

Jo Shanks, Case Officer  
The Planning Inspectorate  
Temple Quay House  
Temple Quay  
Bristol  
BS1 6PN

5th January 2024

Dear Ms Shanks

## Springwell Solar Farm – section 46 notification under the Planning Act 2008

The Secretary of State is hereby notified in accordance with section 46 of the Planning Act 2008 (the “Act”), of Springwell Energyfarm Ltd’s intention to submit a Development Consent Order (“DCO”) application to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero to authorise the construction, operation and decommissioning of the proposed Springwell Solar Farm (the “Scheme”). Springwell Energyfarm Ltd intends to make this application in Autumn 2024.

We have previously provided notification pursuant to Regulation 8(1)(b) of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 that the Scheme is an Environmental Impact Assessment development (“EIA development”), as defined by those regulations and an Environmental Statement will be submitted as part of the DCO application.

The submission of the application will follow a period of statutory pre-application consultation carried out pursuant to section 42, section 47 and section 48 of the Act, the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedures) Regulations 2009 (the “APFP Regulations”), and the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017. The consultation will commence on Thursday 11 January 2024 and end on Thursday 22 February 2024.

## Summary of the Proposed Development

The application is for the proposed Springwell Solar Farm at land north of Sleaford, close to the settlements of Blankney, Scopwick, Kirkby Green and Ashby de la Launde (“the Proposed Site”) and within the administrative boundaries of North Kesteven District Council and Lincolnshire County Council. The Proposed Development would cover an area of approximately 1,972 hectares (ha), split across three distinct areas, which are described below:



- Springwell West: Springwell West forms the southernmost part of the Proposed Site and is intersected by the A15 – with Brauncewell to the south and Navenby to the northwest.
- Springwell Central: Springwell Central is located in the centre of the Proposed Site, adjacent to RAF Digby and B1191 to the west, Ashby de la Launde to the south and relatively open agricultural fields to the east.
- Springwell East: Springwell East is bounded by the settlements of Scopwick to the south, Kirkby Green to the south east, Blankney in the north, B1188 to the west and a railway line to the east.

The proposed DCO will, amongst other things, authorise:

- construction, operation and decommissioning of ground mounted solar PV arrays, Balance of Solar System, Collector Compounds and Battery Energy Storage System, along with distribution cables.
- other associated and ancillary works including a new substation, known as Springwell Substation, which would be connected to the PV arrays and battery storage via distribution cables. Underground cabling would connect the Springwell Substation to the point of connection into the National Electricity Transmission System via a 400kV grid connection cable route.
- other infrastructure works including on-site cabling, ancillary buildings such as offices and welfare areas, access tracks, and any other works identified as necessary to enable the Proposed Development. There would also be parts of the Proposed Site used for landscaping which would include features such as biodiversity mitigation and enhancement measures, amenity improvements and fencing.
- the compulsory acquisition of land and/or rights and the taking of temporary possession of land.
- the overriding of easements and other rights over or affecting land.
- the application and/or disapplication of legislation relating to the Proposed Development.
- such ancillary, incidental and consequential provisions, licences, property rights, permits and consents as are necessary and/or convenient.

## Consultation documents

Please find enclosed the information that is being sent to the section 42 consultees:

- A covering letter sent to those consultees identified pursuant to section 42(1)(a) and section 42(1)(b) and cover letters sent to those consultees pursuant to section 42(1)(d), which includes a copy of the plan showing the site boundary of the Proposed Development.
- Notice of the proposed application which has been publicised in accordance with section 48 of the Act and the requirements set out in Regulation 4 of the APFP Regulations.

Information about the Proposed Development comprising a consultation booklet and the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (“PEIR”), including a non-technical summary of the preliminary effects, will be available free of charge online at [www.springwellsolarfarm.co.uk/downloads/](http://www.springwellsolarfarm.co.uk/downloads/) from the start of the consultation period on 11 January 2024.

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A USB device containing the consultation documents can also be provided free of charge upon request. If, however, the Secretary of State requires the material in an alternative format, please do not hesitate to contact us.

