



East Yorkshire Solar Farm
Planning Inspectorate project update meeting
11th July 2023 3pm

BUILD | OWN | OPERATE | MAINTAIN

AGENDA

- Introductions and safety moment
- Project and Programme Update
 - Programme update
 - Statutory consultation feedback and targeted consultation
 - Land update
 - Environmental update
- Early Adopters components initiation
- Next meeting and AOB

INTRODUCTIONS AND SAFETY MOMENT

Cycle safety

A colleague recently had to visit hospital as a driver did not look before their manoeuvre – he ended up with a number of fractured ribs

Cyclists depend heavily on responsible behaviour from drivers, and need them to understand their vulnerability and how to interact with them safely

Cycling UK says some drivers feel aggravated when they find cyclists 'in the way' - e.g. riding away from the kerb or in the middle of a traffic lane. This may well be because drivers are unaware of the advice given to cyclists by the National Standard for cycle training, i.e. to ride away from the gutter to avoid any surface defects and drain covers, to be visible, and to 'take the lane' to deter drivers from overtaking them when there is not enough room to do so safely.

Simple things to remember

- Check your blind spot when exiting your car
- Check all your mirrors before making that manoeuvre and signal so other road users including pedestrians and cyclists are aware of what you are doing
- Give them space when overtaking

PROJECT AND PROGRAMME UPDATE

Programme update

- Still aiming for 31st October submission
- PINS document review – targeted for 29th August to 9th October
- Expecting to share sample BoR, works plan sample, land plan sample, draft HRA, draft DCO and draft ExM

STATUTORY CONSULTATION FEEDBACK

Consultation closed on 20th June 2023

Events well attended

VAST and Gribthorpe Against Solar members attended

Local councillors attended

Key issues:

- Scale
- Loss of agricultural land
- Why here?
- Access and public rights of way
- Noise
- Ecology
- Battery safety

Considering responses and what changes we can make to the design so we can demonstrate we have had regard

Sentiment	Responses	%
Oppose	210	83%
In favour	22	9%
Undecided	6	2%
Conditionally in favour	9	4%
Blank	5	2%
Total	256	100%

STATUTORY CONSULTATION FEEDBACK AND TARGETED CONSULTATION

- Received responses from key bodies including Natural England, Environment Agency, Historic England, Network Rail, National Highways, Canals and Rivers Trust, Ouse and Derwent Internal Drainage Board – setting up follow on meetings to discuss feedback
- Received response from 1 of the 2 host authorities - North Yorkshire Council. Awaiting response from East Riding of Yorkshire Council
- Ongoing discussions with landowners, SEGL2 and Drax
- Likely to need to do targeted consultation in August-September due to red line boundary minor changes. This is in line with the SoCC – no re-consultation of the SoCC necessary

ENVIRONMENT UPDATE

SOILS

- Surveys commenced to take Reconnaissance scale survey to detailed survey – as agreed with Natural England. Soil Health Analysis also on going – to feed into landscape planting design.

ECOLOGY

- Great crested newts – district level licence being sought from Natural England
- Hedgerow survey of potentially Important hedgerows to be undertaken where potential for impacts
- Bat survey programme for trees identified to be removed or reduced being developed for July to September
- Aquatic ecology surveys complete – samples being processed
- Phase 1 habitat survey (50 m buffer and cable route) and Otter and Water vole surveys on-going
- Overwintering Bird Surveys completed and surveys for Breeding Birds are ongoing
- HRA being progressed and consultation with Natural England regarding mitigation strategy – requirement for Appropriate Assessment triggered

HERITAGE

- Geophysical surveys of the Solar PV Site undertaken and Grid Connection Corridor underway where access allows. Initial data shared with both LPAs.
- Prepared the WSI across the two authority areas and shared with archaeological officers – now procuring archaeological field work contractor to commence trial trenching in July and completion in October

ENVIRONMENT UPDATE

ACCESS AND TRAFFIC

- Refining access strategy and design for visibility splays
- Speed surveys being considered to reduce splay requirements

FLOOD RISK

- Flood modelling underway with ERYC flood model of Derwent as difficulties with Environment Agency model

LANDSCAPE

- Summer photography to be undertaken to use in assessment and photomontages. Dates weather dependent.

NOISE

- Requirement for additional monitoring to inform ecology assessments / HRA (disturbance) being investigated

LAND UPDATE

Ardent has completed the Desktop and Contact Land Referencing, which informed the S42(d) mailing list for Statutory Consultation.

The main methods employed by Ardent include:

- interrogating title registers and plans;
- acquiring open source and paid data from statutory undertakers;
- issuing Land Interest Questionnaires to landowners and making follow up enquiries;
- erecting unregistered site notices close to land where interests remain unknown or unconfirmed;
- erecting S48 notices around the Red Line Boundary advertising the scheme and statutory consultation

Unknown interests

There remains a handful of plots that are unregistered with unknown owners, some of which are in the process of being registered for the first time at Land Registry. Ardent will carry out two more refreshes of the Land Registry data prior to submission to ensure any new interests are flagged and continue with enquiries in general regarding unregistered landowners.

LAND UPDATE

Category 3 interests

The project team has been able to clarify through employing the same methodology on previous solar DCOs that there are no interests of this type. This methodology will be provided as part of submission.

DCO submission

Arden will shortly begin preparing the first drafts of the Book of Reference, Land Plan and Crown Land Plan. These will be updated when any new land interests or information come to light during ongoing enquiries between now and submission.

Ongoing negotiations

Land agents DDM and Boom continuing to discuss the scheme with landowners and negotiate land agreements – particularly easements along the Grid Connection Corridor

EARLY ADOPTERS COMPONENTS INITIATION

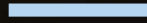
COMPONENT 1: Use of Programme Planning (mandatory to accompany all Eols)

COMPONENT 9: Use of Advice Log

COMPONENT 10: Use of multipartite meetings

NEXT MEETING AND AOB

THANK YOU



BOOM
POWER