

### Fenwick Solar Project Limited

Unit 5e Park Farm | Chichester Road | Arundel | West Sussex | BN18 0AG

The Secretary of State c/o Hefin Jones Operations Manager – National Infrastructure (Energy) The Planning Inspectorate Temple Quay House 2 The Square Bristol BS1 6PN

11 April 2024

**BY EMAIL** 

Dear Mr Jones,

# FENWICK SOLAR PROJECT LIMITED SECTION 46 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008: DUTY TO NOTIFY SECRETARY OF STATE OF PROPOSED APPLICATION PLANNING INSPECTORATE CASE REFERENCE: EN010152

Fenwick Solar Project Limited ("the Applicant") is proposing to submit a Development Consent Order ("DCO") application under the provisions of section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 (the 2008 Act) to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero ("the Secretary of State") to authorise the construction, operation (which includes maintenance) and decommissioning of the proposed Fenwick Solar Farm ("the Scheme").

This letter comprises the formal notification of the proposed application to the Secretary of State under section 46 of the 2008 Act. The Applicant intends to submit the DCO application in late 2024.

The Applicant previously provided notification pursuant to Regulation 8(1)(b) of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 on 1 June 2023 that the Scheme is an Environmental Impact Assessment ("EIA development"), as defined by those regulations, accordingly an Environmental Statement will be submitted as part of the DCO application.

The submission of the DCO application will follow a period of statutory pre-application consultation carried out pursuant to sections 42, 47 and 48 of the 2008 Act, the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedures) Regulations 2009 ("the APFP Regulations"), and the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 ("the EIA Regulations"). The consultation will commence on Thursday 18 April 2024 and end at 11.59pm on Friday 31 May 2024.

## The Scheme

The Scheme comprises a generating station of above 50 megawatts and therefore qualifies as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project under sections 14(1)(a) and 15(2) the 2008 Act due to its capacity.

The Scheme will comprise ground-mounted solar photovoltaic (PV) panels which will generate the electricity together with a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) that will have the ability to store PV generation from the Scheme and/or import energy from the grid at times of excess generation, discharging the stored energy at times of peak demand and assisting in



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balancing the UK grid. As well as the PV panels and BESS the Solar PV Site will also comprise an On-Site Substation; cabling between the panels; and areas of landscaping and biodiversity enhancement; and associated infrastructure. The On-Site Substation (located within the Solar PV Site) will be connected to the Existing National Grid Thorpe Marsh Substation (approximately 5 km to the south of the Solar PV Site) by 400 kilovolt grid connection cables. There is also an option to connect the to the grid via underground cables from the On-Site Substation to an existing overhead power line that passes across the east of the Solar PV Site.

The Solar PV Site is proposed to be located on land east of Fenwick, near the town of Askern, the villages of Moss and Sykehouse and the hamlet of Topham, the northern edge of the Solar PV Site borders the River Went in the administrative area of City of Doncaster Council. The Solar PV Site will connect to the national grid at National Grid's Thorpe Marsh Substation in the administrative area of City of Doncaster Council.

# **Consultation documents**

Section 46 of the 2008 Act requires the Applicant to supply the Secretary of State with the information that it intends to provide to consultees under section 42 of the 2008 Act, on or before commencing consultation under section 42. The Applicant hereby supplies the Secretary of State with the same information that is being supplied to all relevant consultees identified in accordance with section 42 of the 2008 Act.

The full set of consultation documents ("the consultation materials") being supplied to section 42 consultees are listed below and will be made available from Thursday 18 April 2024 to 11.59pm on Friday 31 May 2024 on the Scheme's website at: https://www.boom-power.co.uk/fenwick/

- Consultation brochure.
- Consultation feedback form.
- Plans of the proposed location of the Solar PV Site and Grid Connection Corridor.
- Non-statutory consultation report.
- Statement of Community Consultation.
- Preliminary Environmental Impact Report (PEIR).
- PEIR Non-Technical Summary.

If you have any problems accessing the consultation documents on the Scheme's website from 18 April 2024 then please let the Applicant know at your earliest convenience. We are providing the above information to the Secretary of State via weblink however should the Secretary of State require the material in an alternative format such as the documents on a USB or via a file sharing link please do not hesitate to contact us using the contact details below.

The Applicant has included as enclosures with this letter the templates of the letters being sent to statutory consultees under section 42 of the 2008 Act. These are:

- Section 42(1)(a) and (b) consultee letter prescribed consultees and local authorities;
- Section 42(1)(d) consultee letter persons with an interest in land.



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A copy of the Applicant's statutory notice prepared in accordance with section 48 of the 2008 Act and regulation 4 of the APFP Regulations is an enclosure to the letters and is also included as an enclosure to this notification. Inclusion of the notice with these letters meets the Applicant's obligations under

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Regulation 13 of the EIA Regulations. A hard copy of the consultation brochure, the consultation feedback form and a plan of the proposed Solar PV Site and Grid Connection Corridor are also enclosures to the section 42(1) (a), (b) and (d) consultee letters and so have also been included with this letter for completeness.

We would be grateful if you could please acknowledge that this section 46 notice has been received as a record of compliance. In the meantime, should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the project team by email on fenwick.enquiries@boom-power.co.uk.

Yours sincerely,

Helen Standing

Helen Standing Project Manager, Boom Power On behalf of Fenwick Solar Project Limited |Unit 5e Park Farm | Chichester Road | