Brunton Charitable Trust</p> <p>The Principle Trust Children's Charity</p> <p>Lincs Inspire</p> <p>SENSE Lincolnshire</p> <p>LTC – Beat It! Social Isolation</p> <p>Lincolnshire Polish Society</p> <p>Lincolnshire Pamoja</p> <p>Nottingham Equal</p> <p>Muslim Council of Britain</p> <p><b><u>Local business groups/wider representation</u></b></p> <p>Country Land and Business Association</p> <p>National Farmers Union</p> <p>Federation of Small Businesses</p> <p>Lincolnshire Rural Support Network</p> <p>Rural Business Network</p> <p>Lincs Rural</p> <p><b><u>Seldom heard groups</u></b></p> <p>Age UK Lincolnshire and South Lincolnshire</p> <p>Age UK Nottingham and Nottinghamshire</p> <p>Lincolnshire Traveller Initiative</p> <p>Lincolnshire Deaf Association</p> <p>Nottingham Deaf Society</p> <p>Lincolnshire Autistic Society</p> <p>Autistic Nottingham</p>
---

Updated draft – February 2023

<p>The WI Nottinghamshire Federation Disability Nottinghamshire Disability Lincs Lincolnshire Gypsy Liaison Group Friends, Families &amp; Travellers Lincoln and Lindsey Blind Society Lincolnshire Pamoja National Federation of Gypsy Liaison Groups Lincolnshire Travellers Initiative</p> <p><b>Youth and support groups</b></p> <p>Lincolnshire Youth and Community Development Lincolnshire Young Farmers Lincoln and West Lindsey Lincolnshire Young Farmers Nottinghamshire Federation of Young Farmers Clubs Lincolnshire Council For Voluntary Youth Services Carers First Lincolnshire Healthwatch Lincolnshire LEAP - Housing Support Service Lincolnshire Food Partnership Lincolnshire Housing Partnership Gainsborough Local Access Programme Young Lincolnshire Lincolnshire Youth Council Lincoln and West Lindsey Youth Workers Youth and Community Development Barnardos Scouts Nottinghamshire Scouts Lincolnshire Girlguiding Lincolnshire North Girlguiding Nottinghamshire</p>
---

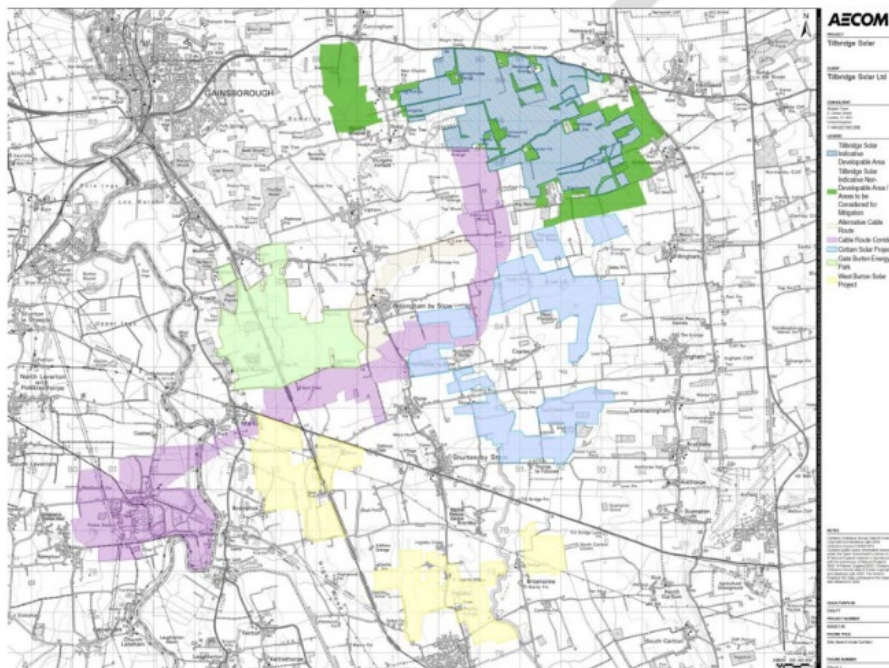
Updated draft – February 2023

## Appendix B – Solar DCO projects

This map shows the location of the scheme in relation to other solar DCO projects in the area. The plans present the indicative plans presented at the collaboration workshops (July 2022) and will be updated for the final SoCC, to be published in advance of the statutory consultation.

DRAFT

Updated draft – February 2023





## Appendix B-5: Formal comments from LPAs on draft SoCC - March 2023

### B-5.1: Formal comments from Bassetlaw District Council



Caroline Reeve  
Tillbridge Solar Project  
AECOM  
The Colmore Building  
20 Colmore Circus  
Birmingham, B4 6AT

Our Ref: N/A  
Officer: John Krawczyk  
Email: [planning@bassetlaw.gov.uk](mailto:planning@bassetlaw.gov.uk)

13<sup>th</sup> March 2023

Dear Caroline,

**TILLBRIDGE SOLAR PROJECT – PLANNING ACT 2008 SECTION 47: DUTY TO CONSULT LOCAL COMMUNITY – REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY CONSULTATION**

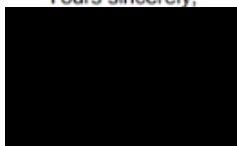
I refer to your email dated 13<sup>th</sup> February 2023 relating to a request for comments relating to the proposed Tillbridge Solar Project.

Thank you for consulting the District Council on the latest version of the Statement of Community Consultation for Tillbridge Solar. Overall, it is pleasing to see that our comments on the previous version of the document have helped to enhance the consultation strategy for the impacted communities in Bassetlaw. Specifically, the extension of the Primary Consultation Zone to now include the settlements of North Leverton with Hablesthorpe, South Leverton, and Treswell, as per our previous comments, is welcomed. Alongside, the addition of a consultation event at Rampton Village Hall is a positive move, and will no doubt be appreciated by the local communities on the Bassetlaw side of the River Trent.

We have now sent you our consultation list that we use for planning application so this should be cross referenced with the draft document.

If there is anything else you wish to discuss, please do not hesitate to contact the Local Planning Authority again.

Yours sincerely,



John Krawczyk  
Development Team Manager

## B-5.2: Formal comments from Lincolnshire County Council

From: Neil McBride <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: 14 March 2023 13:15  
To: Reeve, Caroline <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: FW: Tillbridge Solar - Planning Act 2008 Section 47: Duty to Consult Local Community – Request for comments on the draft Statement of Community Consultation

Afternoon Caroline,

I know we are meeting shortly and this may have been one of the items that you wanted to talk about as I note the deadline is today.

But set out below are the views from the Council's Community Engagement Officer to your recent request for comments.

Good afternoon Neil  
I am pleased to see that the revised SOCC has been extensively updated to include the recommendations made (as indicated in the letter).  
They invited suggestions for local radio stations:  
They could consider the stations below - although these have only been sourced from Wikipedia.  
I am unable to verify the existence or the suitability of these stations other than Lincs FM which I am aware of.

### Pages in category "Radio stations in Lincolnshire"

The following 9 pages are in this category, out of 9 total. [This list may not reflect recent changes.](#)

#### B

- [BBC Radio Humberside](#)
- [BBC Radio Lincolnshire](#)

#### C

- [Compass FM](#)

#### E

- [Endeavour FM](#)

#### G

- [Gravity FM](#)

#### L

- [Lincs FM](#)

#### R

- [Rutland Radio](#)

#### S

- [Siren FM](#)

#### T

- [Tulip Radio](#)

No further comment.

Kind regards  
Duncan

[Duncan Mills](#)

Senior Engagement Officer

Lincolnshire County Council

County Offices, Newland, Lincoln LN1 1YL

## B-5.3: Formal comments from West Lindsey District Council

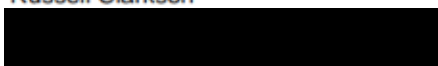


Guildhall  
Marshall's Yard  
Gainsborough  
Lincolnshire DN21 2NA

Telephone 01427 676676  
Web [www.west-lindsey.gov.uk](http://www.west-lindsey.gov.uk)

Your contact for this matter is:  
Russell Clarkson

Caroline Reeve,  
Associate Director  
AECOM  
Acting on behalf of Tillbridge Solar



14<sup>th</sup> March 2023

By Email: [info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com)

Dear Caroline Reeve,

**PINS REF: EN010142**

**LPA REF: 145665**

**Planning Act 2008 (as amended) – s47 draft Statement of Community Consultation**

**LOCATION: Tillbridge Solar Project**

Thank you for your email dated 13<sup>th</sup> February 2023, which enclosed a copy of your draft Statement of Community Consultation ("draft SoCC"), in order to comply with your general duty to consult the local authority in accordance with s47(1) of the Planning Act 2008 (as amended).

We have now taken the opportunity to review the draft SoCC, and as a host authority wish to make the following comments, to be taken into consideration under s47(5).

**Fig 4.1** – Whilst labelled, It would be helpful if this clearly distinguishes (different colour?) between the "Principal Site Boundary" and "Cable Route Corridor" in order not to give the impression that solar PV could be located within the corridor.

**4.4.3** – it is noted that an iterative process is in place, and that the consultation period will inform the final design of the scheme.

**Table 4.1** – whilst noted, this does not set out which properties are deemed as "near neighbours" and have been directly consulted.

**5.1.1** – It is noted that a six week consultation is proposed to run from 9<sup>th</sup> May 2023 until 20<sup>th</sup> June 2023. We do welcome a six week consultation period. However, we do have significant concerns with the proposal for it to run in the period 9<sup>th</sup> May until 20<sup>th</sup> June. As you are aware from our discussions, local elections will be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> May 2023. At West Lindsey, all 36 seats will be contested. With Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May declared as a public bank holiday, this means that Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May will be the first day of business for a new Council. The Councillors will only on that day be attending their initial "Welcome to the Council" induction. The Councillors will then enter an

intensive training period, with the first committees not scheduled until the week commencing 29<sup>th</sup> May.

Holding the statutory consultation between the dates proposed would place the Ward Councillors at a significant disadvantage in being able to actively participate and engage with the process, and be able to adequately represent their constituents.

This is a significant concern that we consider would affect the adequacy of the consultation. We would strongly recommend that the proposed consultation is pushed back by at least 3 weeks, and does not commence until the week commencing 29<sup>th</sup> May, at the earliest.

**5.3.4** – It is recognised that the primary consultation zone (PCZ) would extend at least 2km from the site boundary of the principal site (1km from the route corridor). We note in fig 5.1 that this would cover principal settlements in proximity to the proposed development (and has been extended to include Sturton by Stow). It is noted that all homes and businesses within the PCZ will be directly consulted.

**5.4** – We are encouraged to see that under-represented / seldom heard groups have been identified and that you will contact them in advance of the statutory consultation in order to understand how best to consult. We would advise that this should take place now, and the outcome of those discussions be recorded within the final published SoCC.

**Table 5.1** We are encouraged to note that six in-person consultations will be scheduled to take place, including in the nearby settlements of Glentworth, Hemswell, Corringham, Willingham by Stow and Sturton by Stow. It is noted that *“Events will be held on different days of the week with varied hours to accommodate different availability, including on weekdays and at weekends.”* All of the events should include time periods outside of normal working hours (Monday to Friday 9-5) to cater for those working people who are unable to attend during such times.

We consider that at least two scheduled webinars should be held – that are clearly advertised in advance. We would suggest that one should be held early within the consultation period, and another towards the end of the consultation period.

We are agreeable to WLDC offices being used as a Local Information Point. Hard copies of documentation should be supplied in advance of the start of the consultation, in order it is available to the public on day one.

It is noted that the consultation will be advertised in local newspapers. We would encourage that this is expanded to include advertising on local radio and through social media.

It is noted that you intend to undertake stakeholder briefings, and issue emails and letters to *“local political representatives (Councillors and MPs)”*. As stated previously, you will not be in a position to do this at the start of the consultation period on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May, as local elections will have only just taken place. The elected members will only have just been confirmed one working day prior to the commencement of the proposed consultation – their contact details will still be in the process of being set up.

Social media – whilst it is noted you will ask stakeholders to advertise your consultation on their media – it is recommended that you consider advertising directly via social media.

**7.1.1** – In the event of material changes to the proposed development, we would expect further consultation to take place, applying “Wheatcroft principles”. This should be

discussed with the LPA and will be taken into consideration with our adequacy of consultation response required under s55(4).

8.1.1 – we are encouraged to note that the consultation will take account of the three other known NSIP Solar project proposals in proximity of the site, and that a map will be provided showing all of the proposed schemes in the same context.

Appendix A – It is considered that local schools should be consulted.

It is trusted the above is of assistance, and it is requested that this is given regard to, in accordance with s47(5).

Yours Sincerely,



**Russell Clarkson BA(Hons) DipTP MRTPI  
Development Management Team Manager**

**On behalf of West Lindsey District Council**

CC – [tillbridgesolarproject@planninginspectorate.gov.uk](mailto:tillbridgesolarproject@planninginspectorate.gov.uk)

If you require this letter in another format e.g. large print, please contact Customer Services on 01427 676676, by email [customer.services@west-lindsey.gov.uk](mailto:customer.services@west-lindsey.gov.uk) or by asking any of the Customer Services staff.

If you want to know more about how we use your data, what your rights are and how to contact us if you have any concerns, please read our privacy notice: [www.west-lindsey.gov.uk/planning-privacy](http://www.west-lindsey.gov.uk/planning-privacy)



## Appendix B-6: Emails to host local authorities to inform about the change in consultation dates

**From:** <info@tillbridgesolar.com>  
**Sent on:** Tuesday, April 4, 2023 9:52:25 AM  
**To:** Russell Clarkson <[REDACTED]>  
**CC:** Sally Grindrod-Smith <[REDACTED]>; Cllr. O Bierley <[REDACTED]>; info@tillbridgesolar.com; Reeve, Caroline <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** RE: s.47 response to draft Statement of Community Consultation - Tillbridge Solar

Dear Russell,

Thank you for your previous engagement and comments on our draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC).

In accordance with section 47(5) of the Planning Act 2008, we are now having regard to all formal comments on the draft SoCC, which were received before the deadline of 11:59pm on Tuesday 14th March 2023.

In recognition of the upcoming local elections in West Lindsey and Bassetlaw on Thursday 4th May, and comments on the draft SoCC in relation to this, we have decided to move the start date for our statutory consultation period from **Tuesday 9 May 2023** to **Tuesday 30th May 2023**. The consultation will run for six-weeks, closing on **Tuesday 11 July 2023**.

In line with statements set out in the draft SoCC, we are committed to providing information to and offering briefings with elected representatives and local planning authority Members. We look forward to working with you to arrange these briefings and ensure that your returning and newly elected members can actively participate and engage with our statutory consultation process and represent their constituents.

Following the local elections on 4th May, we also welcome the opportunity to meet with you and your Members to discuss our proposals in more detail, including any upcoming committee meetings and training/induction sessions you will be holding. Please let us know these dates and we would be happy to attend and provide further information where needed.

If you have any further questions or would like to discuss the above information in more detail, please let us know.

Many thanks,

Matthew

 info@tillbridgesolar.com  
**To:** Neil McBride <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Eloise Shieber <[REDACTED]>; dev\_planningsupport@incolnshire.gov.uk; Reeve, Caroline <[REDACTED]>; info@tillbridgesolar.com

 Tue 4/4/2023 10:00 AM

Dear Neil,

Thank you for your previous engagement and comments on our draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC).

In accordance with section 47(5) of the Planning Act 2008, we are now having regard to all formal comments on the draft SoCC, which were received before the deadline of 11:59pm on Tuesday 14th March 2023.

In recognition of the upcoming local elections in West Lindsey and Bassetlaw on Thursday 4th May, and comments on the draft SoCC in relation to this, we have decided to move the start date for our statutory consultation period from **Tuesday 9 May 2023** to **Tuesday 30th May 2023**. The consultation will run for six-weeks, closing on **Tuesday 11 July 2023**.

In line with statements set out in the draft SoCC, we are committed to providing information to and offering briefings with elected representatives and local planning authority Members. We look forward to working with you to arrange these briefings and ensure that your returning and newly elected members can actively participate and engage with our statutory consultation process and represent their constituents.

Following the local elections on 4th May, we also welcome the opportunity to meet with you and your Members to discuss our proposals in more detail, including any upcoming committee meetings and training/induction sessions you will be holding. Please let us know these dates and we would be happy to attend and provide further information where needed.

If you have any further questions or would like to discuss the above information in more detail, please let us know.

Many thanks,

Matthew

Tillbridge Solar community relations team

---



info@tillbridgesolar.com

To: nina.wilson@nottscc.gov.uk

Cc: [REDACTED] planning.policy@nottscc.gov.uk; +2 others



Tue 4/4/2023 10:06 AM

Dear Nina,

Thank you for your previous engagement and comments on our draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC).

In accordance with section 47(5) of the Planning Act 2008, we are now having regard to all formal comments on the draft SoCC, which were received before the deadline of 11:59pm on Tuesday 14th March 2023.

In recognition of the upcoming local elections in West Lindsey and Bassetlaw on Thursday 4th May, and comments on the draft SoCC in relation to this, we have decided to move the start date for our statutory consultation period from **Tuesday 9 May 2023 to Tuesday 30th May 2023**. The consultation will run for six-weeks, closing on **Tuesday 11 July 2023**.

In line with statements set out in the draft SoCC, we are committed to providing information to and offering briefings with elected representatives and local planning authority Members. We look forward to working with you to arrange these briefings and ensure that your returning and newly elected members can actively participate and engage with our statutory consultation process and represent their constituents.

Following the local elections on 4th May, we also welcome the opportunity to meet with you and your Members to discuss our proposals in more detail, including any upcoming committee meetings and training/induction sessions you will be holding. Please let us know these dates and we would be happy to attend and provide further information where needed.

If you have any further questions or would like to discuss the above information in more detail, please let us know.

Many thanks,

Matthew

Tillbridge Solar community relations team



Matthew Addy

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: Reeve, Caroline <[REDACTED]>; Info Tillbridgesolar



Tue 4/4/2023 10:03 AM

Dear Clare, John,

Thank you for your previous engagement and comments on our draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC).