In addition to these documents, there will be information on the project website, [www.springwellsolarfarm.co.uk](http://www.springwellsolarfarm.co.uk) and through a virtual public exhibition accessible by the same link. There will also be a series of public events held in the area around the Proposed Site to enable anyone to find out more about the Proposed Development and share their views. Further details of the consultation arrangements can be found in the section 48 notice.

Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me on [info@springwellsolarfarm.co.uk](mailto:info@springwellsolarfarm.co.uk) or 0800 [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely,

Grant Folley  
Springwell Solar Farm, Principal Development Manager



Address 1

Address 2

Address 3

Address 4

8 January 2024

Dear NAME,

## **Springwell Solar Farm**

**Statutory pre-application consultation: 11 January to 22 February 2024**

**Section 42 of the Planning Act 2008: Duty to consult on a proposed application**

### **Overview**

I am writing regarding Springwell Energyfarm Limited's intention to submit a development consent order ('DCO') application to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero under section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 ('the Act') for the construction, operation and decommissioning of Springwell Solar Farm.

We have now commenced statutory pre-application consultation in relation to Springwell Solar Farm. I am writing to you because you have been identified as a prescribed consultee under section 42(1)(a) of the Act. We invite you to submit your feedback on the proposals by 22 February 2024.

This letter explains how to take part in the public consultation and how you can share your views on our proposals.

### **Springwell Solar Farm**

Springwell Solar Farm is a proposed new solar farm and battery storage facility located in North Kesteven, Lincolnshire. The proposals also include infrastructure to connect Springwell to the National Grid, as well as any necessary supporting site infrastructure and environmental mitigation, including landscaping and ecological planting.

If consented, Springwell Solar Farm would make an important contribution to our future energy network by producing enough clean, secure and affordable energy to power over 180,000 homes every year\*.

### **The planning process**

As Springwell Solar Farm would generate in excess of 50MW of electrical capacity, it is classed as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project under the Planning Act 2008. This means that we must apply to the Secretary of State for a DCO under the Planning Act 2008. The DCO application will be accompanied by an Environmental Statement prepared



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\*Based upon the average domestic electricity consumption per home (temperature corrected) per the Energy Consumption in the UK (published September 2021, Table C9 of ECUK: Consumption data)

in accordance with the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017.

We have prepared a Preliminary Environmental Information Report ('PEIR'), which sets out the preliminary environmental information on the Proposed Development. The purpose of this document is to enable consultees to understand the likely significant environmental effects of Springwell Solar Farm and to help inform consultation responses.

More guidance on the pre-application process and the Act can be found on the Planning Inspectorate's website: <http://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/legislation-and-advice/>.

**How you can find out more**

The statutory consultation will run from Thursday 11 January to Thursday 22 February 2024 and we would welcome your feedback at this stage. There are a range of ways that you can find out more about our proposals and take part in the consultation.

We will be hosting a number of public events to allow people to find out more about Springwell Solar Farm and speak with the team at the following times and locations:

- Wednesday 24 January - Scopwick Village Hall (4pm-8pm)
- Thursday 25 January – Ashby de la Launde Village Hall (3pm-7pm)
- Friday 26 January – The Venue, Navenby (Midday-4pm)
- Saturday 27 January – Metheringham Village Hall (11am-3pm)
- Tuesday 20 February – Blankney Old School (3pm-7pm)

As part of our consultation, we have published a consultation booklet showing the nature and location of Springwell Solar Farm and a questionnaire for respondents to share their feedback with us. We have also prepared a Statement of Community Consultation ("SoCC") in accordance with section 47 of the Act.

Copies of these consultation documents – as well as the PEIR – are now available to view and download free of charge on the project website at the following link: [www.springwellsolarfarm.co.uk/downloads](http://www.springwellsolarfarm.co.uk/downloads).

Printed copies of these documents will be available to inspect at the following deposit points during the consultation period:

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Friday: opening times may vary.

Saturday: opening times may vary.

Sunday: opening times may vary.

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Copies of these documents are available in hard copy or on USB on request. We will provide USBs containing all the consultation materials – including the PEIR – free of charge. Hard copies of the consultation booklet, SoCC and questionnaire are also available free of charge.

Requests for hard copies of the PEIR will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. A fee to cover printing costs (up to a maximum of £750 for one full set of consultation documents) may be charged to the recipient. To request materials in an alternate format, please get in touch using the contact information below.

Enclosed with this letter is a copy of the section 48 notice published under the Act.

### **How you can share your views**

If you wish to submit a consultation response, you must do so in writing by the consultation deadline of 11:59pm on Thursday 22 February 2024. You can provide your feedback in the following ways:

- Completing the consultation questionnaire online at [www.springwellsolarfarm.co.uk/questionnaire](http://www.springwellsolarfarm.co.uk/questionnaire).
- Returning a questionnaire by Freepost (no stamp required) to the following address: Springwell Solar Farm, FREEPOST SEC Newgate UK LOCAL.
- Returning a questionnaire by email: [info@springwellsolarfarm.co.uk](mailto:info@springwellsolarfarm.co.uk).
- Submitting comments by email to [info@springwellsolarfarm.co.uk](mailto:info@springwellsolarfarm.co.uk) or in writing to the above Freepost address.

Should you have any questions, wish to discuss the proposals further or to request copies of the consultation documents, please do get in touch by:

- Calling 0800 038 3486 (9:00am to 5:30pm, Monday to Friday)
- Emailing [info@springwellsolarfarm.co.uk](mailto:info@springwellsolarfarm.co.uk)
- Writing to the team at Springwell Solar Farm FREEPOST SEC Newgate UK Local

### **Next steps**

Following this consultation, we will consider all the feedback we receive and continue refining our proposals for Springwell Solar Farm before submitting a DCO application to the Planning Inspectorate in Q3 2024. The DCO application will include a Consultation Report, which will set out how we have consulted on Springwell Solar Farm, summarise the responses received and explain how we have had regard to them.

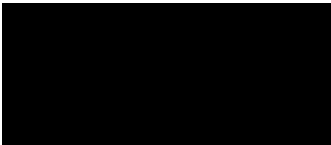
Any comments received will be analysed by Springwell Energyfarm Ltd and any of its appointed agents. Copies may be made available to the Secretary of State, the Planning Inspectorate and other relevant statutory authorities so that feedback can be considered part of the DCO process.

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For certain parties, those who own an interest in land or are affected by Springwell Solar Farm, the Applicant is under a statutory duty to publish names and addresses as part of its DCO application. In respect of other people, we will request that your personal details are not placed on public record and these will be held securely by the Applicant in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998 and the General Data Protection Regulation and used solely in connection with the consultation process and subsequent DCO application and, except as noted above, will not be passed to third parties. Further information on the privacy policy can be found on the EDF Renewables website, [www.edf-re.uk/privacy-policy/](http://www.edf-re.uk/privacy-policy/).

The Planning Inspectorate has published details of how it manages comments received in a Privacy Notice available on its website:  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/planning-inspectorate-privacy-notice/customer-privacy-notice>.

Yours sincerely,



Matthew Boulton  
Director of Solar, Storage and Private Wire  
EDF Renewables UK  
Enc.  
Section 48 notice



Address 1

Address 2

Address 3

Address 4

8 January 2023

Dear NAME,

## **Springwell Solar Farm**

**Statutory pre-application consultation: 11 January to 22 February 2024**

**Section 42 of the Planning Act 2008: Duty to consult on a proposed application**

### **Overview**

I am writing regarding Springwell Energyfarm Limited's intention to submit a development consent order ('DCO') application to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero under section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 ('the Act') for the construction, operation and decommissioning of Springwell Solar Farm.

We have now commenced statutory pre-application consultation in relation to Springwell Solar Farm. I am writing to you because you have been identified as a relevant Local Authority statutory consultee under section 42(1)(b) and section 43 of the Act. We invite you to submit your feedback on the proposals by 22 February 2024.

Enclosed with this letter is a USB containing the consultation materials and a copy of the section 48 notice published under the Act.

This letter explains how to take part in the public consultation and how you can share your views on our proposals.

### **Springwell Solar Farm**

Springwell Solar Farm is a proposed new solar farm and battery storage facility located in North Kesteven, Lincolnshire. The proposals also include infrastructure to connect Springwell to the National Grid, as well as any necessary supporting site infrastructure and environmental mitigation, including landscaping and ecological planting.