In accordance with section 47(5) of the Planning Act 2008, we are now having regard to all formal comments on the draft SoCC, which were received before the deadline of 11:59pm on Tuesday 14th March 2023.

In recognition of the upcoming local elections in West Lindsey and Bassetlaw on Thursday 4th May, and comments on the draft SoCC in relation to this, we have decided to move the start date for our statutory consultation period from **Tuesday 9 May 2023 to Tuesday 30th May 2023**. The consultation will run for six-weeks, closing on **Tuesday 11 July 2023**.

In line with statements set out in the draft SoCC, we are committed to providing information to and offering briefings with elected representatives and local planning authority Members. We look forward to working with you to arrange these briefings and ensure that your returning and newly elected members can actively participate and engage with our statutory consultation process and represent their constituents.

Following the local elections on 4th May, we also welcome the opportunity to meet with you and your Members to discuss our proposals in more detail, including any upcoming committee meetings and training/induction sessions you will be holding. Please let us know these dates and we would be happy to attend and provide further information where needed.

If you have any further questions or would like to discuss the above information in more detail, please let us know.

Many thanks,

Matthew

Tillbridge Solar community relations team

## Appendix B-7: Published SoCC (May 2023)



May 2023



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## Section 1: Introduction

### 1.1 Purpose of the document

1.1.1 Tillbridge Solar Limited ("we" or "the Applicant") is preparing a Development Consent Order (DCO) application under the Planning Act 2008 for a new solar energy and storage scheme located on land to south, east and south east of Gainsborough and to the north west of Lincoln ("the Application").

1.1.2 This document is a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) which sets out how we intend to consult people ahead of our application for development consent for the Tillbridge Solar scheme (hereinafter referred to as the "Scheme").

1.1.3 The Scheme is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) under sections 14(1)(a) and 15(2) of the Planning Act 2008 (the Act) and requires consent from the Secretary of State (SoS) for the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero via a DCO. Accordingly, this SoCC has been prepared pursuant to section 47(1) of the Act which requires applicants to 'prepare a statement setting out how the applicant proposes to consult about the proposed application with people living in the vicinity of the land' and Regulation 12 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (the Regulations) which outlines the requirements for such statements in respect of environmental information.

1.1.4 This SoCC has been prepared with reference to guidance on pre-application consultation published by the Government and the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) and sets out the approach to consultation with the community in the vicinity of the Scheme.

1.1.5 In accordance with section 47 paragraphs (2) to (5) of the Act, in developing this SoCC, we consulted with and have had regard to comments from the following section 43(1) local planning authorities:

- West Lindsey District Council;
- Bassetlaw District Council;
- Lincolnshire County Council; and
- Nottinghamshire County Council.

1.1.6 In accordance with section 47, paragraph (6) of the Act, the Applicant will be publishing a notice in a newspaper circulating in the vicinity of the land, providing details of where the statement can be inspected.

1.1.7 It will also be shared with neighbouring local planning authorities upon publication. The publication schedule, including the statutory notices published in accordance with section 47 and section 48 of the Act, is provided in **Table 1.1**.



May 2023

**Table 1.1: Statutory notice publication schedule**

Newspaper outlet	Notice	1 <sup>st</sup> publication date	2 <sup>nd</sup> publication date
Lincolnshire Echo	S47	Thursday 25 May 2023	N/A
Retford Times	S47	Thursday 25 May 2023	N/A
Gainsborough Standard	S47	Thursday 25 May 2023	N/A
The Guardian	S48	Thursday 25 May 2023	N/A
London Gazette	S48	Thursday 25 May 2023	N/A
Lincolnshire Echo	S48	Thursday 25 May 2023	Thursday 1 June 2023
Retford Times	S48	Thursday 25 May 2023	Thursday 1 June 2023
Gainsborough Standard	S48	Thursday 25 May 2023	Thursday 1 June 2023

1.1.8 The document outlines how people can learn more about the Scheme and engage with the process, prior to an application for development consent being submitted, provides a brief overview of what we are proposing to develop and what we will be consulting on, and the statutory pre-application consultation process.

1.1.9 This document also describes consultation on the Scheme in relation to other solar DCO consultations in the area.

1.1.10 Additionally, it sets out how we will have regard to consultation responses in finalising the proposals for the Scheme, which will be submitted as an application for development consent to the SoS.

## Section 2: Nationally Significant infrastructure Projects

2.1.1 As the Scheme is an onshore generating station located in England with a proposed generation capacity of more than 50 megawatts (MW), the Scheme will be classified as an NSIP in accordance with sections 14(1)(a) and 15(2) of the Act. The consenting regime for NSIPs comes under the Act and requires the Applicant to apply for a DCO to develop the Scheme.

2.1.2 The Applicant intends to submit an application for a DCO under section 37 of the Act to PINS.



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2.1.3 The Application would be examined by an examining authority appointed through PINS – the independent body responsible for examining NSIPs – who would make a recommendation on the application to the SoS. The SoS makes the final decision on a DCO application. This process is explained further in **Figure 2.1**.

2.1.4 Before submitting an application, the Act requires us to carry out consultation with people living in the vicinity of the land, prescribed consultation bodies, such as Natural England and relevant parish councils, relevant statutory undertakers, such as the Environment Agency and Local Authorities, and those with an interest in the land.

2.1.5 Early involvement of communities, local authorities and other stakeholders helps to ensure we identify valuable information about the potential effects of the Scheme and provides an opportunity for early feedback from stakeholders to help shape the Scheme's development.

2.1.6 Early involvement also ensures that potential mitigation measures can be considered and, where appropriate, built into our designs before an application for development consent is submitted.

2.1.7 The Planning Act 2008 process is shown in **Figure 2.1** and in more detail on the Planning Inspectorate's website: <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/application-process/the-process/>

2.1.8 PINS has also published a range of advice notes, which intend to inform applicants, consultees, the public and others about a range of process matters in relation to the Planning Act 2008 process. This includes advice note eight, which provides more detail on this process. All advice notes can be found on PINS' website: <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/legislation-and-advice/advice-notes/>



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Figure 2.1: Summary of the planning process for Tillbridge Solar





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## Section 3: About Tillbridge Solar

### 3.1 The Developer – Tillbridge Solar Limited

3.1.1 Tillbridge Solar Limited is a joint venture between Tribus Clean Energy Ltd and Canadian Solar, who are both experienced developers of renewable energy projects. We are being supported by a team of technical specialists.

3.1.2 Founded in 2018, Tribus Clean Energy Ltd specialises in the development of renewable energy projects and has a UK solar PV development pipeline of over 1.5 gigawatts (GW) and a pipeline of over three gigawatt hours (GWh) of Battery and Energy Storage Systems (BESS).

3.1.3 Founded in 2001, Canadian Solar is a leading manufacturer of solar PV modules and provider of solar energy solutions and has a UK solar development pipeline of over 2GW, with over 4GWh of BESS.

## Section 4: The Scheme

### 4.1 The proposed development

4.1.1 The Scheme is located approximately five kilometres (km) to the east of Gainsborough and approximately 13 km to the north of Lincoln.

4.1.2 The Scheme comprises two distinct sections, which are:

- 'the Principal Site', which is the location where ground mounted solar photovoltaic (PV) panels, electrical substations and energy storage facilities will be installed; and
- 'the Cable Route Corridor', which will comprise the underground electrical infrastructure required to connect the Principal Site to the national transmission system.

4.1.3 The Principal Site covers an area of approximately 1,400 hectares (ha) and is located entirely within the administrative area of West Lindsey District Council. The Principal Site comprises:

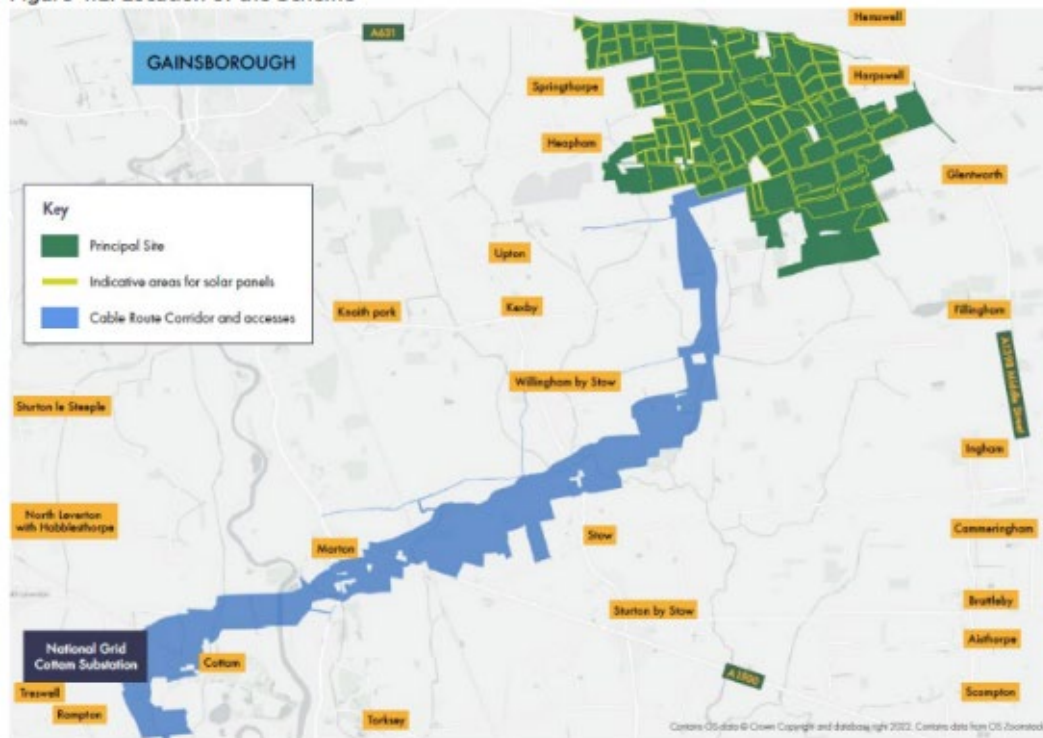
- Developable areas – where all solar PV panels and associated infrastructure would be located. This area sits on approximately 900 ha of predominantly agricultural land; and
- Non-developable areas – areas that are being considered for mitigation and enhancement, such as tree planting and habitat creation. This area amounts to approximately 500 hectares.

4.1.4 The location of the Scheme is shown in **Figure 4.1**.

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Figure 4.1: Location of the Scheme



- 4.1.5 The electricity generated from the Scheme would then connect to National Grid's Cottam substation in Nottinghamshire. The Applicant has secured a Bilateral Connection Agreement (BCA) with National Grid to allow 500MW of renewable energy to be transferred in to and out of their substation. We are now working to refine our proposals to ensure the Scheme can generate as much energy as possible in line with this agreement.
- 4.1.6 The underground Cable Route Corridor would be approximately 16 km in length, and crosses the administrative areas of West Lindsey District Council and Bassetlaw District Council.
- 4.1.7 The parameters of the Scheme within the Principal Site are at an early stage in the design process and will be refined as the Scheme progresses, taking into account environmental and technical factors, and consultation responses. An indicative site layout plan has been derived providing a snapshot in time showing the potential locations of the key components of the Scheme. This includes the location of the solar PV modules, the battery energy storage system, transformer stations, switchgear, two substations, control room and storage facilities and the access into and through the site for construction and maintenance.



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4.1.8 The Scheme would consist of the following principal infrastructure:

- Solar PV panels (also known as solar modules);
- Solar stations (inverter, transformer and switchgear), including the necessary equipment to convert the DC electricity collected by the solar PV modules into AC, allowing electricity generated to be exported to the National Grid;
- Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) – providing peak generation and grid balancing services;
- Battery Direct Current (DC)/DC converters;
- On-site cabling – required to connect the solar PV modules and BESS to inverters, and the inverters to the transformers on-site;
- On-site substations;
- Solar farm control centre;
- Equipment storage;
- Fencing, security and lighting;
- Site access and access tracks, including four points of access for the Principal Site off the main highway network and internal access tracks within the Principal Site;
- Surface water drainage; and Electricity connection to National Grid via cable route corridor. The Tillbridge circuit will be connected to an existing free bay at Cottam substation

4.1.9 An indicative example of the Scheme is shown in **Figure 4.2**. **Table 4.1** provides a summary of the scheme elements referred to in **Figure 4.2**.

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Figure 4.2: Illustrative example of the Scheme



Table 4.1: Summary of scheme elements

<b>The sun</b>	Harnessing the sunlight as the earth’s primary source of energy
<b>1. Solar panels</b>	Convert the sun’s energy into DC electrical power.
<b>2. BESS</b>	Battery and Energy Storage will have a direct relationship with the solar panels and it will support the operation of this by storing electricity produced during times of peak capacity until it needs to be released.
<b>3. Inverters, transformers and switchgear</b>	Infrastructure is needed to convert power generated by the solar panels and step up the voltage within the Principal Site to allow onward transmission to the National Grid.
<b>4. Substations</b>	Consisting of equipment to facilitate the export/import of electricity from/to the Principal Site to/from the national grid.
<b>5. Connection to the national grid</b>	Electricity is exported from the on-site substation to the national grid via underground 400 kV cables. Cabling is also required within the Principal Site.





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<b>6. Output of power to the network</b>	Power is transmitted to the network by the local network operator via the national grid.
<b>7. Our homes</b>	

**4.2 Vision and objectives**

4.2.1 Our vision for the Scheme is to deliver cleaner, greener, and lower cost energy, while also enhancing the local environment and ensuring we are a responsible developer.

4.2.2 Our objectives are to:

- The Scheme will seek to efficiently generate a large amount of renewable energy for supply to the National Electricity Transmission System. In doing so make a contribution to the decarbonisation of electricity generation and achieving net zero carbon emissions, in line with the government’s commitments.
- Provide equivalent energy needs for around 300,000 households with low-cost energy, generated in the UK at a time of great uncertainty within the energy market.
- The Scheme will seek to enhance existing ecology to achieve Biodiversity Net Gain and maximise opportunities to create new habitats for wildlife.
- Develop a Scheme in a responsible and considerate way.
- Provide opportunities for local communities and the local economy.
- Ensure the local landscape is central to the Scheme’s design.

**4.3 Environmental Impact Assessment**

4.3.1 The Scheme is an ‘environmental impact assessment (EIA) development’ under the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017.

4.3.2 The application for development consent will therefore require an EIA to be carried out to ensure the likely significant effects of the Scheme are properly understood and that where available, appropriate mitigation measures are identified to control or reduce environmental effects.

4.3.3 An EIA Scoping Opinion was issued by PINS on 4 November 2022. This identifies the environmental issues and topics relevant to the Scheme, and which should be assessed as part of the EIA. The Scoping Opinion is available to view on the PINS website at <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/east-midlands/tillbridge-solar-project/?ipcsection=docs>





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4.3.4 A Preliminary Environmental Information (PEI) Report will be produced and publicised and consulted upon as part of the statutory pre-application consultation obligations under s42 of The Planning Act 2008. A Non-Technical Summary (NTS) will also be available, which will summarise the contents of the PEI Report in a non-technical manner.

4.3.5 The PEI Report will build upon the findings from the Scoping Report (submitted in September 2022) and the feedback received through early engagement with stakeholders. It will provide preliminary environmental information on the potential environmental effects of the Scheme and any proposed mitigation to help the local community and consultation bodies to understand the likely significant environmental effects of the Scheme on the environment and inform responses regarding the proposals.

4.3.6 We will be inviting feedback and comments on the information presented in the PEI Report as part of the statutory consultation. Feedback received will be considered before the DCO application and EIA are finalised for submission.

4.3.7 All final environmental findings will be set out in an Environmental Statement (ES), which will form part of the DCO application. The ES will set out the assessment and conclusions of the EIA process. It will build on the content of the PEI Report and incorporate the responses from the statutory consultation, stakeholder engagement and the results of surveys undertaken. It will also describe any changes to the project and any mitigation measures that need to be implemented. Consultation and engagement approach.

#### 4.4 Aims, objectives and values

4.4.1 The Applicant is committed to engaging and consulting with communities and stakeholders giving people the opportunity to provide feedback and insight at a formative stage ahead of more detailed design work being carried out.

4.4.2 The Applicant is committed to being a good, long-term neighbour and wants to ensure that we can build a solar Scheme that benefits the local area.

4.4.3 We are undertaking an iterative consultation process for the Scheme. The comments we receive will help inform the final design of the Scheme. Our consultation consists of two broad phases:

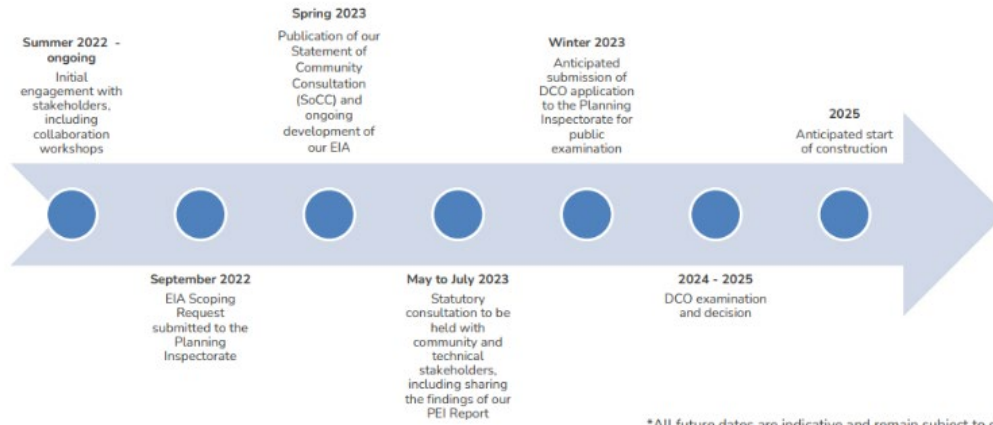
- Ongoing engagement, held from summer 2022 to early-mid 2023; and
- Statutory consultation period lasting for 6 weeks, from 30 May 2023 to 11 July 2023.

4.4.4 This SoCC sets out how we will undertake the statutory consultation; however, a summary of the ongoing engagement and non-statutory consultation activities is provided below. The timeline for the scheme is shown in **Figure 4.3**.