If consented, Springwell Solar Farm would make an important contribution to our future energy network by producing enough clean, secure and affordable energy to power over 180,000 homes every year\*.

### **The planning process**

As Springwell Solar Farm would generate in excess of 50MW of electrical capacity, it is classed as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project under the Act. This means that we must apply to the Secretary of State for a DCO under the Act. The DCO application will be accompanied by an



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Environmental Statement prepared in accordance with the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017.

We have prepared a Preliminary Environmental Information Report ('PEIR'), which sets out the preliminary environmental information on the Proposed Development. The purpose of this document is to enable consultees to understand the likely significant environmental effects of Springwell Solar Farm and to help inform consultation responses. The DCO application will also include an Environmental Statement which will detail the outcomes of our environmental assessments, as well as any proposed mitigation.

More guidance on the pre-application process and the Act can be found on the Planning Inspectorate's website: <http://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/legislation-and-advice/>.

### How you can find out more

The statutory consultation will run from Thursday 11 January to Thursday 22 February 2024 and we would welcome your feedback at this stage. There are a range of ways that you can find out more about our proposals and take part in the consultation.

We will be hosting a number of public events to allow people to find out more about Springwell Solar Farm and speak with the team at the following times and locations:

- Wednesday 24 January - Scopwick Village Hall (4pm-8pm)
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- Friday 26 January – The Venue, Navenby (Midday-4pm)
- Saturday 27 January – Metheringham Village Hall (11am-3pm)
- Tuesday 20 February – Blankney Old School (3pm-7pm)

As part of our consultation, we have published a consultation booklet showing the nature and location of Springwell Solar Farm and a questionnaire for respondents to share their feedback with us. We have also prepared a Statement of Community Consultation ("SoCC") in accordance with section 47 of the Act.

Copies of these consultation documents – as well as the PEIR – are now available to view and download free of charge on the project website at the following link: [www.springwellsolarfarm.co.uk/downloads](http://www.springwellsolarfarm.co.uk/downloads).

Printed copies of these documents will be available to inspect at the following deposit points during the consultation period:

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### **How you can share your views**

If you wish to submit a consultation response, you must do so in writing by the consultation deadline of 11:59pm on Thursday 22 February 2024. You can provide your feedback in the following ways:

- Completing the consultation questionnaire online at [www.springwellsolarfarm.co.uk/questionnaire](http://www.springwellsolarfarm.co.uk/questionnaire).
- Returning a questionnaire by Freepost (no stamp required) to the following address: Springwell Solar Farm, FREEPOST SEC Newgate UK LOCAL.
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Should you have any questions, wish to discuss the proposals further or to request copies of the consultation documents, please do get in touch by:

- Calling 0800 038 3486 (9:00am to 5:30pm, Monday to Friday)
- Emailing [info@springwellsolarfarm.co.uk](mailto:info@springwellsolarfarm.co.uk)
- Writing to the team at Springwell Solar Farm FREEPOST SEC Newgate UK Local

### **Next steps**

Following this consultation, we will consider all the feedback we receive and continue refining our proposals for Springwell Solar Farm before submitting a DCO application in Q3 2024. The DCO application will include a Consultation Report, which will set out how we have consulted, summarise the responses received and explain how we have had regard to them.

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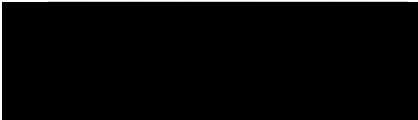
For certain parties, those who own an interest in land or are affected by Springwell Solar Farm, the Applicant is under a statutory duty to publish names and addresses as part of its DCO application. In respect of other people, we will request that your personal details are not

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placed on public record and these will be held securely by the Applicant in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998 and the General Data Protection Regulation and used solely in connection with the consultation process and subsequent DCO application and, except as noted above, will not be passed to third parties. Further information on the privacy policy can be found on the EDF Renewables website, [www.edf-re.uk/privacy-policy/](http://www.edf-re.uk/privacy-policy/).

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Yours sincerely,



Matthew Boulton  
Director of Solar, Storage and Private Wire  
EDF Renewables UK

Enc.