Final version – April 2023

Figure 4.3: Indicative consultation timeline\*



\*All future dates are indicative and remain subject to change.



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#### 4.5 Ongoing engagement

- 4.5.1 The initial stage of engagement began in summer 2022 and is ongoing until the start of the statutory consultation in May 2023, and beyond.
- 4.5.2 The primary aim of our initial engagement was to introduce our early-stage proposals for the Scheme, including the early environmental assessments and site selection work carried out to date.
- 4.5.3 During this initial stage of engagement, we engaged collaboratively with stakeholders to help understand key issues and potential constraints in the local area.
- 4.5.4 This ongoing period of non-statutory consultation provided the opportunity to engage with key stakeholders on a regular basis, including providing a series of Scheme updates prior to the statutory consultation in May 2023.
- 4.5.5 A summary of activities carried out during this stage of engagement is provided in **Table 4.1**, with more detail on specific consultation activities, including the collaboration workshops, also provided below.

**Table 4.1: Ongoing non-statutory consultation activities for Tillbridge Solar**

Consultation activity	Summary of activity
Early engagement with local planning authorities	Engagement with host local planning authorities started in June 2022 with initial briefings on the Scheme. We engaged with authorities on the approach to consultation and engagement and held specific briefings with their members to provide an overview of the early-stage proposals.
Site visits with landowners and near neighbours	<p>Engagement also included meeting with near neighbours in close proximity to the Principal Site where we introduced our early-stage plans and discussed the Scheme from a landscape and visual perspective.</p> <p>Near neighbours were defined as properties within or immediately adjacent to (less than 50 metres) to the 'red line boundary' (as was previously defined).</p> <p>Through a mix of pre-arranged meetings and a 'door-knocking' exercise, a total of 19 properties/sets of interested parties were met with</p>

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	<p>across three separate site visits. This enabled local comments and issues to be fed into the Scheme design.</p> <p>A summary of the site visits, and relevant changes made to the Scheme, is provided in the Tillbridge Solar post-collaboration workshop report (September 2022), which can be found on the Scheme website (<a href="https://tillbridgesolar.com/documents-library">tillbridgesolar.com/documents-library</a>).</p> <p>Site visits with near neighbours have taken place on a regular basis, which has helped to continually refine the Scheme design and inform the proposals for the statutory consultation.</p>
<p>Collaboration workshops</p>	<p>A series of collaboration workshops were held in July 2022 with the aim of identifying and understanding the views and opinions of stakeholders and communities who may be affected by the Scheme.</p> <p>A summary of this approach to engagement is provided in <b>Section 4.6</b>.</p>
<p>Ongoing engagement with consultees</p>	<p>Following the collaboration workshops, we have continued to engage with key stakeholders on the Scheme. Activities have included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Setting up regular meetings with local planning authorities</li> <li>• Circulating an initial community newsletter to local communities (defined by a primary consultation zone of approximately 5,000 addresses – as shown in <b>Figure 4.1</b>)</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Offering and attending meetings with local stakeholders, including parish councils, local residents and landowners</li> <li>• Holding meetings with statutory/technical consultees to assist with the EIA process and design refinement.</li> </ul>
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#### 4.6 Collaboration workshops – July 2022

4.6.1 As part of the early-stage engagement for the Scheme, we held a series of collaboration workshops to help understand key issues and potential constraints in the local area. This initial engagement has contributed towards the ongoing refinement of our plans for the Scheme and the information presented during our statutory consultation.

4.6.2 The workshops provided the opportunity to introduce the early-stage plans and explain more about the proposals and to create a platform for active participation in the design process.

4.6.3 Three collaboration workshops were held as follows:

- Wednesday 20 July 2022, from 1pm to 5pm, at Glentworth Village Hall, Stoney Lane, Glentworth, Lincolnshire, DN21 5DF
- Thursday 21 July 2022, from 2pm to 6pm, at Willingham Village Hall, High St, Willingham by Stow, Gainsborough, DN21 5JZ
- Friday 22 July 2022, from 10am to 2pm, at Sturton by Stow Village Hall, High St, Sturton by Stow, Lincoln, LN1 2AE

4.6.4 We invited key stakeholders to attend the collaboration workshops, who were selected as being representatives of persons with an interest in the Scheme, from a political, community and technical/environmental perspective. These stakeholders included:

- Relevant county, district, and ward councillors across the districts of West Lindsey and Bassetlaw and Counties of Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire
- Wider council Members, Portfolio Holders, and technical/planning officers
- Representatives of the local community, including parish councils and local interest/ community groups
- Statutory consultees and wider environmental/ technical stakeholders





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4.6.5 The approach to engagement during this phase of the Scheme, including specific groups and stakeholders to be invited to the workshops, was discussed with the relevant local planning authorities before the workshops were held.

4.6.6 A range of information was presented during the workshops in order to provide a more detailed understanding of the Scheme and the work carried out to date. This included:

- An introduction to Tillbridge Solar and the needs case for the Scheme, including the location and key elements of the proposals
- The story so far, including site suitability and environmental constraints and opportunities
- A discussion of specific environmental topics in relation to how the Scheme is defined going forwards

4.6.7 Attendees at the workshops were invited to provide feedback and comments throughout the session and discuss the proposals in more detail to help inform this. A full summary of the collaboration workshops can be found in the **Tillbridge Solar post-collaboration workshop report (September 2022)**, which can be found on the Scheme website ([tillbridgesolar.com/documents-library](https://tillbridgesolar.com/documents-library)). This report was uploaded to the website and issued to all stakeholders invited to the workshops.

## **Section 5: Statutory consultation (30 May 2023 to 11 July 2023)**

### **5.1 Introduction**

5.1.1 The statutory consultation will run for six weeks from **30 May 2023 until 11 July 2023**. All responses to the consultation must be received by **23:59 on 11 July 2023**.

5.1.2 Held in accordance with section 42 of the Act, this consultation will provide an opportunity for us update you on our proposals for the Scheme and provide a consultation response. More details on what we will be consulting on and how we propose to consult are listed below.

### **5.2 What will we consult on?**

5.2.1 The aim of our pre-application consultation is to ensure that the community, landowners and tenants, stakeholders and technical consultees have the opportunity to understand and influence our proposals. The statutory consultation is an opportunity to present the more detailed proposals and key refinements made in response to ongoing design work and feedback during the previous stage of engagement.



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5.2.2 We will be seeking feedback on all aspects of our plans for the Scheme. This includes inviting comments on issues related (but not limited to):

- The need for the Scheme.
- The Principal Site, including initial parameters associated with the Scheme and the Cable Route Corridor.
- Issues associated with the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Scheme.
- Preliminary information on environmental impacts as part of the published PEI Report. A NTS will accompany the PEI Report to summarise the contents of the PEI Report in a non-technical manner.
- Other plans, maps and documents to accompany the PEI Report.
- Anything else that you reasonably think we need to consider.

5.2.3 The full PEI Report, together with the NTS, will be made available electronically on the Scheme website. One copy will also be available for inspection only (and not to take away) at each of the local information points listed below. We will publicise as part of our statutory notices a service for requesting individual hard copies of technical documents, such as the PEI Report, and the process and charge for supplying these.

### 5.3 Who are we consulting?

5.3.1 Our consultation process is open to anyone who may be interested in, or in any way feels impacted by our proposals for the Scheme. We welcome all views and will take them into account before we submit our DCO application.

5.3.2 In accordance with section 42 of the Act, the Applicant will be consulting with a range of statutory and non-statutory consultees, such as Natural England, the Environment Agency and relevant local planning authorities.

5.3.3 We are seeking to consult with people who live in the vicinity of the Scheme, including people in areas where the Scheme may have a direct or indirect impact, either permanently or temporarily, as a result of construction, operation and maintenance or decommissioning of the Scheme.

5.3.4 Having considered these impacts, we have identified an appropriate primary consultation zone (PCZ) by initially extending a minimum distance of two kilometres from the boundary of the Principal Site Boundary – within which the solar PV panels, energy storage system, on-site substation and supporting infrastructure would be located. The PCZ also extends one kilometre from the edge of the cable route corridor for the grid connection.

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5.3.5 The PCZ has also been extended in certain areas as considered proportionate. We have considered:

- Zone of theoretical visibility for the Scheme, which assesses areas in vicinity of the Scheme boundary which could experience a degree of visual impact;
- Existing natural and human geographic boundaries, such as main roads;
- Capturing entire communities, rather than excluding small numbers of properties;
- Coverage of the host district council wards and parishes; and
- Where we propose to undertake additional works to enable construction transport, equipment areas or road modifications.

5.3.6 The zone has been extended further where proportionate and reasonable based on existing boundaries in order to avoid inappropriate 'severance' of communities. The PCZ is shown in **Figure 5.1**.

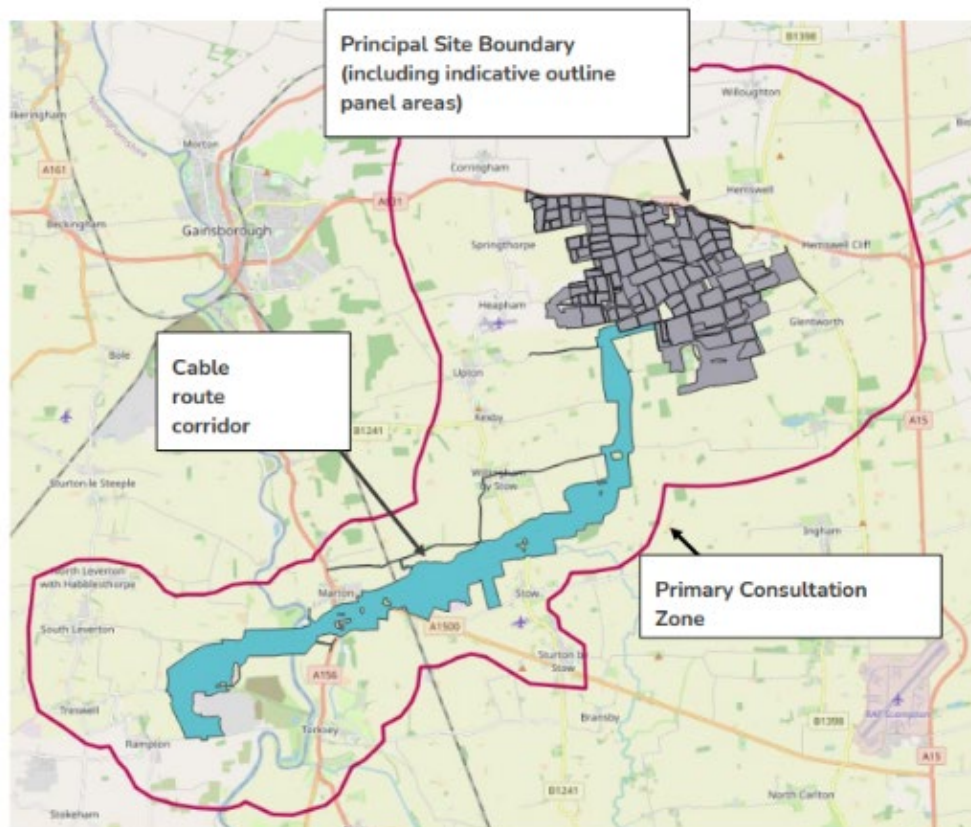
5.3.7 All homes and businesses within the PCZ will directly receive consultation leaflets in the post at the start of the statutory consultation period. Consultation events will be held within the PCZ, where possible, and relevant groups and organisations such as parish councils and local interest groups will be notified of consultation opportunities.

5.3.8 We also recognise that people who live and work beyond the PCZ may also have an interest in our proposals and may wish to participate in the statutory consultation. We are committed to making sure that individuals and organisations are given the opportunity to participate and will attempt to raise awareness of the consultation using a number of methods such as advertising and direct communication with organisations located in the wider consultation zone. More details on these methods are outlined in **Section 5.5: How we will consult**.



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Figure 5.1: Primary Consultation Zone for Tillbridge Solar



#### 5.4 Consultation with under-represented or seldom heard groups

5.4.1 Our consultation has been developed to be accessible to all groups in the community, including 'under-represented' or 'seldom heard' groups and individuals who may be less likely to participate in or respond to traditional consultation techniques. These methods are outlined in **Section 5.5: How we will consult**.

5.4.2 These organisations will be contacted, by email and/or post, ahead of consultation to ensure that our approach best meets the needs of their members, including whether any consultation materials are required in a specific format. We will also contact these organisations and invite suggestions for any additional groups that should be contacted as part of the consultation.



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5.4.3 We are hosting different formats of free-to-use communications channels to ensure our consultation is as accessible as possible, including include email, phone and post. We will also be using a combination of in-person and digital formats such as in-person events and webinars. We will also continue to notify them of consultation opportunities.

5.4.4 These groups and individuals that may find it harder to get involved in consultation and/or need additional support to access materials include, but are not limited to:

- The elderly
- People with visual impairments
- People with limited mobility
- Geographically isolated individuals or communities<sup>1</sup>
- Young people

5.4.5 The list of seldom heard groups and non-statutory groups we will be contacting as part of this consultation is provided in [Appendix A – Consultee lists](#).

5.4.6 Whilst the completion of an Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) is a duty placed on the public sector under section 149 of the Equality Act, we will produce an EqIA to demonstrate how the public sector equality duty has been considered and taken into account as part of the application to support the Examining Authority and Secretary of State in its decision-making.

## 5.5 How we will consult

5.5.1 During this statutory consultation, we will use a range of methods to ensure an inclusive, meaningful and open consultation. We will use a range of digital and non-digital methods of communication to ensure that our consultation can be accessed by all members of the community.

5.5.2 Our statutory consultation is planned to take place for six weeks from **30 May 2023 until 11 July 2023** and will exceed the statutory minimum period of 28 days as required by the Planning Act 2008.

5.5.3 A proposed schedule for all engagement methods, including activities and materials, is set out in **Table 5.1**.

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<sup>1</sup> We will also contact relevant representatives/officers from local planning authorities and ask them to help engage with any travellers' communities.



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**Table 5.1: Statutory consultation methods for Tillbridge Solar**

Consultation methods	
Method	Detail
Consultation events	<p>We will be holding six consultation events at locations across the PCZ. They will be advertised in consultation leaflets, in the local media and at local information points and through wider publicity for local community groups.</p> <p>All venues are located within the PCZ and have full disabled access, ensuring accessibility for all attendees.</p> <p>Events will be held on different days of the week with varied hours to accommodate different availability, including on weekdays and at weekends, including hours running into the evening. This account has been taken to ensure events are made available to a range of stakeholders, such as working families.</p> <p>The locations for the events are included below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Glentworth Village Hall, Stoney Lane, Glentworth, Lincolnshire, DN21 5DF – Wednesday 14 June; 2:30pm to 7pm</li> <li>• Willingham Village Hall, High St, Willingham by Stow, Gainsborough, DN21 5JZ – Saturday 17 June; 10am to 2pm</li> <li>• Sturton by Stow Village Hall, High St, Sturton by Stow, Lincoln, LN1 2AE – Thursday 22 June; 1:30pm to 5:30pm</li> <li>• Corringham Village Hall, 10 Middle St, Corringham, Gainsborough, DN21 5QR – Friday 30 June; 12pm to 4pm</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rampton Village Hall, Manor Grounds, Rampton, Retford, Nottinghamshire DN22 0JU – Saturday 1 July; 10am to 2pm</li> <li>• Hemswell and Harpswell Village Hall, Maypole Street, Hemswell, Lincolnshire, DN21 5UL – Thursday 6 July; 2:30pm to 6:30pm</li> </ul> <p>Members of the Tillbridge Solar project team will be at these events to discuss the proposals in more detail and answer any questions. Hard copies of selected materials will also be available to view and take away, with all materials available in digital format via the Scheme website from 30 May 2023 (<a href="http://tillbridgesolar.com/documents-library">tillbridgesolar.com/documents-library</a>).</p> <p>All venues have been selected based on their accessibility. Some events will be running later in the evenings to cater for working people who cannot attend during normal working hours.</p>
Webinars	<p>Webinars will be held for any member of the public to join via telephone or online. Two webinars will be held on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wednesday 7 June - 6:30pm to 8pm</li> <li>• Monday 10 July - 6:30pm to 8pm</li> </ul> <p>Attendees will be able to register for these online events on the project website (<a href="http://tillbridgesolar.com/consultation">tillbridgesolar.com/consultation</a>) or by emailing <a href="mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com">info@tillbridgesolar.com</a></p>
Telephone call backs	<p>Members of the public will be able to request a call back from a member of the project team (subject to availability) on <b>0800 046 9643</b> or <a href="mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com">info@tillbridgesolar.com</a>. The phone line will be operational 9am–5:30pm weekdays (with an answerphone facility to take messages outside these hours). People can arrange a call back at a time suitable to them, including outside of office hours.</p>

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	<p>This information will be advertised in the consultation leaflet and on the Scheme website.</p>
<p>Local information points</p>	<p>Hard copies of consultation leaflets and feedback questionnaires, will be available to collect from a number of local information points located in the vicinity of the Scheme, including libraries and council offices. These documents will be available to collect from the start of the consultation period.</p> <p>The locations are listed below.</p> <p><b><u>Lincolnshire</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• West Lindsey County Council, Guildhall Marshall's Yard, Marshalls Yard, 13b Beaumont St, Gainsborough DN21 2NA Opening hours: Monday to Friday (9am to 5pm)</li> <li>• Lincoln Central Library, Free School Lane, Lincolnshire, LN2 1EZ. Opening hours: Monday to Wednesday and Friday (9am to 5pm), Thursday (9am to 6pm), and Saturday (9am to 4pm).</li> <li>• Gainsborough Library, Gainsborough Cobden St, Gainsborough DN21 2NG. Opening hours: Monday to Wednesday and Friday (9am to 5pm), Thursday (9am to 6pm), and Saturday (9am to 1pm)</li> <li>• Saxilby Library, St Andrews Centre, William St, Saxilby LN1 2LP. Opening hours: Tuesday (10:30am to 3:30pm), Wednesday (10:30am to 4pm), and Friday (10:30am to 1pm).</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Nottinghamshire</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Retford Library, Churchgate, Retford, Nottinghamshire DN22 6PE. Opening hours: Monday to Friday (9am to 6pm) and Saturday (9am to 3:30pm)</li> </ul>

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	<p>A full copy of the PEI Report and the non-technical summary and the more detailed project information booklet will be available for inspection only (and not to take away) at the local information points listed above and via the project website (<a href="http://tillbridgesolar.com/documents-library">tillbridgesolar.com/documents-library</a>), with USBs also available free of charge, by request. USBs will be limited to one per household.</p> <p>A copy of this SoCC will also be able to inspect at these locations.</p> <p>We will check, by telephone, that consultation documentation remains at the information points throughout the consultation period.</p>
Scheme website	<p>A dedicated Scheme website (<a href="http://tillbridgesolar.com">tillbridgesolar.com</a>) is live for you to find out more information and provide your feedback.</p> <p>All consultation documents will be presented digitally and available for download, free of charge, from a specific consultation section on the website. Information will be consistent with materials available at the consultation events.</p> <p>The latest plans, including the Principal Site boundary and Cable Route Corridor, will be presented on an Interactive Map, which can be accessed through the Scheme website.</p>
<b>Consultation materials</b>	
<b>Material</b>	<b>Detail</b>
Project information booklet	A project information booklet will be published at the start of the consultation, providing a summary of the

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	<p>proposals we are consulting on, details of how people can take part, how feedback will be considered and how their feedback will be used to influence and shape the proposals. The booklet will also include the indicative site layout plan (of the Principal Site).</p>
Statutory consultation leaflet	<p>Consultation leaflets will be prepared to provide a high-level overview of the Scheme, the consultation and how people can get involved. The leaflet will indicate where the relevant Scheme information can be found and publicise the consultation events, including locations, dates and timings.</p>
Feedback questionnaire	<p>A feedback questionnaire will be prepared to allow people to provide feedback on the proposals. The questionnaire will ask people to provide feedback on all aspects of the Scheme, including particular issues we are seeking comment.</p> <p>The questionnaire can be completed online or downloaded if required and is also available in hard copy.</p>
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)	<p>A FAQs document will be available on the Scheme website at the start of the consultation period.</p>
Preliminary Environmental Informational (PEI) Report and Non-technical Summary (NTS)	<p>The PEI Report will contain a description of the Scheme, a preliminary assessment of the potentially significant environmental effects and the initial strategies to mitigate adverse effects. The PEI Report will be based on information available at that time, but the assessments will be developed once further detail is available and reported within an Environmental Statement submitted with the DCO application.</p> <p>An NTS of the PEI Report can also be downloaded from the Scheme website and will be available in printed format free of charge on request from the community relations team and at the consultation events.</p>



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<p>Technical Scheme documentation, including maps and plans of the Scheme</p>	<p>We will be producing plans for the Scheme, which will be available to view at the consultation events and on the Scheme website.</p> <p>Plans showing the location and aspects of the Scheme will be available at all times during and following the consultation period.</p>
<p>Materials in alternative formats</p>	<p>Upon request, all documents will be available in alternative accessible formats, such as braille, speaking text and alternative languages. All requests should be made to the community relations team by email (<a href="mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com">info@tillbridgesolar.com</a>) or phone (0800 046 9643), or can be made to the project team at the consultation events.</p>

5.5.4 All consultation documents can be downloaded free of charge from the Scheme website from 30 May 2023 ([tillbridgesolar.com/documents-library](http://tillbridgesolar.com/documents-library)), with hard copy documents also available at the consultation events.

5.5.5 We will publicise as part of our statutory notices a service for requesting individual hard copies of technical documents, such as the PEI Report, and the process and charge for supplying these. A USB containing all Scheme documentation can be requested free of charge from the community relations team. USBs will be limited to one per household.

5.5.6 In the event of changing Government guidelines due to COVID-19, or other unforeseen circumstances meaning the consultation events must be cancelled, or the display of materials prevented, the Applicant will inform people as early as possible of the cancellation or expected change via the project website and electronic communication with key stakeholders.

5.5.7 In the event of face-to-face consultation events being cancelled, replacement online events will be organised, which will provide the same information as presented at the in-person events.

**5.6 Promoting the consultation**

5.6.1 We will use a variety of methods to make people aware of the Scheme and advertise the statutory consultation. These methods are outlined in **Table 5.2**.

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**Table 5.2: Methods for promoting the statutory consultation for Tillbridge Solar**

Method	Detail
Consultation leaflet	<p>Consultation leaflets will be posted to all homes and businesses in the PCZ at the start of the statutory consultation period. The leaflet will also be issued to wider consultees by email, including the non-statutory consultees listed in <a href="#">Appendix A</a>.</p>
Press releases	<p>To promote awareness of the Scheme and the consultation both within and beyond the PCZ we will publish a press release at the start of the consultation. This will be sent to the following local and regional media outlets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BBC Look North</li> <li>• BBC Radio Lincolnshire</li> <li>• BBC Radio Nottingham</li> <li>• BBC East Midlands</li> <li>• BBC Look North (Yorkshire)</li> <li>• ITV Calendar</li> <li>• Notts TV</li> <li>• Retford Times</li> <li>• The Gainsborough Standard</li> <li>• The Grantham Journal</li> <li>• The Lincolnite</li> <li>• Lincolnshire Echo</li> <li>• Lincolnshire Free Press</li> <li>• Lincolnshire in Focus</li> <li>• Lincolnshire Life</li> <li>• Lincolnshire Live</li> <li>• Lincolnshire Reporter</li> <li>• Lincolnshire Today</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lincolnshire World</li> <li>• Lincs FM</li> <li>• Endeavour FM</li> <li>• Gravity FM</li> <li>• Siren Radio</li> <li>• Market Rasen Mail</li> <li>• Nottinghamshire in Focus</li> <li>• Nottinghamshire Live</li> <li>• Nottingham Local News</li> <li>• Nottingham Post</li> </ul>
Newspaper advertisements	<p>Two rounds of newspaper advertisements will be undertaken – one before and one during the consultation. Advertisements will provide details of the consultation, where more information can be found, how to respond, and the dates of the engagement activities.</p> <p>Advertisements will be placed in both print and digital publications to ensure wider coverage within and beyond the core and wider consultation zones. The publications will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lincolnshire Echo</li> <li>• Retford Times</li> <li>• Lincolnshire Live</li> <li>• Gainsborough Standard</li> <li>• Market Rasen Mail</li> <li>• Lincolnshire World</li> <li>• The Lincolnite</li> <li>• Lincolnshire Life</li> <li>• Retford Life</li> </ul>
Stakeholder briefings	<p>We will issue communications to key stakeholders, including local political representatives (Councillors and MPs) and local planning</p>

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	<p>authority Members and Parish Council clerks representing wards, constituencies, and parishes within the consultation zone to provide information about the proposals we are consulting on and invite them to take part in the consultation.</p> <p>We will arrange briefings directly with relevant planning officers at Lincolnshire County Council, Nottinghamshire County Council, West Lindsey District Council and Bassetlaw District Council at convenient dates and times to accommodate the May 2023 local elections.</p> <p>We will also offer briefings and organise online webinars with these stakeholders to provide information about the consultation. We will consider invitations to, or requests for, meetings with other local groups or special interest organisations on a case-by-case basis.</p>
<p>Emails and letters</p>	<p>We will send either emails or hard copy letters about the consultation and how to get involved to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• host constituency and neighbouring constituency area MPs;</li> <li>• elected representatives at West Lindsey District Council, Bassetlaw District Council, Nottinghamshire County Council and Lincolnshire County Council;</li> <li>• host parish councils;</li> <li>• neighbouring local authorities;</li> <li>• neighbouring parish councils; and</li> <li>• local interest groups, such as community and environmental groups.</li> </ul> <p>Formal notifications will be issued to stakeholders as required in accordance with section 42 of the Act.</p>
<p>Statutory notices</p>	<p>Statutory notices to publicise the consultation in accordance with section 48 of the Act will be published once in a national newspaper (The Guardian) and the London Gazette and twice (across two successive weeks) in local circulating papers (Lincolnshire Echo, Retford Times and Gainsborough Standard). The publication schedule is provided in <b>Table 1.1</b>.</p>

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Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC)	This SoCC document will be made available online as part of the consultation and in hard copy at the consultation events. Copies will also be available for inspection only (and not to take away) at the local information points listed above.
Information posters	<p>Posters including details of the consultation, how to access Scheme information, and how to get involved, will be displayed at well-used public locations within the PCZ or locations in the immediate vicinity of the PCA, including libraries, shops and civic buildings. These will be hosted in agreement with relevant groups and venues, including where consultation events will take place.</p> <p>Information posters will also be sent to all host and neighbouring parish councils to help raise awareness of the consultation. Parish Councils will be encouraged to post details of the consultation on their social media channels.</p>
Social media	<p>We will carry out social media advertising via Facebook targeted at postcodes within the PCZ.</p> <p>Digital versions of consultation materials will be sent directly to key stakeholders to enable them to advertise and promote the consultation through their own online channels, including their websites, forums and social media channels.</p> <p>We will also contact groups and stakeholders, such as local planning authorities, to encourage them to share information on social media</p>

## 5.7 Wider engagement

- 5.7.1 Ongoing engagement with stakeholders will be undertaken ahead of the launch of the statutory consultation, including local authorities, MPs, the Environment Agency, Natural England, and Historic England (where possible) and with local interest groups, residents, and landowners who get in touch.
- 5.7.2 Local businesses and representatives of business groups with registered addresses within the PCZ will be sent a consultation leaflet at the start of the consultation period, inviting them to attend one of our consultation events.
- 5.7.3 Businesses identified as 'near neighbours' (i.e. within 50 metres of the Principal Site), will also be sent letters for the start of the consultation, offering an opportunity for an individual meeting.





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### 5.8 Engagement with seldom heard groups

5.8.1 We are committed to ensuring that our consultation is accessible and inclusive for all stakeholders, includes groups and individuals that may find it harder to get involved in consultation and/or need additional support to access materials.

5.8.2 Consultation methods used to engage with these groups are set out below. We will continue to liaise with local groups representing seldom heard organisations to ensure accessibility to the consultation and that materials can be made available in the appropriate format.

- Providing details about how information on the Scheme can be accessed, including online and hard copy.
- Providing materials in alternative formats, including dementia friendly, Braille and large print (upon request).
- Assisting with providing feedback where possible, including via the communications lines and at face-to-face consultation events.

### 5.9 Information channels

5.9.1 The following enquiry channels will continue to be available throughout the consultation for members of the community and other stakeholders to get in touch with the project team, ask questions, request further information or request printed copies of consultation materials and documents. These channels are provided in **Table 5.3**. These communication channels will continue to be active throughout the pre-application period.

**Table 5.3: Information channels for Tillbridge Solar**

Method	Contact details	Hours of operation
Online	Website enquiries available via <a href="http://www.tillbridgesolar.com">www.tillbridgesolar.com</a>	Enquiries can be submitted 24 hours a day. We will aim to issue a response within five working days of receipt.
Telephone	<b>0800 046 9643</b>	9am–5:30pm weekdays (with an answerphone facility to take messages outside these hours).
Email	<a href="mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com">info@tillbridgesolar.com</a>	People can email 24 hours a day, with emails being monitored between 9am and 5:30pm weekdays. We will aim to issue a responses within five working days of receipt.

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Post	FREEPOST TILLBRIDGE SOLAR (please note that you do not need a stamp)	Should enquiries received via post require a response, this will be issued within five working days of receipt. Urgent enquiries should be directed to the Scheme's email address.
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## Section 6: Responding to the consultation

### 6.1 How to respond to the consultation

6.1.1 Feedback to the consultation should be submitted in writing or online to the Scheme by **23:59 on 11 July 2023**. Responses received after that date may not be considered.

6.1.2 Consultation responses can be made in the following ways:

- Completing the feedback questionnaire online, which can be accessed via the Scheme website: [tillbridgesolar.com/consultation](http://tillbridgesolar.com/consultation)
- Attending a consultation event and completing a printed feedback questionnaire, which can be handed to the project team in person, or taken a way and sent to use via freepost (using **FREEPOST TILLBRIDGE SOLAR**). Questionnaires can also be collected from one of our local information points or requested from the community relations team, as detailed in **Table 5.3**.
- Emailing [info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com)
- Writing to us at **FREEPOST TILLBRIDGE SOLAR** (please note that no stamp is required)

### 6.2 How we will use consultation feedback

6.2.1 When our statutory consultation closes, we will have regard to all comments received. All feedback, including ongoing engagement with communities and stakeholders, is important to us and will help influence our designs for the Scheme.

6.2.2 Once we have reviewed and finalised our proposed application, we will produce a Consultation Report, which set out how the feedback from the pre-application consultation has shaped and influenced our proposed application.

6.2.3 This Consultation Report will be submitted to the SoS for the Department for the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero as part of the DCO application.

6.2.4 Any comments received could be made public, but no personal information will be published. Any personal data received as part of the Consultation will be stored and protected in accordance with the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulation. The privacy notice for those visiting the Scheme website is available at: [tillbridgesolar.com](http://tillbridgesolar.com)

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## Section 7: Further consultation

7.1.1 If, following the statutory consultation, we consider it is necessary to undertake further targeted or supplementary consultation, this would be undertaken, so far as relevant and proportionate, in accordance with the principles and methods set out in this SoCC.

## Section 8: Other solar DCO consultations in the area

8.1.1 We are aware there are a number of other proposed solar developments in the area and understand the need to ensure that communities in the area are aware of the other proposals, notably Low Carbon's plans for Gate Burton Energy Park and Island Green Power's plans for Cottam Solar and West Burton Solar. A map showing the location of the Scheme in relation to other solar developments is provided in [Appendix B – Solar DCO projects](#).

8.1.2 We have been and will continue to work constructively with these other developers to ensure:

- People are easily able to engage with our consultation processes and have opportunities to get involved, including ensuring that consultation periods are distinct and do not clash, where possible.
- All environmental effects are fully assessed, including any cumulative impacts.
- A common-sense approach to construction is taken in order to minimise disruption, including sharing infrastructure and construction timelines, where feasible.
- Shared infrastructure is used where possible, such as a cable route corridor.

8.1.3 We have been in conversation with Low Carbon and Island Green Power in regard to their Cottam and West Burton Solar Projects and Gate Burton Energy Park, respectively. These conversations, which have been held on a regular basis, have taken place with the purpose of understanding the progress of each respective project, how they interact with each other and how information and proposals can be shared. This includes work to support the refinement of the Scheme's cable route corridor, with view to sharing a common route, where possible.

8.1.4 At our statutory consultation events, we will indicate how the Scheme relates geographically to the other developments, with information up to date and correct at the time of finalisation and publication of the Scheme's PEI Report (May 2023).

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## Section 9: Contact details

9.1.1 Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you would like to find out more information about the Scheme. You can get in touch with members of our community relations team using any of the communications lines listed in **Table 5.3**.

9.1.2 Should you require any documents in large print, audio or Braille then please contact us using the details provided. All graphs and maps this document are for illustrative purposes only.

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## Appendix A – Consultee lists

<p><u>Non-statutory consultees</u></p> <p><u>Environmental and Energy groups</u></p> <p>Natural England</p> <p>Historic England</p> <p>The Environment Agency</p> <p>Council for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE)</p> <p>The Council for British Archaeology</p> <p>Lincoln Archaeology Group</p> <p>RSPB</p> <p>Woodland Trust</p> <p>The British Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership Society</p> <p>Society for Lincolnshire History &amp; Archaeology</p> <p>National Trust</p> <p>Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust</p> <p>Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust</p> <p>Lincolnshire Rivers Trust</p> <p>North Lincolnshire Local Access Forum</p> <p>Scunthorpe &amp; Gainsborough Water Management Board</p> <p>Upper Witham Internal Drainage Board</p> <p>Nottinghamshire Local Access Forum</p> <p>UK Alternative Energy</p> <p>Lincolnshire Energy Centre</p> <p>Lincolnshire Bird Club</p> <p><u>Sports and Leisure groups</u></p> <p>Walking in England</p> <p>Active Lincolnshire</p> <p>Ramblers - Lincolnshire Area</p> <p>Lincs Inspire</p> <p>Lincoln &amp; District Angling Association (LDAA)</p> <p>Sport England</p> <p>Cycling UK Lincolnshire</p> <p>Gainsborough Aegir Cycling Club</p>
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Spalding Cycling Club
Cycling UK Nottinghamshire
Lincolnshire Walking Group
Sustrans (East Midlands)
The Ramblers (Nottinghamshire Representative)
Nottinghamshire Footpaths Preservation Society
British Horse Society (Nottinghamshire and Lincolnshire representative)
The Ramblers Association
Lincolnshire Gliding Club
North Lincs Riding Club
<b><u>Economic and Business groups</u></b>
Lincolnshire Chamber of Commerce
Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership
Invest North East Lincolnshire
Business Lincolnshire
Confederation of British Industry
Lincoln Business Improvement Group
Team Lincolnshire
<b><u>Local groups and 'near neighbours'</u></b>
Lincolnshire Conservation Group
Willingham by Stow Horticultural Society
Churches Together in All Lincolnshire
Springline Parish (group of churches)
St Andrew's Church,
Fillingham Church
'Glentworth St Michael's Church
'St Chad's Church Harpswell
RAF Ingham Heritage Centre
RAF Scampton
Lincoln Aero Club
Millhaven Canine Rehabilitation
Lincolnshire Rescue Kennels
Lincoln Golf Club