A USB containing the consultation materials and a copy of the section 48 notice published under the Act



Address 1

Address 2

Address 3

Address 4

8 January 2024

Dear NAME,

### **Springwell Solar Farm**

**Statutory pre-application consultation: 11 January to 22 February 2024**

**Section 42(1)(d) of the Planning Act 2008: Duty to consult on a proposed application**

#### **Overview**

I am writing regarding Springwell Energyfarm Limited's intention to submit a development consent order ('DCO') application to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero under section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 ('the Act') for the construction, operation and decommissioning of Springwell Solar Farm.

We have now commenced statutory pre-application consultation in relation to the Springwell Solar Farm DCO application. I am writing to you because you have been identified as a consultee under section 42(1)(d) of the Act. We invite you to submit your feedback on the proposals by 11:59pm on 22 February 2024.

You have been written to as, having carried out diligent inquiry, Springwell Energyfarm Limited considers that you may be a person who is either: (1) an owner, lessee, tenant, or occupier of the land included within the proposed site boundary; or (2) a person who has the power to sell or convey the land or release the land within the proposed site boundary.

Enclosed with this letter is a land interest plan(s) which is edged blue showing your affected area of interest, and shaded pink to show the scheme boundary; there is also a copy of the site boundary of Springwell Solar Farm edged in red and shaded pink.

This letter explains how to take part in the public consultation and how you can share your views on our proposals.

### **Springwell Solar Farm**

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### The planning process

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### How you can find out more

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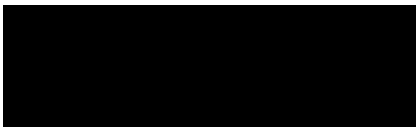
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Yours sincerely,



Matthew Boulton

Director of Solar, Storage and Private Wire  
EDF Renewables UK

Enc.

Plan showing site boundary

Land interest(s) plan



Address 1

Address 2

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Address 4

8 January 2024

Dear NAME,

### **Springwell Solar Farm**

**Statutory pre-application consultation: 11 January to 22 February 2024**

**Section 42(1)(d) of the Planning Act 2008: Duty to consult on a proposed application**

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We have now commenced statutory pre-application consultation in relation to Springwell Solar Farm. I am writing to you because you have been identified as a consultee under section 42(1)(d) of the Act. We invite you to submit your feedback on the proposals by 22 February 2024.

Your land or property will not be required to construct or operate Springwell Solar Farm, however, you have been identified as a person entitled to make a relevant claim if the DCO were to be made and fully implemented.

Enclosed with this letter is a copy of the plan showing the site boundary of the Proposed Development.

This letter explains how to take part in the public consultation and how you can share your views on our proposals.

### **Springwell Solar Farm**

Springwell Solar Farm is a proposed new solar farm and battery storage facility located in North Kesteven, Lincolnshire. The proposals also include infrastructure to connect Springwell to the National Electricity Transmission System, as well as any necessary supporting site infrastructure and environmental mitigation, including landscaping and ecological planting.





If consented, Springwell Solar Farm would make an important contribution to our future energy network by producing enough clean, secure and affordable energy to power over 180,000 homes every year<sup>1</sup>.

### The planning process

As Springwell Solar Farm would generate in excess of 50MW of electrical capacity, it is classed as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project under the Act. This means that we must apply to the Secretary of State for a DCO under the Act. The DCO application will be accompanied by an Environmental Statement prepared in accordance with the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Infrastructure Assessment) Regulations 2017.

We have prepared a Preliminary Environmental Information Report ('PEIR') that sets out the preliminary environmental information on the Proposed Development. The purpose of this document is to enable consultees to understand the likely significant environmental effects of Springwell Solar Farm and to help inform consultation responses.

More guidance on the pre-application process and the Act can be found on the Planning Inspectorate's website: <http://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/legislation-and-advice/>.

### How you can find out more

The statutory consultation will run from Thursday 11 January to Thursday 22 February 2024 and we would welcome your feedback at this stage. There are a range of ways that you can find out more about our proposals and take part in the consultation.