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<p><b><u>Charitable organisations and religious groups</u></b></p> <p>The Victorian Society</p> <p>Salvation Army</p> <p>Christians Against Poverty</p> <p>CARE</p> <p>Islamic Association of Lincoln</p> <p>Sleaford Islamic Centre</p> <p>East Midlands Synod</p> <p>Lincolnshire Jewish Community</p> <p>The Jack Brunton Charitable Trust</p> <p>The Principle Trust Children's Charity</p> <p>Lincs Inspire</p> <p>SENSE Lincolnshire</p> <p>LTC – Beat It! Social Isolation</p> <p>Lincolnshire Polish Society</p> <p>Lincolnshire Pamoja</p> <p>Nottingham Equal</p> <p>Muslim Council of Britain</p> <p><b><u>Local business groups/wider representation</u></b></p> <p>Country Land and Business Association</p> <p>National Farmers Union</p> <p>Federation of Small Businesses</p> <p>Lincolnshire Rural Support Network</p> <p>Rural Business Network</p> <p>Lincs Rural</p> <p><b><u>Seldom heard groups</u></b></p> <p>Age UK Lincolnshire and South Lincolnshire</p> <p>Age UK Nottingham and Nottinghamshire</p> <p>Lincolnshire Traveller Initiative</p> <p>Lincolnshire Deaf Association</p> <p>Nottingham Deaf Society</p> <p>Lincolnshire Autistic Society</p> <p>Autistic Nottingham</p> <p>The WI Nottinghamshire Federation</p>
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Disability Nottinghamshire
Disability Lincs
Lincolnshire Gypsy Liaison Group
Friends, Families & Travellers
Lincoln and Lindsey Blind Society
Lincolnshire Pamoja
National Federation of Gypsy Liaison Groups
Lincolnshire Travellers Initiative
<b><u>Youth and support groups</u></b>
Lincolnshire Youth and Community Development
Lincolnshire Young Farmers
Lincoln and West Lindsey Lincolnshire Young Farmers
Nottinghamshire Federation of Young Farmers Clubs
Lincolnshire Council For Voluntary Youth Services
Carers First Lincolnshire
Healthwatch Lincolnshire
LEAP - Housing Support Service
Lincolnshire Food Partnership
Lincolnshire Housing Partnership
Gainsborough Local Access Programme
Young Lincolnshire
Lincolnshire Youth Council
Lincoln and West Lindsey Youth Workers Youth and Community Development
Barnardos
Scouts Nottinghamshire
Scouts Lincolnshire
Girlguiding Lincolnshire North
Girlguiding Nottinghamshire
<b><u>Schools/education</u></b>
Ingham Primary School
Hemswell Cliff Primary School
Mayflower Specialist School Academy Trust
The Marton Academy

May 2023

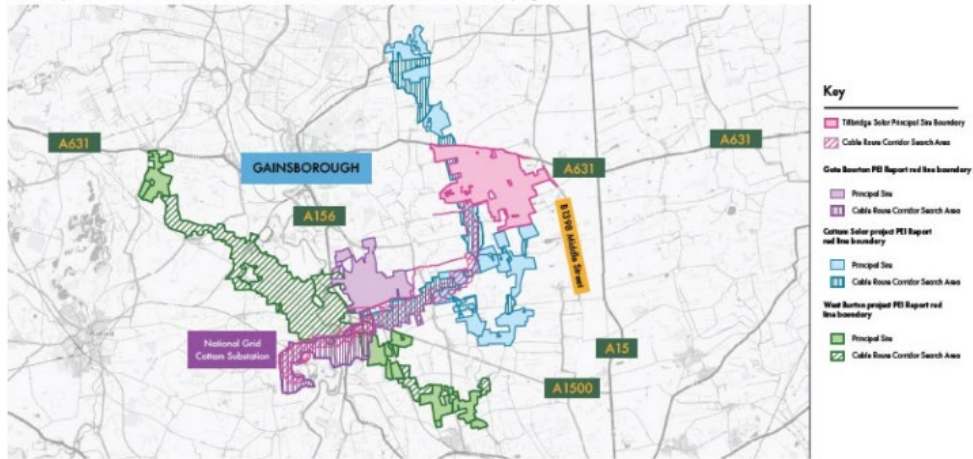


Sturton by Stow Primary School
The Gainsborough Academy Lincolnshire
Gainsborough College (UK)
Lincoln College
Lincoln University Technical College
University of Lincoln

May 2023

### Appendix B – Solar DCO projects

This map shows the location of the scheme in relation to other solar DCO projects in the area.



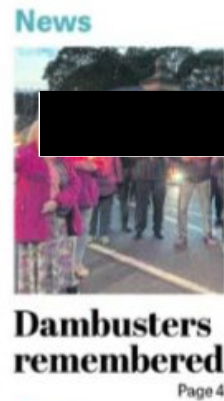
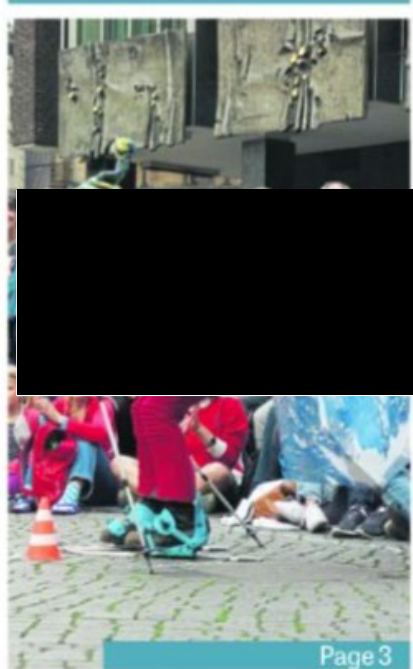
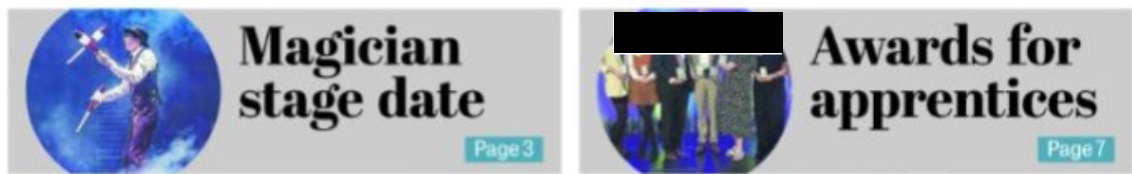
Tillbridge Solar Statement of Community Consultation

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## Appendix B-8: Section 47 – SoCC as published in newspapers

### B-8.1: Section 47 – SoCC as published in Gainsborough Standard (25 May 2023)



An advertisement for Timber-DIY.COM. It features images of various timber products like cladding, framing, and roofing materials. The text includes: 'Huge range of log cabins, summerhouses and timber buildings available.', 'NEW DISPLAY SITE OPEN', 'Tosby Road, Market Rasen LN8 3JL', 'T: 07800981270', 'E: jon@northernlogcabins.com', 'Delivery and installation available nationwide', 'Timber Cladding, Framing, plywood's and roofing materials all available with FREE DELIVERY NATIONWIDE', and 'Call and quote this advert for 10% OFF | T: 07800981270'. There is also a logo for 'NORTHERN LOG CABINS' and a 'Quote this advert for 10% off!!' offer.

### PUBLIC NOTICES

#### PUBLIC NOTICES

#### TRUSTEES NOTICES

**James William Presley (Deceased)**  
 Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the above named, late of Howson Gate Centre, Wileyming by Stow, Gainsborough, DN21 5JZ formerly of Farmlands, Moor Lane, Raughan, LN3 4EE, who died on 17/10/2021, are required to send written particulars thereof to the undersigned on or before 26/07/2022, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.  
**AWH SOLICITORS INC ROEBUCKS SOLICITORS**, First Floor, One Cathedral Square, Blackburn, GB, BB1 1PB

**Melvin John Wilson (Deceased)**  
 Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the above named, late of 31 Haxthorn Avenue, Gainsborough, DN21 1HA, who died on 07/12/2022, are required to send written particulars thereof to the undersigned on or before 26/07/2022, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.  
**HSR LAW**, 25/26a Holman Street, Gainsborough, DN21 2JZ

#### G.V.O.L

**Goods Vehicle Operator's Licence**  
 Mr Keith Robert Thorpe trading as L & K R Thorpe of Pennington Villa, Pilsom, Gainsborough, DN21 1NU is applying for a licence to use Pennington Villa, Pilsom, Gainsborough, DN21 1NU as an operating centre for 6 goods vehicles and 5 trailers. Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre who believe that their use or enjoyment of the land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Holbeck House, 386 Haxthorn Lane, Leeds LS16 6NF stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representations must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's Office.

#### GENERAL NOTICES

**Notice of Consultation**  
**Tillbridge Solar**  
**Section 47 Planning Act 2008**  
**Notice Publicising a Statement of Community Consultation**

Tillbridge Solar Limited ("we") intends to provide a new solar energy and storage scheme (the "Scheme") within the administrative boundary of West Lindsey District Council and Lincolnshire County Council, with the grid connection infrastructure also located within the administrative boundary of Gainsborough District Council and Nottinghamshire County Council. As the proposed generating capacity exceeds 50 megawatts (MW), the Scheme, known as Tillbridge Solar, is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) under the Planning Act 2008 (the "Act").

The Scheme will consist of:

- the construction, operation (including maintenance) and decommissioning of ground mounted solar photovoltaic (PV) panel arrays to generate electricity located on a "Principal Site" approximately five kilometres (km) to the east of Gainsborough and approximately 13 km to the north of Lincoln;
- A Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) located on the Principal Site, allowing for the generation, storage, import and export of electricity to the national electricity transmission network;
- Supporting electrical infrastructure on the Principal Site, including up to two substations (with a 400 kilovolt (kV) underground cable circuit interconnecting the two);
- A Cable Route Corridor, comprising underground 400 kV cables connecting the Principal Site in West Lindsey, Lincolnshire, to National Grid's Cotman substation in Basestow, Nottinghamshire;
- Associated infrastructure, mitigation and enhancement measures (green infrastructure, and other ancillary works, for example, fencing, security, local grid connections, temporary access roads, permanent means of access, highway works, temporary works compounds and work sites).

**Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC)**  
 We will apply to the Secretary of State, via the Planning Inspectorate, for a Development Consent Order (DCO), which would authorise the construction of the scheme under Section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 (the "Act").

In accordance with Section 47 of the Act, before making our application, we have produced a SoCC, setting out how we will consult with the local community about our proposals. The statement is available to the public at the local information points (listed below) between Tuesday 30 May and Tuesday 11 July 2023. Following our provision of the SoCC, we will carry out the consultation in accordance with the SoCC.

This notice contains information on where and when the SoCC can be inspected and provides a summary of the consultation details. Full details of the consultation can be found in the SoCC. The SoCC can be viewed online, alongside our consultation materials, at [www.tillbridgesolar.com/Documents-library](http://www.tillbridgesolar.com/Documents-library) or at the following local information points during our consultation period (from Tuesday 30 May until Tuesday 11 July 2023). Hard copy documents (including the SoCC) can also be requested by contacting the project team using the details in this notice.

**Local information points**

<p><b>West Lindsey District Council Office</b>                      Guldhal Marshall's Yard, Marshall's Yard, 13b Beaumont St, Gainsborough DN21 2NA                      Monday to Friday (9am to 5pm)</p>	<p><b>Lincoln Central Library*</b>                      Five School Lane, Lincolnshire LN2 1EZ                      Monday to Wednesday and Friday (9am to 5pm),                      Thursday (9am to 6pm), and Saturday (9am to 4pm)</p>
<p><b>Gainsborough Library*</b>                      Cobden St, Gainsborough DN21 2NS                      Monday to Wednesday and Friday (9am to 5pm),                      Thursday (9am to 5pm), and Saturday (9am to 1pm)</p>	<p><b>Saxilby Library*</b>                      St Andrews Centre, William St, Saxilby LN1 2LP                      Tuesday (10:30am to 3:30pm), Wednesday (10:30am to 4pm)                      and Friday (10:30am to 1pm)</p>
<p><b>Ratford Library*</b>                      Churchgate, Ratford, Nottinghamshire DN22 6PE                      Monday to Friday (9am to 5pm) and Saturday (9am to 3:30pm)</p>	

\*These libraries also have computer and internet access. We recommend contacting the venues to check the opening times before visiting.

**Public information events**  
 You can also view printed copies of our consultation materials (including the SoCC) at our public information events, where you can speak with our team and share your views. The events will be held at the following venues:

Venue	Date	Times
Glenworth Village Hall, Stoney Lane, Glenworth, Lincolnshire, DN21 5DF	Wednesday 14 June	2:30pm to 7pm
Wileyming Village Hall, High St, Wileyming by Stow, Gainsborough, DN21 5JZ	Saturday 17 June	10am to 2pm
Sturton by Stow Village Hall, High St, Sturton by Stow, Lincoln, LN1 2AE	Thursday 22 June	1:30pm to 5:30pm
Carrington Village Hall, 10 Middle St, Carrington, Gainsborough, DN21 5GR	Friday 30 June	12pm to 4pm
Rampton Village Hall, Manor Grounds, Rampton, Ratford, Nottinghamshire DN22 0JU	Saturday 1 July	10am to 2pm
Harnwell and Harpswell Village Hall, Maypole Street, Harnwell, Lincolnshire, DN21 5UL	Thursday 6 July	2:30pm to 6:30pm

**Online events**  
 In addition to the above in-person events, we are holding two webinar events on:

- Wednesday 7 June 2023 between 6:30pm and 8pm
- Monday 10 July 2023 between 6:30pm and 8pm

Members of the public can join the webinars via telephone or online. To register for a webinar please visit [www.tillbridgesolar.com](http://www.tillbridgesolar.com) or get in touch using the contact details below. These events will have a question-and-answer facility with members of the project team available to respond during the webinars.

**Preliminary Environmental Information**  
 The Scheme is an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) development for the purposes of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017, which means a Preliminary Environmental Information (PEI) Report has been produced (to describe the environmental effects of the Scheme) and is being consulted on, alongside the other consultation documents, as well as a Non-Technical Summary (NTS) of the PEI Report. It also means that an Environmental Statement (ES) will be produced and submitted with the application in due course.

**Feedback**  
 You can provide your feedback on the Scheme and the information included in the consultation materials to us either online or in writing, by:

- Going to our website and completing an online feedback questionnaire – [www.tillbridgesolar.com](http://www.tillbridgesolar.com) – you can access the form directly by visiting ([www.tillbridgesolar.com/Documents-library](http://www.tillbridgesolar.com/Documents-library))
- Collecting a questionnaire from one of our consultation events, information points (listed above), or on request (by contacting us by email, phone or post)
- Returning your completed questionnaire to us at one of our events, by email ([info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com)) or by post (by writing FREEPOST TILLBRIDGE SOLAR on a blank envelope – please note you do not need a stamp)
- Providing your free form comments by email or post. Please note that we will not accept comments over the phone, however we can assist you whenever possible.

**The deadline for comments is 23.59 on 11 July 2023.**  
 If you require materials in an alternative format (e.g. large print or braille) please let us know.


Contact us  
 You can also contact us via email, over the phone, or by post.

- Email us at: [info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com)
- Call our Freephone information line on: 0800 046 9643
- Write to us at: FREEPOST TILLBRIDGE SOLAR (please note that you do not need a stamp)

To find out more about Tillbridge Solar and take part in our statutory consultation go to the project website: [www.tillbridgesolar.com](http://www.tillbridgesolar.com)

**FOR ALL YOUR LATEST INFORMATION ON PLANNING PROPOSALS, TRAFFIC NOTICES, GOODS VEHICLE OPERATOR LICENCES, LICENCES TO SELL ALCOHOL AND PROBATE NOTICES**

**SEE OUR PUBLIC NOTICES SECTION**



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*Debra, Macclesfield*

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## B-8.2: Section 47 – SoCC as published in Lincolnshire Echo (25 May 2023)

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**GO FOR LESS! PAGE 11**

## 'NIGHTMARE' AFTER HOME DESTROYED BY BLAZE

MUM-OF-FOUR LEFT HOMELESS WEEKS AFTER GIVING BIRTH

**PAGE 6**

Severe fire damage to the home in Shelley Drive, Lincoln

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# Public Notices

## Statutory

**Section 48 Planning Act 2008 - Tillbridge Solar**  
**REGULATION 4 THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (APPLICATIONS, PRESCRIBED FORMS AND PROCEDURES) REGULATIONS 2009**  
**REGULATION 13 THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) REGULATIONS 2017**  
**NOTICE PUBLICISING A PROPOSED APPLICATION FOR A DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER (DCO) FOR Tillbridge Solar Limited**  
 Notice is hereby given that **Tillbridge Solar Limited** of 111 Park Street, Mayfair, London, United Kingdom, W1K 7AF (the "Applicant") proposes to make an application for a "Licence" to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero under Section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 (as amended) (the "Act") for the DCO defined above. The Applicant anticipates making the Application towards the end of 2023.

- Description of the Scheme and its location**
- The Tillbridge Solar (the "Scheme") will consist of:
- the construction, operation (including maintenance) and decommissioning of ground mounted solar photovoltaic (PV) panel arrays to generate electricity located on a "Principal Site" approximately five kilometres (km) to the east of Gainsborough and approximately 13 km to the north of Lincoln;
  - A Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) located on the Principal Site, allowing for the generation, storage, import and export of electricity to the national electricity transmission network;
  - Supporting electrical infrastructure on the Principal Site, including up to two substations (with a 400 kilovolt (kV) underground cable circuit interconnecting the two);
  - A Cable Route Corridor, comprising underground 400 kV cables connecting the Principal Site in West Lindsey, Lincolnshire, to National Grid's Cottam substation in Basetree, Nottinghamshire;
  - Associated infrastructure, mitigation and enhancement measures/green infrastructure, and other ancillary works, for example, fencing, security, local grid connections, temporary access roads, permanent means of access, highway works, temporary works compounds and work sites;
- 3) The majority of the Scheme is located within the administrative boundary of West Lindsey District Council and Lincolnshire County Council with the grid connection infrastructure also located within the administrative boundary of Basetree District Council and Nottinghamshire County Council.
- 4) The proposed DCO will, amongst other things, authorise:
- construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of a ground mounted solar PV and BESS with an export capacity of over 50MW on the Principal Site;
  - associated and/or ancillary works to facilitate the export/import of electricity from/to the Principal Site to/from the National Grid, including underground electrical cables connecting the Principal Site to the National Grid Cottam substation, up to two new substations located on the Principal Site, including, but not limited to, access tracks, construction compounds and offices;
  - the permanent compulsory acquisition and temporary occupation (if required) of land and/or rights;
  - the overlying of easements and other rights over or affecting land as well as the creation of restrictions where necessary;
  - the application and/or discontinuance of regulation relating to the Tillbridge Solar Farm; and
  - such ancillary incidents and consequential provisions, licences, property rights, permits and consents as are necessary and/or convenient.
- 5) The proposed Scheme is an Environmental Impact Assessment ("EIA") development for the purposes of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017. The Applicant is, therefore, required to carry out an EIA and submit an Environmental Statement with the Application containing a detailed description of the Scheme and information about its likely significant effects on the environment. Information currently available about the likely significant environmental effects of the Scheme is set out in the Preliminary Environmental Information ("PEI") Report and summarised in a non-technical summary ("NTS") that form part of the consultation documents.

- Statutory consultation**
- 6) Consultation on the Scheme will take place between **30 May 2023 and 11 July 2023**.
- 7) Copies of the consultation documents, plans and maps showing the nature and location of the proposed Scheme - including the PEI Report and NTS, Statutory consultation leaflet, project information booklet, feedback questionnaire, exhibition banners, signs and plans showing the overall location of the Scheme, the Internet of Community Consultation ("SoCC") and Frequently Asked Questions ("FAQ") document - will be available for inspection, free of charge, from **30 May 2023 until 11 July 2023** on the downloads section of our website [www.tillbridge-solar.com/documents-library](http://www.tillbridge-solar.com/documents-library).
- 8) Printed copies of the consultation leaflet and feedback questionnaire can be collected free of charge from the below locations. Copies of the full PEI Report and NTS, SoCC and project information booklet are available for inspection only (and to not take away). We recommend contacting the venues to check the opening times prior to visiting. All documents are available on a USB device, which can be requested by getting in touch using the details in this notice. USBs are limited to one per household.

Location	Opening times
West Lindsey District Council, Guildhall, Marshalls Yard, Marshalls Road, 12b Beaufort St, Gainsborough DN21 2NA	Monday to Friday (9am to 5pm)
Lincoln Central Library, Free School Lane, Lincolnshire LND 1E2	Monday to Wednesday and Friday (9am to 5pm), Thursday (9am to 6pm), and Saturday (9am to 4pm)
Gainsborough Library, Cuddeon St, Gainsborough DN21 2NG	Monday to Wednesday and Friday (9am to 5pm), Thursday (9am to 6pm), and Saturday (9am to 4pm)
Sawley Library, St Andrew Centre, William St, Sawley LNT 2LP and Friday (10.30am to 4pm)	Tuesday (10.30am to 2.30pm), Wednesday (10.30am to 4pm) and Friday (10.30am to 4pm)
Retford Library, Churchgate, Retford, Nottinghamshire DN22 8PE	Monday to Friday (9am to 6pm) and Saturday (9am to 3.30pm)

9) A number of public information events will be held throughout the consultation period where the public can view the proposals (including printed materials and PEI Report) in person and meet the project team. The details of the events are as follows:

Venue	Date	Times
Online webinar (please visit our website or get in touch to register)	Wednesday 7 June	6:30pm to 8pm
Gintworth Village Hall, Storey Lane, Gintworth, Lincolnshire, DN21 5DF	Wednesday 14 June	2:30pm to 7pm
Willingham Village Hall, High St, Willingham by Skew, Gainsborough, DN21 5JZ	Saturday 17 June	10am to 2pm
Sturton by Slow Village Hall, High St, Sturton by Slow, Lincoln, LND 2AE	Thursday 22 June	1:30pm to 5:30pm
Corringham Village Hall, 10 Middle St, Corringham, Gainsborough, DN21 5GR	Friday 30 June	12pm to 4pm
Rampton Village Hall, Manor Grounds, Rampton, Retford, Nottinghamshire DN22 6JU	Saturday 1 July	10am to 2pm
Henswold and Hapswold Village Hall, Maypole Street, Henswold, Lincolnshire, DN21 5HL	Thursday 6 July	2:30pm to 6:30pm
Online webinar (please visit our website or get in touch to register)	Monday 10 July 2023	6:30pm to 8pm

- 10) These events provide an opportunity to find out more about the Scheme. Attendees do not need to register in advance to attend an in-person event. To register to attend a webinar, attendees should contact the project team details below or visit the website [www.tillbridge-solar.com](http://www.tillbridge-solar.com).
- 11) For further information or queries, please call 0800 048 9643 (free of charge), write to FREEPOST TILLBRIDGE SOLAR (please write this in capitals, you do not need a stamp), email [info@tillbridge-solar.com](mailto:info@tillbridge-solar.com) or visit [www.tillbridge-solar.com](http://www.tillbridge-solar.com).

- To obtain copy documents**
- 12) A full set of consultation documents can also be provided free of charge on a USB device upon request to the Applicant (first one per household) on 0800 048 9643 (free of charge) or by email at [info@tillbridge-solar.com](mailto:info@tillbridge-solar.com).
- 13) If you would like a hard copy of the PEI Report a reasonable charge to cover printing and postage costs of £3.35 per page will apply. However, a printed version of the NTS can be provided free of charge.
- 14) All other consultation documents (including the PEI Report) can be made available in hard copy, large print, audio or braille format, free of charge upon request to the Applicant on 0800 048 9643 or by email at [info@tillbridge-solar.com](mailto:info@tillbridge-solar.com). Requests for translated summary documents will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

- Have your say**
- 15) Any person may comment on the proposals or otherwise respond to this publicity. Any response or representation in respect of the proposed Application must (i) be received by Tillbridge Solar Ltd on or before **23.59 hours on 11 July 2023**, (ii) be made in writing, (iii) state the grounds of the response or representation, (iv) indicate who is making the response or representation, and (v) give an address to which correspondence relating to the response or representation may be sent, if you would prefer your comments to be anonymous please provide your postcode only.
- 16) A response can also be made by completing a feedback questionnaire which can be requested from the project team in electronic or hard copy format free of charge, collected from a consultation event or alternatively from local information point, completing an online feedback questionnaire through the Applicant's website at [www.tillbridge-solar.com](http://www.tillbridge-solar.com) or by submitting a response in writing and sending it to us by post at FREEPOST TILLBRIDGE SOLAR (please write this in capitals, you do not need a stamp) or by email at [info@tillbridge-solar.com](mailto:info@tillbridge-solar.com).
- 17) Any comments received as part of this consultation will be considered by the Applicant and any of its appointed agents with respect to the further development of the Scheme and Application. Responses will form the basis of a consultation report that will be one of the factors taken into consideration by the Secretary of State when deciding whether the Application can be accepted for examination. Therefore, in providing any comment, it should be borne in mind that the substance of it may be communicated to others as part of that consultation report.
- 18) However, we will ensure that personal details are not placed on the public record. Personal details will be held securely in accordance with the relevant data protection legislation and will be used solely in connection with the consultation process and the development of this Scheme and, except as noted above, will not be disclosed to any third parties. A copy of the Scheme's Privacy Policy can be found at [www.tillbridge-solar.com/web-content/uploads/2022/10/Tillbridge-Solar-Privacy-Policy.pdf](http://www.tillbridge-solar.com/web-content/uploads/2022/10/Tillbridge-Solar-Privacy-Policy.pdf).
- 19) For further information or queries, including in respect of the consultation documents, plans and maps, please call 0800 048 9643 (call free of charge), write to FREEPOST TILLBRIDGE SOLAR (please write this in capitals, you do not need a stamp), email [info@tillbridge-solar.com](mailto:info@tillbridge-solar.com) or visit [www.tillbridge-solar.com](http://www.tillbridge-solar.com).

**Notice of Consultation**  
**Tillbridge Solar**  
 Section 47 Planning Act 2008

**Notice Publicising a Statement of Community Consultation**

Tillbridge Solar Limited ("we") intends to provide a new solar energy and storage scheme (the "Scheme") within the administrative boundary of West Lindsey District Council and Lincolnshire County Council, with the grid connection infrastructure also located within the administrative boundary of Basetree District Council and Nottinghamshire County Council.

As the proposed generating capacity exceeds 50 megawatts (MW), the Scheme, known as Tillbridge Solar, is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) under the Planning Act 2008 (the "Act").

The Scheme will consist of:

- the construction, operation (including maintenance) and decommissioning of ground mounted solar photovoltaic (PV) panel arrays to generate electricity located on a "Principal Site" approximately five kilometres (km) to the east of Gainsborough and approximately 13 km to the north of Lincoln;
- A Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) located on the Principal Site, allowing for the generation, storage, import and export of electricity to the national electricity transmission network;
- Supporting electrical infrastructure on the Principal Site, including up to two substations (with a 400 kilovolt (kV) underground cable circuit interconnecting the two);
- A Cable Route Corridor, comprising underground 400 kV cables connecting the Principal Site in West Lindsey, Lincolnshire, to National Grid's Cottam substation in Basetree, Nottinghamshire;
- Associated infrastructure, mitigation and enhancement measures/green infrastructure, and other ancillary works, for example, fencing, security, local grid connections, temporary access roads, permanent means of access, highway works, temporary works compounds and work sites;

**Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC)**

We will apply to the Secretary of State, via the Planning Inspectorate, for a Development Consent Order (DCO), which would authorise the construction of the scheme under Section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 (the Act).

We will also view printed copies of our consultation materials (including the SoCC) at our public information events, where you can speak with our team and share your views. The events will be held at the following venues:

West Lindsey District Council Office	Lincoln Central Library*
Guildhall Marshalls Yard, Marshalls Road, 12b Beaufort St, Gainsborough DN21 2NA Monday to Friday (9am to 5pm)	Free School Lane, Lincolnshire LND 1E2 Monday to Wednesday and Friday (9am to 5pm), Thursday (9am to 6pm), and Saturday (9am to 4pm)
Gainsborough Library* Cuddeon St, Gainsborough DN21 2NG Monday to Wednesday and Friday (9am to 5pm), Thursday (9am to 6pm), and Saturday (9am to 4pm)	Sawley Library* St Andrew Centre, William St, Sawley LNT 2LP Tuesday (10.30am to 2.30pm), Wednesday (10.30am to 4pm) and Friday (10.30am to 4pm)
Retford Library* Churchgate, Retford, Nottinghamshire DN22 8PE Monday to Friday (9am to 6pm) and Saturday (9am to 3.30pm)	

\* These venues also have computer and internet access. We recommend contacting the venues to check the opening times before visiting.

**Public information events**

You can also view printed copies of our consultation materials (including the SoCC) at our public information events, where you can speak with our team and share your views. The events will be held at the following venues:

Venue	Date	Times
Gintworth Village Hall, Storey Lane, Gintworth, Lincolnshire, DN21 5DF	Wednesday 14 June	2:30pm to 7pm
Willingham Village Hall, High St, Willingham by Skew, Gainsborough, DN21 5JZ	Saturday 17 June	10am to 2pm
Sturton by Slow Village Hall, High St, Sturton by Slow, Lincoln, LND 2AE	Thursday 22 June	1:30pm to 5:30pm
Corringham Village Hall, 10 Middle St, Corringham, Gainsborough, DN21 5GR	Friday 30 June	12pm to 4pm
Rampton Village Hall, Manor Grounds, Rampton, Retford, Nottinghamshire DN22 6JU	Saturday 1 July	10am to 2pm
Henswold and Hapswold Village Hall, Maypole Street, Henswold, Lincolnshire, DN21 5HL	Thursday 6 July	2:30pm to 6:30pm

- Online events**
- In addition to the above in-person events, we are holding two webinar events on:
    - Wednesday 7 June 2023 between 6.30pm and 8pm
    - Monday 10 July 2023 between 6.30pm and 8pm

Members of the public can join the webinars via telephone or online. To register for a webinar please visit [www.tillbridge-solar.com](http://www.tillbridge-solar.com) or get in touch using the contact details below. These events will have a question-and-answer facility with members of the project team available to respond during the webinars.

**Preliminary Environmental Information**

The Scheme is an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) development for the purposes of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017, which means a Preliminary Environmental Information (PEI) Report has been produced (as describe the environmental effects of the Scheme) and is being consulted on, alongside the other consultation documents, as well as a Non-Technical Summary (NTS) of the PEI Report. It also means that an Environmental Statement (ES) will be produced and submitted with the application in due course.

- Feedback**
- You can provide your feedback on the Scheme and the information included in the consultation materials to us either online or in writing, by:
- going to our website and completing an online feedback questionnaire - [www.tillbridge-solar.com](http://www.tillbridge-solar.com) - you can access the form directly by visiting [www.tillbridge-solar.com/documents-library](http://www.tillbridge-solar.com/documents-library);
  - collecting a questionnaire from one of our consultation events, information points (dotted above), or on request (by contacting us by email, phone or post);
  - returning your completed questionnaire to us at one of our events, by email ([info@tillbridge-solar.com](mailto:info@tillbridge-solar.com)) or by post; or
  - providing your free form comments by email or post. Please note that we will not accept comments over the phone, however we can assist you wherever possible.

**The deadline for comments is 23.59 on 11 July 2023.**

**If you require materials in an alternative format (e.g. large print or braille) please let us know.**

- Contact us**
- Email us at [info@tillbridge-solar.com](mailto:info@tillbridge-solar.com)
  - Call our Freephone information line on: 0800 048 9643
  - Write to us at: FREEPOST TILLBRIDGE SOLAR (please note that you do not need a stamp).
- To find out more about Tillbridge Solar and take part in our statutory consultation go to the project website [www.tillbridge-solar.com](http://www.tillbridge-solar.com)

## Probate & Trustee

ALAN NORTH (Deceased)	JAMES WILLIAM FREEDLEY (Deceased)	JANE WHITTLE LONG (Deceased)	JERRI STILES (Deceased)
Passed in the Twente Act 1922 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the above named late of 10, Welford Gardens, Lincoln, LND 4HF who died on 08/07/2023, are required to send written notification (including proof of identity) to the undersigned on or before 30/11/2023, after which date the Trustee will be deemed to have accepted the validity of the will and to have taken possession of the estate.	Passed in the Twente Act 1922 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the above named late of 10, Welford Gardens, Lincoln, LND 4HF who died on 08/07/2023, are required to send written notification (including proof of identity) to the undersigned on or before 30/11/2023, after which date the Trustee will be deemed to have accepted the validity of the will and to have taken possession of the estate.	Passed in the Twente Act 1922 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the above named late of 4, Seaside, Claxby, Nottinghamshire, LND 17T who died on 30/11/2022, are required to send written notification (including proof of identity) to the undersigned on or before 30/11/2023, after which date the Trustee will be deemed to have accepted the validity of the will and to have taken possession of the estate.	Passed in the Twente Act 1922 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the above named late of 4, Seaside, Claxby, Nottinghamshire, LND 17T who died on 30/11/2022, are required to send written notification (including proof of identity) to the undersigned on or before 30/11/2023, after which date the Trustee will be deemed to have accepted the validity of the will and to have taken possession of the estate.

**CO-OP LEGAL SERVICES LIMITED**  
 Suite 1020, Apollo Office, Gainsborough, DN21 4AD  
 (For MESSAGES ONLY)

**JANE WHITTLE LONG LLP**  
 First Floor, One Cathedral Square, Beaufort, GB, DN21 9PE

**SALLA & BETTINGER LLP**  
 Aquila House, 18-20 Clarendon Street, LND 1LH

**SALLA & BETTINGER LLP**  
 Aquila House, 18-20 Clarendon Street, LND 1LH

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**B-8.3: Section 47 – SoCC as published in Retford Times (25 May 2023)**





# Public Notices

## Statutory

Section 48 Planning Act 2008 - Tillbridge Solar  
**REGULATION 13 THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (APPLICATIONS, PRESCRIBED FORMS AND PROCEDURE) REGULATIONS 2009**  
**REGULATION 13 THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) REGULATIONS 2017**  
**NOTICE PUBLISHING A PROPOSED APPLICATION FOR A DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER (DCO) FOR Tillbridge Solar Limited**  
 Notice is hereby given that Tillbridge Solar Limited of 111 Park Street, Maypole, Leicestershire, United Kingdom, WTK 7JF (the "Applicant") proposes to make an application (the "Application") to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero under Section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 (as amended) (the "Act") for the DCO defined above. The Applicant anticipates making the Application towards the end of 2023.

- Description of the Scheme and its location**
- The construction, operation (including maintenance) and decommissioning of ground mounted solar photovoltaic (PV) panel arrays to generate electricity located on a "Principal Site" approximately five kilometres (km) to the east of Gainsborough and approximately 13 km to the north of Lincoln.
  - A Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) located on the Principal Site, allowing for the generation, storage, import and export of electricity to the national electricity transmission network.
  - Supporting electrical infrastructure on the Principal Site, including up to two substations (with a 400 kilovolt (kV) underground cable circuit interconnecting the two).
  - A Cable Route Corridor, comprising underground 400 kV cables connecting the Principal Site in West Lindsey, Lincolnshire, to National Grid's Cottam substation in Bassettville, Nottinghamshire.
  - Associated infrastructure, mitigation and enhancement measures/green infrastructure, and other ancillary works, for example, fencing, security, local grid connections, temporary access roads, permanent means of access, highway works, temporary works compounds and work sites.
- The majority of the Scheme is located within the administrative boundary of West Lindsey District Council and Lincolnshire County Council with the grid connection infrastructure also located within the administrative boundary of Bassettville District Council and Nottinghamshire County Council.
- The proposed DCO will, amongst other things, authorise:
- construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of a ground mounted solar PV and BESS with an export capacity of over 50MW on the Principal Site;
  - associated and/or ancillary works to facilitate the export/import of electricity from/to the Principal Site to/from the National Grid, including underground electrical cables connecting the Principal Site to the National Grid's Cottam substation, up to two new substations located on the Principal Site, landscaping, biodiversity areas, access tracks, construction compounds and offices;
  - the permanent compulsory acquisition and temporary possession (if required) of land and/or rights;
  - the overlying of easements and other rights over or affecting land as well as the creation of restrictions where necessary;
  - the application and/or dispensation of regulations relating to the Tillbridge Solar Farm; and
  - such auxiliary, incidental and consequential provisions, licences, property rights, permits and consents as are necessary and/or convenient.
- The proposed Scheme is an Environmental Impact Assessment ("EIA") development for the purposes of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017. The Applicant is, therefore, required to carry out an EIA and submit an Environmental Statement with the Application containing a detailed description of the Scheme and information about its likely significant effects on the environment. Information currently available about the likely significant environmental effects of the Scheme is set out in the Preliminary Environmental Information ("PEI") Report and summarised in a non-technical summary ("NTS") that form part of the consultation documents.