We will be hosting a number of public events to allow people to find out more about Springwell Solar Farm and speak with the team at the following times and locations:

- Wednesday 24 January - Scopwick Village Hall (4pm – 8pm)
- Thursday 25 January – Ashby de la Launde Village Hall (3pm – 7pm)
- Friday 26 January – The Venue, Navenby (Midday – 4pm)
- Saturday 27 January – Metheringham Village Hall (11am – 3pm)
- Tuesday 20 February – Blankney Old School (3pm – 7pm)

As part of our consultation, we have published a consultation booklet showing the nature and location of Springwell Solar Farm and a questionnaire for respondents to share their feedback with us. We have also prepared a Statement of Community Consultation ("SoCC") in accordance with section 47 of the Act.

Copies of these consultation documents – as well as the PEIR – are now available to view and download free of charge on the project website at the following link: [www.springwellsolarfarm.co.uk/downloads](http://www.springwellsolarfarm.co.uk/downloads).

Printed copies of these documents will be available to inspect at the following deposit points during the consultation period:

Location	Opening hours
<b>Sleaford Library, 13 - 16 Market Place, Sleaford NG34 7SR</b>	Monday: 9 am–5 pm Tuesday: 9 am–5 pm Wednesday: 9 am–5 pm

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<sup>1</sup> Based upon the average domestic electricity consumption per home (temperature corrected) per the Energy Consumption in the UK (published September 2021, Table C9 of ECUK: Consumption data tables)

Thursday: 9 am–6 pm

Friday: 9 am–5 pm

Saturday: 9 am–1 pm

Sunday: Closed

**The Venue, Grantham Road, Navenby LN5 0JJ**

Opening times may vary, please contact venue ([venueavenby@gmail.com](mailto:venueavenby@gmail.com) / 07505 145061) to arrange access.

Monday: 9am – 6pm

Tuesday: 9am – 6pm

Wednesday: 9am – 6pm

Thursday: 9am – 6pm

Friday: opening times may vary.

Saturday: opening times may vary.

Sunday: opening times may vary.

*\*please check opening times before travelling*

Copies of these documents are available in hard copy or on USB on request. We will provide USBs containing all the consultation materials – including the PEIR – free of charge. Hard copies of the consultation booklet, SoCC and questionnaire are also available free of charge.

Requests for hard copies of the PEIR will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. A fee to cover printing costs (up to a maximum of £750 for one full set of consultation documents) may be charged to the recipient. To request materials in an alternate format, please get in touch using the contact information below.

### **How you can share your views**

If you wish to submit a consultation response, you must do so in writing by the consultation deadline of 11:59pm on Thursday 22 February 2024. You can provide your feedback in the following ways:

- Completing the consultation questionnaire online at [www.springwellsolarfarm.co.uk/questionnaire](http://www.springwellsolarfarm.co.uk/questionnaire).
- Returning a questionnaire by Freepost (no stamp required) to the following address: Springwell Solar Farm, FREEPOST SEC Newgate UK LOCAL.
- Returning a questionnaire by email: [info@springwellsolarfarm.co.uk](mailto:info@springwellsolarfarm.co.uk).
- Submitting comments by email to [info@springwellsolarfarm.co.uk](mailto:info@springwellsolarfarm.co.uk) or in writing to the above Freepost address.

Should you have any questions, wish to discuss the proposals further or to request copies of the consultation documents, please do get in touch by:

- Calling 0800 038 3486 (9:00am to 5:30pm, Monday to Friday)
- Emailing [info@springwellsolarfarm.co.uk](mailto:info@springwellsolarfarm.co.uk)
- Writing to the team at Springwell Solar Farm FREEPOST SEC Newgate UK Local

### **Next steps**

Following this consultation, we will consider all the feedback we receive and continue refining our proposals for Springwell Solar Farm before submitting a DCO application to the Planning

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Inspectorate in Q3 2024. The DCO application will include a Consultation Report, which will set out how we have consulted on Springwell Solar Farm, summarise the responses received and explain how we have had regard to them.

Any comments received will be analysed by Springwell Energyfarm Ltd and any of its appointed agents. Copies may be made available to the Secretary of State, the Planning Inspectorate and other relevant statutory authorities so that feedback can be considered part of the DCO process.