- Statutory consultation**
- Consultation on the Scheme will take place between **30 May 2023 and 11 July 2023**.
  - Copies of the consultation documents, plans and maps showing the nature and location of the proposed Scheme - including the PEI Report and NTS, statutory consultation leaflet, project information booklet, feedback questionnaire, exhibition banners, maps and plans showing the overall location of the Scheme, the Statement of Community Consultation ("SoCC") and Frequently Asked Questions ("FAQ") document - will be available for inspection, free of charge, from **30 May 2023 until 11 July 2023** at the following locations of our website: [www.tillbridgesolar.com/documents](http://www.tillbridgesolar.com/documents)
  - Printed copies of the consultation leaflet and feedback questionnaire can be collected free of charge from the below locations. Copies of the full PEI Report and NTS, SoCC, and project information booklet are available for inspection only (and not take away). We recommend contacting the venues to check the opening times prior to visiting. All documents are available on a USB device, which can be requested by getting in touch using the details in this notice. USBs are limited to one per household.

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Lincoln Central Library, Free School Lane, Lincolnshire LN2 1EZ	Monday to Wednesday and Friday (9am to 5pm), Thursday (9am to 6pm), and Saturday (9am to 4pm)
Gainsborough Library, Cobden St, Gainsborough DN21 2NG	Monday to Wednesday and Friday (9am to 5pm), Thursday (9am to 6pm), and Saturday (9am to 1pm)
Saxby Library, St Andrew's Centre, William St, Saxby LN1 2LP	Tuesday (10.30am to 3.30pm), Wednesday (10.30am to 4pm) and Friday (10.30am to 1pm)
Retford Library, Churchgate, Retford, Nottinghamshire DN22 6PE	Monday to Friday (9am to 6pm) and Saturday (9am to 3.30pm)

A number of public information events will be held throughout the consultation period where the public can view the proposals (including printed materials and PEI Report) in person and meet the project team. The details of the events are as follows:

Venue	Date	Times
Online webinar (please visit our website or get in touch to register)	Wednesday 7 June	6.30pm to 8pm
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Rampton Village Hall, Manor Grounds, Rampton, Retford, Nottinghamshire DN22 6JG	Saturday 1 July	10am to 2pm
Hemswell and Harpswell Village Hall, Maypole Street, Hemswell, Lincolnshire, DN21 5LL	Thursday 6 July	2.30pm to 6.30pm
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- These events provide an opportunity to find out more about the Scheme. Attendance does not need to register in advance to attend an in-person event. To register to attend a webinar, attendees should contact the project team (details below) or visit the website [www.tillbridgesolar.com](http://www.tillbridgesolar.com).
- For further information or queries, please call 0800 046 9643 (free of charge); write to FREEPOST TILLBRIDGE SOLAR (please write this in capitals, you do not need a stamp); email [info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com).
- To obtain copy documents
- A full set of consultation documents can also be provided free of charge on a USB device upon request to the Applicant (limit one per household) on 0800 046 9643 (free of charge) or by email at [info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com).
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- All other consultation documents (excluding the PEI Report) can be made available in hard copy, large print, audio or braille format, free of charge upon request to the Applicant on 0800 046 9643 or by email at [info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com). Requests for translated summary documents will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

- How you can**
- Any person may comment on the proposals or otherwise respond to this publicity. Any response or representation in respect of the proposed Application must (i) be received by Tillbridge Solar Ltd on or before **23.59 hours on 11 July 2023**, (ii) be made in writing, (iii) state the grounds of the response or representation, (iv) indicate who is making the response or representation, and (v) give an address to which correspondence relating to the response or representation may be sent. If you would prefer your comments to be anonymous please provide your postcode only.
  - A response can also be made by completing a feedback questionnaire which can be requested from the project team in electronic or hard copy format free of charge, collected from a consultation event or a dedicated local information point, completing an online feedback questionnaire through the Applicant's website at [www.tillbridgesolar.com](http://www.tillbridgesolar.com) or by submitting a response in writing and sending it to us by post at **FREEPOST TILLBRIDGE SOLAR** (please write this in capitals, you do not need a stamp) or by email at [info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com).
  - Any comments received as part of this consultation will be considered by the Applicant and any of its appointed agents with respect to the further development of the Scheme and Application. Responses will form the basis of a consultation report that will be one of the factors taken into consideration by the Secretary of State when deciding whether the Application can be accepted for examination. Therefore, in providing any comment, it should be borne in mind that the substance of it may be communicated to others as part of that consultation report.
  - However, we will request that personal details are not placed on the public record. Personal details will be held securely in accordance with the relevant data protection legislation and will be used solely in connection with the consultation process and the development of the Scheme and, except as noted above, will not be disclosed to any third parties. A copy of the Scheme's Privacy Policy can be found at [www.tillbridgesolar.com/privacy-policy](http://www.tillbridgesolar.com/privacy-policy).
  - For further information or queries, including in respect of the consultation documents, plans and maps, please call 0800 046 9643 (call free of charge); write to FREEPOST TILLBRIDGE SOLAR (please write this in capitals, you do not need a stamp); email [info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com) or visit [www.tillbridgesolar.com](http://www.tillbridgesolar.com).

## Notice of Consultation

### Tillbridge Solar

#### Section 47 Planning Act 2008

##### Notice Publishing a Statement of Community Consultation

Tillbridge Solar Limited ("we") intends to provide a new solar energy and storage scheme (the "Scheme") within the administrative boundary of West Lindsey District Council and Lincolnshire County Council, with the grid connection infrastructure also located within the administrative boundary of Bassettville District Council and Nottinghamshire County Council.

As the proposed generating capacity exceeds 50 megawatts (MW), the Scheme, known as Tillbridge Solar, is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) under the Planning Act 2008 (the "Act").

The Scheme will consist of:

- the construction, operation (including maintenance) and decommissioning of ground mounted solar photovoltaic (PV) panel arrays to generate electricity located on a "Principal Site" approximately five kilometres (km) to the east of Gainsborough and approximately 13 km to the north of Lincoln;
- A Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) located on the Principal Site, allowing for the generation, storage, import and export of electricity to the national electricity transmission network;
- Supporting electrical infrastructure on the Principal Site, including up to two substations (with a 400 kilovolt (kV) underground cable circuit interconnecting the two).
- A Cable Route Corridor, comprising underground 400 kV cables connecting the Principal Site in West Lindsey, Lincolnshire, to National Grid's Cottam substation in Bassettville, Nottinghamshire.
- Associated infrastructure, mitigation and enhancement measures/green infrastructure, and other ancillary works, for example, fencing, security, local grid connections, temporary access roads, permanent means of access, highway works, temporary works compounds and work sites.

**Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC)**

We will apply to the Secretary of State, via the Planning Inspectorate, for a Development Consent Order (DCO), which would authorise the construction of the scheme under Section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 (the Act).

In accordance with Section 47 of the Act, before making our application, we have produced a SoCC, setting out how we will consult with the local community about our proposals. The statement is available to the public at the local information points (listed below) between 23 May and Tuesday 11 July 2023. Following our provision of the SoCC, we will carry out the consultation in accordance with the SoCC. This notice contains information on where and when the SoCC can be inspected and provides a summary of the consultation details. Full details of the consultation can be found in the SoCC. The SoCC can be viewed online, alongside our consultation materials, at [www.tillbridgesolar.com](http://www.tillbridgesolar.com).

**Documents Library** or at the following local information points during our consultation period from Tuesday 30 May until Tuesday 11 July 2023. Hard copy documents (including the SoCC) can also be requested by contacting the project team using the details in this notice.

West Lindsey District Council Office	Lincoln Central Library*
Gullthorpe Marshall's Yard, Marshalls Yard, 13b Beaumont St, Gainsborough DN21 2NA Monday to Friday (9am to 5pm)	Free School Lane, Lincolnshire LN2 1EZ Monday to Wednesday and Friday (9am to 5pm), Thursday (9am to 6pm), and Saturday (9am to 4pm)
Gainsborough Library*	Saxby Library*
Cobden St, Gainsborough DN21 2NG Monday to Wednesday and Friday (9am to 5pm), Thursday (9am to 6pm), and Saturday (9am to 1pm)	St Andrew's Centre, William St, Saxby LN1 2LP Tuesday (10.30am to 3.30pm), Wednesday (10.30am to 4pm) and Friday (10.30am to 1pm)
Retford Library*	Retford Library*
Churchgate, Retford, Nottinghamshire DN22 6PE Monday to Friday (9am to 6pm) and Saturday (9am to 3.30pm)	Churchgate, Retford, Nottinghamshire DN22 6PE Monday to Friday (9am to 6pm) and Saturday (9am to 3.30pm)

\*These libraries also have computer and internet access. We recommend contacting the venues to check the opening times before visiting.

**Public information events**

We can also view printed copies of our consultation materials (including the SoCC) at our public information events, where you can speak with our team and share your views. The events will be held at the following venues:

Venue	Date	Times
Gleithorpe Village Hall, Stoney Lane, Gleithorpe, Lincolnshire, DN21 5DF	Wednesday 14 June	2.30pm to 7pm
Willingham Village Hall, High St, Willingham by Stew, Gainsborough, DN21 5JZ	Saturday 17 June	10am to 2pm
Sturton by Stow Village Hall, High St, Sturton by Stow, Lincoln, LN1 2AE	Thursday 22 June	1.30pm to 5.30pm
Corryingham Village Hall, 10 Middle St, Corryingham, Gainsborough, DN21 5GR	Friday 30 June	12pm to 4pm
Rampton Village Hall, Manor Grounds, Rampton, Retford, Nottinghamshire DN22 6JG	Saturday 1 July	10am to 2pm
Hemswell and Harpswell Village Hall, Maypole Street, Hemswell, Lincolnshire, DN21 5LL	Thursday 6 July	2.30pm to 6.30pm

**Online events**

In addition to the above in-person events, we are holding two webinar events on:

- Wednesday 7 June 2023 between 6.30pm and 8pm
- Monday 10 July 2023 between 6.30pm and 8pm

Members of the public can join the webinars via telephone or online. To register for a webinar please visit [www.tillbridgesolar.com](http://www.tillbridgesolar.com) or get in touch using the contact details below. These events will have a question-and-answer facility with members of the project team available to respond during the webinars.

**Preliminary Environmental Information**

The Scheme is an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) development for the purposes of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017, which means a Preliminary Environmental Information (PEI) Report has been produced (to describe the environmental effects of the Scheme) and is being consulted on, alongside the other consultation documents, as well as a Non-Technical Summary (NTS) of the PEI Report. It also means that an Environmental Statement (ES) will be produced and submitted with the application in due course.

**Feedback**

You can provide your feedback on the Scheme and the information included in the consultation materials to us either online or in writing, by:

- going to our website and completing an online feedback questionnaire - [www.tillbridgesolar.com](http://www.tillbridgesolar.com) - you can access the form directly by visiting [www.tillbridgesolar.com/documents-library](http://www.tillbridgesolar.com/documents-library);
- collecting a questionnaire from one of our consultation events, information points (listed above), or on request (by contacting us by email, phone or post);
- returning your completed questionnaire to us at one of our events, by email ([info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com)) or by post (by writing 'FREEPOST TILLBRIDGE SOLAR' on a blank envelope - please note you do not need a stamp);
- providing your free form comments by email or post. Please note that we will not accept comments over the phone, however we can assist you wherever possible.

**The deadline for comments is 23.59 on 11 July 2023.**

If you require materials in an alternative format (e.g. large print or braille) please let us know.

**Contact us**

You can also contact us via email, over the phone, or by post:

- Email us at: [info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com)
- Monday 10 July 2023 between 6.30pm and 8pm
- Call our Freephone information line on: 0800 046 9643
- Write to us at: FREEPOST TILLBRIDGE SOLAR (please note that you do not need a stamp).

To find out more about Tillbridge Solar and take part in our statutory consultation go to the project website: [www.tillbridgesolar.com](http://www.tillbridgesolar.com)

**Public Notices**

SIMON COX (@simoncox)  
 Posted by the 'Positive Post' 1000+ are people hearing a claim against an individual in the State of the above named case of 44 Alma Road, Retford, DN22 6JG, who died on 02/05/2022, you request to send written particulars framed in the envelope on back to 29/07/2023, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to the copies and records of which they have held.

Retford, Co. Nottinghamshire, NG21 5LL, UK  
 Tel: 01509 254200, Newmarket, UK

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## Appendix B-9: Emails circulated to host authorities including (the final) SoCC and consultation packs (to circulate to local authority members) – 25 May 2023

### B-9.1: Lincolnshire County Council

**From:** Info Tillbridgesolar <info@tillbridgesolar.com>  
**Sent:** 25 May 2023 18:01  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Info Tillbridgesolar  
**Subject:** Tillbridge Solar - additional information to share  
**Attachments:** Tillbridge Solar statutory consultation: Tuesday 30 May to Tuesday 11 Ju... (4.54 MB)

Dear Neil,

I hope you are well and thank you for inviting us to present at your Committee meeting earlier this month.

Further to the information sent below, we have prepared the attached email to be circulated internally with Members and colleagues at Lincolnshire County Council. This email contains a number of documents to help inform your Members and help publicise the Tillbridge Solar consultation as widely as possible. To this end, we kindly ask that you:

- Forward this to your social media and community engagement team and include information about the consultation on your website and social media channels – the attached email encloses a 'Stakeholder Information Pack' with the relevant links and draft information.
- Provide this information for your community engagement team for them to forward on to seldom heard / hard to reach groups, including any Travellers communities that reside in the County / District.

As discussed previously, we have also sent this email directly to members at the Council to ensure they are best prepared for the start of the consultation and any potential questions they may face from their constituents.

If you have any questions about this, please let me know.

Kind regards,

Matthew

Tillbridge Solar community relations team

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**From:** Info Tillbridgesolar <info@tillbridgesolar.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 25, 2023 1:21 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]; dev\_planningsupport@lincolnshire.gov.uk; Reeve, Caroline <[REDACTED]>; Info Tillbridgesolar <info@tillbridgesolar.com>  
**Subject:** Tillbridge Solar Planning Act 2008 Section 47: Final Statement of Community Consultation

Dear Neil,

**TILLBRIDGE SOLAR: PLANNING ACT 2008 SECTION 47: DUTY TO CONSULT LOCAL COMMUNITY. CONSIDERATION OF THE COMMENTS RECEIVED ON THE DRAFT STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY CONSULTATION**

I am writing to you regarding the proposals for Tillbridge Solar, a new solar and energy storage scheme located approximately five kilometres to the east of Gainsborough and approximately 13km to the north of Lincoln.

Further to our previous correspondence on 13 February 2023, requesting your comments and suggested amendments on our draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC), I would like to thank you for providing these and your assistance in developing and finalising the document. We also thank you for your informal engagement on the draft SoCC before this date.

For your information, please see the table enclosed which should assist you in identifying how your comments were considered in developing and finalising our SoCC. Please note, the final SoCC reflects suggested amendments from West Lindsey District Council, Bassetlaw District Council and Lincolnshire County Council. For ease of reference, Table 1 in Annex A (provided in the attached letter) notes the informal comments received (and regard had), and Table 2 notes the formal comments received (and regard had).

A copy of the final SoCC is enclosed for your convenience (as Annex B). The SoCC has been publicised in accordance with section 47 of the Planning Act from today (25 May 2023) and is therefore now in the public domain. We therefore also enclosed a PDF copy of the Section 47 (that has been published in local newspapers) (see Annex C), with this letter and email. We welcome you to share this information with your members.

As you will be aware, our consultation under section 47 of the Planning Act 2008 must be carried out in accordance with the SoCC. We will record how we carried out our consultation in accordance with the SoCC in our Consultation Report, which forms part of our application for a Development Consent Order to the Planning Inspectorate.

If you would like any of the above information or documentation in printed format, please let us know. You can get in touch with us using the details below.

It would be greatly appreciated if you could confirm receipt of this email and information.

Yours sincerely,



Luke Murray  
Project Director, Tillbridge Solar Ltd

Enc.

- Annex A: West Lindsey District Council, Bassetlaw District Council, Lincolnshire County Council and Nottinghamshire County Council SoCC comments.
- Annex B: Statement of Community Consultation - Final
- Annex C: Section 47 Notice

## B-9.2: West Lindsey District Council



**From:** Info Tillbridgesolar <info@tillbridgesolar.com>  
**Sent:** 25 May 2023 17:56  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Info Tillbridgesolar  
**Subject:** Tillbridge Solar - additional information to share  
**Attachments:** Tillbridge Solar statutory consultation: Tuesday 30 May to Tuesday 11 Ju... (4.54 MB)

Dear Russell,

I hope you are well and have received the below information today.

Further to this, we have prepared the attached email to be circulated internally with Members and colleagues at West Lindsey District Council. This email contains a number of documents to help inform your Members and help publicise the Tillbridge Solar consultation as widely as possible. To this end, we kindly ask that you:

- Forward this to your social media and community engagement team and include information about the consultation on your website and social media channels – the attached email encloses a ‘Stakeholder Information Pack’ with the relevant links and draft information.
- Provide this information for your community engagement team for them to forward on to seldom heard / hard to reach groups, including any Travellers communities that reside in the County / District.

As discussed previously, we have also sent this email directly to members at the Council to ensure they are best prepared for the start of the consultation and any potential questions they may face from their constituents.

If you have any questions about this, please let me know.

Kind regards,

Matthew

Tillbridge Solar community relations team

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**From:** Info Tillbridgesolar <info@tillbridgesolar.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 25, 2023 1:23 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] planning.applications@west-lindsey.gov.uk; Reeve, Caroline <[REDACTED]>; Info Tillbridgesolar <info@tillbridgesolar.com>  
**Subject:** Tillbridge Solar Planning Act 2008 Section 47: Final Statement of Community Consultation

Dear Russell,

**TILLBRIDGE SOLAR: PLANNING ACT 2008 SECTION 47: DUTY TO CONSULT LOCAL COMMUNITY.  
CONSIDERATION OF THE COMMENTS RECEIVED ON THE DRAFT STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY  
CONSULTATION**

I am writing to you regarding the proposals for Tillbridge Solar, a new solar and energy storage scheme located approximately five kilometres to the east of Gainsborough and approximately 13km to the north of Lincoln.