For certain parties, those who own an interest in land or are affected by Springwell Solar Farm, the Applicant is under a statutory duty to publish names and addresses as part of its DCO application. In respect of other people, we will request that your personal details are not placed on public record and these will be held securely by the Applicant in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998 and the General Data Protection Regulation and used solely in connection with the consultation process and subsequent DCO application and, except as noted above, will not be passed to third parties. Further information on the privacy policy can be found on the EDF Renewables website, [www.edf-re.uk/privacy-policy/](http://www.edf-re.uk/privacy-policy/).

The Planning Inspectorate has published details of how it manages comments received in a Privacy Notice available on its website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/planning-inspectorate-privacy-notice/customer-privacy-notice>.

Yours sincerely,



Matthew Boulton

Director of Solar, Storage and Private Wire

EDF Renewables UK

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Plan showing site boundary



## Section 48 - Planning Act 2008 – Springwell Solar Farm Notice publicising a proposed application for a Development Consent Order

### Regulation 4 Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009

Notice is hereby given that **Springwell Energyfarm Ltd (13484004)** of Alexander House, 1 Mandarin Road, Rainton Bridge Business Park, Houghton le Spring, DH4 5RA (“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 for a Development Consent Order (‘DCO’). The Applicant intends to make the Application in Q3 2024.

The Application is for the proposed **Springwell Solar Farm** (“the Proposed Development”) at land north of Sleaford, **close to the settlements of Blankney, Scopwick, Kirkby Green and Ashby de la Launde** (“the Proposed Site”) within the administrative boundaries of North Kesteven District Council and Lincolnshire County Council. The Springwell Solar Farm would cover an area of approximately 1,972 hectares (ha), split across three distinct areas, which are described below:

- Springwell West: Springwell West forms the southernmost part of the Proposed Site and is intersected by the A15 – with Brauncewell to the south and Navenby to the northwest.
- Springwell Central: Springwell Central is located in the centre of the Proposed Site, adjacent to RAF Digby and B1191 to the west, Ashby de la Launde to the south and relatively open agricultural fields to the east.
- Springwell East: Springwell East is bounded by the settlements of Scopwick to the south, Kirkby Green to the south east, Blankney in the north, B1188 to the west and a railway line to the east.

The DCO would, amongst other things, authorise:

- construction, operation and decommissioning of ground mounted solar PV arrays, Balance of Solar System, Collector Compounds and Battery Energy Storage System, along with distribution cables.
- other associated and ancillary works including a new substation, known as Springwell Substation, which would be connected to the PV arrays and battery storage via distribution cables. Underground cabling would connect the Springwell Substation to the point of connection into the National Electricity Transmission System via a 400kV grid connection cable route.
- other infrastructure works including on-site cabling, ancillary buildings such as offices and welfare areas, access tracks, and any other works identified as necessary to enable the Proposed Development. There would also be parts of the Proposed Site used for landscaping which would include features such as biodiversity mitigation and enhancement measures, amenity improvements and fencing.
- the compulsory acquisition of land and/or rights and the taking of temporary possession of land.
- the overriding of easements and other rights over or affecting land.
- the application and/or disapplication of legislation relating to the Proposed Development.
- such ancillary, incidental and consequential provisions, licences, property rights, permits and consents as are necessary and/or convenient.

The Proposed Development is an Environmental Impact Assessment (‘EIA’) development for the purposes of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact



Assessment) Regulations 2017 and accordingly a Preliminary Environmental Information Report ('PEIR') has been produced and is included as part of the consultation materials. The PEIR sets out the preliminary environmental information on the Proposed Development. The Applicant is carrying out an EIA and will submit an Environmental Statement as part of its DCO application.

The Applicant has produced a Statement of Community Consultation ('SoCC') in accordance with section 47 of the Planning Act 2008 which explains how the Applicant will consult with the local community and stakeholders about the Proposed Development. The SoCC can be viewed free of charge at [www.springwellsolarfarm.co.uk/downloads](http://www.springwellsolarfarm.co.uk/downloads), or at the deposit locations set out below from **Monday 11 December 2023**. The consultation will be carried out in accordance with the SoCC.