Further to our previous correspondence on 13 February 2023, requesting your comments and suggested amendments on our draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC), I would like to thank you for providing these and your assistance in developing and finalising the document. We also thank you for your informal engagement on the draft SoCC before this date.

For your information, please see the table enclosed which should assist you in identifying how your comments were considered in developing and finalising our SoCC. Please note, the final SoCC reflects suggested amendments from West Lindsey District Council, Bassetlaw District Council and Lincolnshire County Council. For ease of reference, Table 1 in Annex A (provided in the attached letter) notes the informal comments received (and regard had), and Table 2 notes the formal comments received (and regard had).

A copy of the final SoCC is enclosed for your convenience (as Annex B). The SoCC has been publicised in accordance with section 47 of the Planning Act from today (25 May 2023) and is therefore now in the public domain. We therefore also enclosed a PDF copy of the Section 47 (that has been published in local newspapers) (see Annex C), with this letter and email. We welcome you to share this information with your members.

As you will be aware, our consultation under section 47 of the Planning Act 2008 must be carried out in accordance with the SoCC. We will record how we carried out our consultation in accordance with the SoCC in our Consultation Report, which forms part of our application for a Development Consent Order to the Planning Inspectorate.

If you would like any of the above information or documentation in printed format, please let us know. You can get in touch with us using the details below.

It would be greatly appreciated if you could confirm receipt of this email and information.

Yours sincerely,



Luke Murray  
Project Director, Tillbridge Solar Ltd

Enc.

- Annex A: West Lindsey District Council, Bassetlaw District Council, Lincolnshire County Council and Nottinghamshire County Council SoCC comments.
- Annex B: Statement of Community Consultation - Final
- Annex C: Section 47 Notice



## B-9.3: Nottinghamshire County Council

**From:** Info Tillbridgesolar <info@tillbridgesolar.com>  
**Sent:** 25 May 2023 18:02  
**To:** Nina Wilson  
**Cc:** Info Tillbridgesolar  
**Subject:** Tillbridge Solar - additional information to share  
**Attachments:** Tillbridge Solar statutory consultation: Tuesday 30 May to Tuesday 11 Ju... (4.54 MB)

Dear Nina,

I hope you are well and have received the below information today.

Further to this, we have prepared the attached email to be circulated internally with Members and colleagues at Nottinghamshire County Council. This email contains a number of documents to help inform your Members and help publicise the Tillbridge Solar consultation as widely as possible. To this end, we kindly ask that you:

- Forward this to your social media and community engagement team and include information about the consultation on your website and social media channels – the attached email encloses a 'Stakeholder Information Pack' with the relevant links and draft information.
- Provide this information for your community engagement team for them to forward on to seldom heard / hard to reach groups, including any Travellers communities that reside in the County / District.

As discussed previously, we have also sent this email directly to members at the Council to ensure they are best prepared for the start of the consultation and any potential questions they may face from their constituents.

If you have any questions about this, please let me know.

Kind regards,

Matthew

Tillbridge Solar community relations team

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**From:** Info Tillbridgesolar <info@tillbridgesolar.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 25, 2023 1:22 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] planning.policy@nottscc.gov.uk; Reeve, Caroline <[REDACTED]>; Info Tillbridgesolar <info@tillbridgesolar.com>  
**Subject:** Tillbridge Solar Planning Act 2008 Section 47: Final Statement of Community Consultation

Dear Nina,

**TILLBRIDGE SOLAR: PLANNING ACT 2008 SECTION 47: DUTY TO CONSULT LOCAL COMMUNITY.  
CONSIDERATION OF THE COMMENTS RECEIVED ON THE DRAFT STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY  
CONSULTATION**

I am writing to you regarding the proposals for Tillbridge Solar, a new solar and energy storage scheme located approximately five kilometres to the east of Gainsborough and approximately 13km to the north of Lincoln.

Further to our previous correspondence on 13 February 2023, requesting your comments and suggested amendments on our draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC), I would like to thank you for providing these and your assistance in developing and finalising the document. We also thank you for your informal engagement on the draft SoCC before this date.

For your information, please see the table enclosed which should assist you in identifying how your comments were considered in developing and finalising our SoCC. Please note, the final SoCC reflects suggested amendments from West Lindsey District Council, Bassetlaw District Council and Lincolnshire County Council. For ease of reference, Table 1 in Annex A (provided in the attached letter) notes the informal comments received (and regard had), and Table 2 notes the formal comments received (and regard had).

A copy of the final SoCC is enclosed for your convenience (as Annex B). The SoCC has been publicised in accordance with section 47 of the Planning Act from today (25 May 2023) and is therefore now in the public domain. We therefore also enclosed a PDF copy of the Section 47 (that has been published in local newspapers) (see Annex C), with this letter and email. We welcome you to share this information with your members.

As you will be aware, our consultation under section 47 of the Planning Act 2008 must be carried out in accordance with the SoCC. We will record how we carried out our consultation in accordance with the SoCC in our Consultation Report, which forms part of our application for a Development Consent Order to the Planning Inspectorate.

If you would like any of the above information or documentation in printed format, please let us know. You can get in touch with us using the details below.

It would be greatly appreciated if you could confirm receipt of this email and information.

Yours sincerely,



Luke Murray  
Project Director, Tillbridge Solar Ltd

Enc.

- Annex A: West Lindsey District Council, Bassetlaw District Council, Lincolnshire County Council and Nottinghamshire County Council SoCC comments.
- Annex B: Statement of Community Consultation - Final
- Annex C: Section 47 Notice

## B-9.4: Bassetlaw District Council

**From:** Info Tillbridgesolar <info@tillbridgesolar.com>  
**Sent:** 25 May 2023 18:03  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Info Tillbridgesolar  
**Subject:** Tillbridge Solar - additional information to share  
**Attachments:** Tillbridge Solar statutory consultation: Tuesday 30 May to Tuesday 11 Ju... (4.54 MB)

Dear John,

I hope you are well and thank you for your assistance with organising the Bassetlaw District Council briefing earlier this week.

Further to the information sent earlier today, we have prepared the attached email to be circulated internally with Members and colleagues at Bassetlaw District Council. This email contains a number of documents to help inform your Members and help publicise the Tillbridge Solar consultation as widely as possible. To this end, we kindly ask that you:

- Forward this to your social media and community engagement team and include information about the consultation on your website and social media channels – the attached email encloses a ‘Stakeholder Information Pack’ with the relevant links and draft information.
- Provide this information for your community engagement team for them to forward on to seldom heard / hard to reach groups, including any Travellers communities that reside in the County / District.

As discussed previously, we have also sent this email directly to members at the Council to ensure they are best prepared for the start of the consultation and any potential questions they may face from their constituents.

If you have any questions about this, please let me know.

Kind regards,

Matthew

Tillbridge Solar community relations team

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**From:** Info Tillbridgesolar <info@tillbridgesolar.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 25, 2023 1:19 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [planning@bassetlaw.gov.uk](mailto:planning@bassetlaw.gov.uk); Reeve, Caroline <[REDACTED]>; Info Tillbridgesolar <info@tillbridgesolar.com>  
**Subject:** Tillbridge Solar Planning Act 2008 Section 47: Final Statement of Community Consultation

Dear Clare, John,

**TILLBRIDGE SOLAR: PLANNING ACT 2008 SECTION 47: DUTY TO CONSULT LOCAL COMMUNITY.  
CONSIDERATION OF THE COMMENTS RECEIVED ON THE DRAFT STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY  
CONSULTATION**

I am writing to you regarding the proposals for Tillbridge Solar, a new solar and energy storage scheme located approximately five kilometres to the east of Gainsborough and approximately 13km to the north of Lincoln.

Further to our previous correspondence on 13 February 2023, requesting your comments and suggested amendments on our draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC), I would like to thank you for providing these and your assistance in developing and finalising the document. We also thank you for your informal engagement on the draft SoCC before this date.

For your information, please see the table enclosed which should assist you in identifying how your comments were considered in developing and finalising our SoCC. Please note, the final SoCC reflects suggested amendments from West Lindsey District Council, Bassetlaw District Council and Lincolnshire County Council. For ease of reference, Table 1 in Annex A (provided in the attached letter) notes the informal comments received (and regard had), and Table 2 notes the formal comments received (and regard had).

A copy of the final SoCC is enclosed for your convenience (as Annex B). The SoCC has been publicised in accordance with section 47 of the Planning Act from today (25 May 2023) and is therefore now in the public domain. We therefore also enclosed a PDF copy of the Section 47 (that has been published in local newspapers) (see Annex C), with this letter and email. We welcome you to share this information with your members.

As you will be aware, our consultation under section 47 of the Planning Act 2008 must be carried out in accordance with the SoCC. We will record how we carried out our consultation in accordance with the SoCC in our Consultation Report, which forms part of our application for a Development Consent Order to the Planning Inspectorate.

If you would like any of the above information or documentation in printed format, please let us know. You can get in touch with us using the details below.

It would be greatly appreciated if you could confirm receipt of this email and information.

Yours sincerely,



Luke Murray  
Project Director, Tillbridge Solar Ltd

Enc.

- Annex A: West Lindsey District Council, Bassetlaw District Council, Lincolnshire County Council and Nottinghamshire County Council SoCC comments.
- Annex B: Statement of Community Consultation - Final
- Annex C: Section 47 Notice

## Appendix B-10: Emails circulated to neighbouring authorities including SoCC (25 May 2023)

**From:** Info Tillbridgesolar <info@tillbridgesolar.com>  
**Sent:** 25 May 2023 13:35  
**Subject:** Tillbridge Solar Planning Act 2008 Section 47: Final Statement of Community Consultation  
**Attachments:** Annex B Tillbridge Solar Final SoCC\_May 2023.pdf; Annex C Tillbridge Solar Section 47 Notice\_May 2023.pdf; Tillbridge Solar SoCC letter\_Neighbouring Authorities.pdf

FAO Head of Planning

Dear Sir/Madam,

**TILLBRIDGE SOLAR: PLANNING ACT 2008 SECTION 47: DUTY TO CONSULT LOCAL COMMUNITY. THE STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY CONSULTATION**

I am writing to you regarding the proposals for Tillbridge Solar, a new solar and energy storage scheme located approximately five kilometres to the east of Gainsborough and approximately 13km to the north of Lincoln.

We have been engaging informally on our early-stage proposals since 2022 and will be launching our statutory consultation next week (Tuesday 30 May), which will run for six weeks until Tuesday 11 July 2023.

As a neighbouring local authority under Section 43 of the Planning Act 2008 (for the purposes of Section 42(1)(b)) we have enclosed a copy of the final Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC). This has taken into consideration comments from the following local authorities:

- Lincolnshire County Council;
- West Lindsey District Council;
- Nottinghamshire County Council; and
- Bassetlaw District Council.

This SoCC has been publicised on the Tillbridge Solar website today (Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2023). We also enclose a copy of the Section 47 notice, which has been published in local newspapers in Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire today.

As you may be aware, our consultation under section 47 of the Planning Act 2008 must be carried out in accordance with the SoCC. We will record how we carried out our consultation in accordance with the SoCC in our Consultation Report which forms part of our application for a Development Consent Order to the Planning Inspectorate.

If you have any questions about what happens next, please contact us using the details below. Please also let us know if you would like any of the above information or documentation in printed format.

Yours sincerely,





## Appendix B-11: Emails circulated to parish council clerks authorities including SoCC (25 May 2023)

**From:** Info Tillbridgesolar <info@tillbridgesolar.com>  
**Sent on:** Thursday, May 25, 2023 4:10:26 PM  
**To:** Undisclosed recipients;;  
**BCC:**

**Subject:** Tillbridge Solar publication of Statement of Community Consultation and wider information  
**Attachments:** Tillbridge Solar Final SoCC\_May 2023.pdf (760.2 KB), Tillbridge Solar Stakeholder Pack\_May 2023.pdf (483.43 KB), Tillbridge Solar Section 47 Notice\_May 2023.pdf (127.54 KB), Tillbridge Solar Information Poster\_May 2023.pdf (118.29 KB)

Dear Parish Council/Meeting,

### Publication of Statement of Community Consultation and wider information

We are writing to you regarding Tillbridge Solar (“The Scheme”), which is a proposed solar farm that will deliver electricity to the national electricity transmission system. The Scheme is proposed to be located approximately five kilometres to the east of Gainsborough and approximately thirteen kilometres to the north of Lincoln.

Further to our correspondence on Thursday 18 May, we wanted to share with you a copy of our final Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC). This has taken into consideration comments from the following local authorities:

- Lincolnshire County Council;
- West Lindsey District Council;
- Nottinghamshire County Council; and
- Bassetlaw District Council.

We have also attached a copy of our Section 47 Notice, which has been published from today in local newspapers in Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire. Please let us know if you would like any of this information in printed format.

### Information to share

In addition to the final SoCC and Section 47 notice, we have also attached a stakeholder information pack and information poster. These have been designed to be a resource for you to help share information about the Tillbridge Solar consultation process.

To note, the pack includes links to the Tillbridge Solar website. The site will be fully updated from **Tuesday 30 May 2023**. We welcome you to use information from this pack to share information more widely, including via any websites, social media, newsletters, and e-bulletins.

If you have any questions about the attached information, please let us know.

Kind regards,

Luke Murray

Project Director, Tillbridge Solar  
Email: [info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com) ; Freephone : 0800 046 9643

Encl:

- Statement of Community Consultation
- Section 47 Notice
- Stakeholder information pack
- Information poster

## Appendix B-12: Request for a Scoping Opinion (30 September 2022)



AECOM Limited  
1st floor, Victoria Square House  
Victoria Square  
Birmingham B2 4AJ  
United Kingdom

T: +44 (121) 212 3035  
aecom.com

30 September 2022  
BY EMAIL

Eleanor Church  
Case Manager  
The Planning Inspectorate  
Temple Quay House  
Temple Quay  
Bristol  
BS1 6PN

Dear Eleanor

**Tillbridge Solar - The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 ('the EIA Regulations') – Regulation 8(1)(b) Proposal to provide an Environmental Statement and Regulation 10(1) Request for a Scoping Opinion.**

I write on behalf of our client, Tillbridge Solar Limited ('the Applicant') in respect of a proposed solar farm in Lincolnshire. The Scheme comprises the installation of solar photovoltaic (PV) generating panels and on-site energy storage facilities within Lincolnshire and associated infrastructure for connection to the national grid at Cottam substation in Nottinghamshire. The Scheme would allow for the generation, storage, export and import of electricity with an anticipated capacity greater than 50 megawatts (MW).

The Scheme falls within the definition and thresholds for a 'Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project' under Sections 14(1)(a) and 15(2) of 'The Planning Act 2008' (the 'PA 2008') as it represents the construction of an onshore generating station in England that will result in the generating station having a capacity of more than 50MW.).

The Applicant is proposing to make an application for an order to grant development consent for the Scheme. In accordance with Regulation 8(1)(b) of EIA Regulations, this letter confirms in writing to the Secretary of State that the Applicant proposes to provide an Environmental Statement in respect of the Scheme with the DCO application. The Applicant intends to carry out consultation in advance of the DCO application being in accordance with section 42 of the Planning Act 2008 (as amended). This notification is therefore submitted in advance of carrying out the section 42 consultation in accordance with Regulation 8(1) of the EIA Regulations.

The Scheme is a Schedule 2 development, listed under Schedule 2, Part 3(a) – 'industrial installations for the production of electricity, steam, and hot water'. Due to the size, nature and location of the proposed development, the Scheme is likely to have a significant effect on the environment and will therefore constitute EIA development, for which an Environmental Statement is required.

In addition, in accordance with Regulation 10(1) of the EIA Regulations, I write to request that the Secretary of State adopts a scoping opinion in relation to the proposed development 'as to the scope, and level of detail, of the information to be provided in the environmental statement.'<sup>1</sup>

In accordance with Regulations 8 (3) (a) and (b) and 10 (3), this request for the Secretary of State to adopt a scoping opinion is accompanied by an EIA Scoping Report which includes:

- a) a plan sufficient to identify the land;
- b) a description of the proposed development, including its location and technical capacity;
- c) a description of the development, including a description of the physical characteristics of the whole development, and where relevant, demolition works; and

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- d) a description of the aspects of the environment likely to be significantly affected by the development.

In addition to the minimum requirements set out above, the submitted EIA Scoping Report also includes:

- a) a summary of the Scheme;
- b) a summary of the proposed scope of work and the methods to be applied in carrying out the EIA;
- c) provision of a justification and rationale for scoping out certain topics from further assessment (for example where no significant impacts are predicted); and
- d) the proposed structure and coverage of the Environmental Statement to be submitted with the DCO application.

The contents of the Scoping Report is also in accordance with those requirements set out in the Planning Inspectorate's Advice Note 7 (Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) – The Process). The above will ensure that the Secretary of State has sufficient information to notify consultation bodies regarding the proposed development and to adopt a scoping opinion.

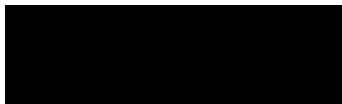
To this end, please find enclosed electronically an EIA Scoping Report to enable the Secretary of State to adopt a Scoping Opinion within the 42-day period prescribed by Regulation 10(6) of the EIA Regulations, and to issue a list of the notified consultation bodies with respect to Regulation 11(1)(b) of the same regulations. For the purposes of Regulation 11 (1) (a) of the EIA Regulations 2017, the postal and email addresses of the Applicant, Tillbridge Solar Limited, are:

Address:  
111 Park Street  
London  
W1K 7JF

Email: [info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com)

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me using the contact details below.

Yours sincerely,



Caroline Reeve  
Associate Director (Planning)  
AECOM

M:   
E:

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<sup>1</sup> Her Majesty's Stationery Office (HMSO) (2011) The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (as amended by The Town and Country Planning and Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Amendment) Regulations 2018). Available at: [http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2017/572/pdfs/uksi\\_20170572\\_en.pdf](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2017/572/pdfs/uksi_20170572_en.pdf) and [http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2018/895/pdfs/uksi\\_20180895\\_en.pdf](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2018/895/pdfs/uksi_20180895_en.pdf).