Consultation on the proposals will take place from **11 January 2024 to 22 February 2024**. The Applicant will publish consultation materials including a consultation booklet showing the nature and location of the Proposed Development, a consultation questionnaire and the PEIR. These will be available online free of charge from 11 January 2024 to 22 February 2024 at [www.springwellsolarfarm.co.uk/downloads](http://www.springwellsolarfarm.co.uk/downloads) in the Document Library tab. Copies of the consultation materials will be available for inspection free of charge during the consultation period at locations listed below, as well as on USB or in hard copy on request to the Applicant from 11 January 2024.

There are a number of ways to find out more about the Proposed Development including:

- Attending a public event which we will hold in locations around the Proposed Site at the following times and locations:
  - Wednesday 24 January - Scopwick Village Hall (4pm - 8pm)
  - Thursday 25 January – Ashby de la Launde Village Hall (3pm - 7pm)
  - Friday 26 January – The Venue, Navenby (Midday - 4pm)
  - Saturday 27 January – Metheringham Village Hall (11am - 3pm)
  - Tuesday 20 February – Blankney Old School (3pm - 7pm)
- Viewing the virtual exhibition on the project website: [www.springwellsolarfarm.co.uk](http://www.springwellsolarfarm.co.uk). The virtual exhibition will be accessible from 11 January 2024 to 22 February 2024.
- Reading the consultation booklet which will be available online or in hard copy on request, at deposit points around the area (listed below) and at the public events.
- Reviewing the PEIR by going to [www.springwellsolarfarm.co.uk/downloads](http://www.springwellsolarfarm.co.uk/downloads) or visiting a deposit point.
- Getting in touch using the contact details below.

Location	Opening hours*
<b>Sleaford Library, 13 - 16 Market Place, Sleaford NG34 7SR</b>	Monday: 9 am–5 pm Tuesday: 9 am–5 pm Wednesday: 9 am–5 pm Thursday: 9 am–6 pm Friday: 9 am–5 pm Saturday: 9 am–1 pm Sunday: Closed
<b>The Venue, Grantham Road, Navenby LN5 0JJ</b>	Opening times may vary, please contact venue ( <a href="mailto:venueavenby@gmail.com">venueavenby@gmail.com</a> / 07505 145061) to arrange access. Monday: 9am – 6pm Tuesday: 9am – 6pm Wednesday: 9am – 6pm



Thursday: 9am – 6pm

Friday: opening times may vary.

Saturday: opening times may vary.

Sunday: opening times may vary.

*\*please check opening times before travelling*

Copies of the consultation materials may be requested during the consultation period from the Applicant using the e-mail address, Freepost address or Freephone number provided below.

The Applicant will provide USBs containing all the consultation materials – including the PEIR – free of charge. Printed copies of the consultation booklet, SoCC and questionnaire will be available free of charge. Requests for printed copies of the PEIR will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. A fee to cover printing costs (up to a maximum of £750 for one full set of consultation documents) may be charged to the recipient. To request materials in an alternate format, please get in touch using the contact details below.

Any person may comment on the proposals or otherwise respond to this publicity. Responses must be received between **11 January 2024 to 22 February 2024** through any of the following ways:

- Completing the consultation questionnaire online at [www.springwellsolarfarm.co.uk](http://www.springwellsolarfarm.co.uk).
- Returning a questionnaire by Freepost (no stamp required) or submitting your comments to the following address: Springwell Solar Farm, FREEPOST SEC Newgate UK LOCAL.
- Returning a questionnaire or submitting your comments by email: [info@springwellsolarfarm.co.uk](mailto:info@springwellsolarfarm.co.uk).

When providing your response, please include your name and address or, if you would prefer your comments to be anonymous, your postcode only. Please also confirm the nature of your interest in the Proposed Development.

**Responses must be received no later than 11:59pm on Thursday 22 February 2024.**

The Applicant will consider and have regard to all responses received by the above deadline when developing the Application for a DCO once consultation has closed. 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 the Consultation Report.

If you would like further information about this notice, the consultation or the Proposed Development, please contact the project team by using one of the contact methods provided below:

- By Freephone: 0800 038 3486
  - By email: [info@springwellsolarfarm.co.uk](mailto:info@springwellsolarfarm.co.uk)
  - By Freepost: Springwell Solar Farm, FREEPOST SEC Newgate UK LOCAL
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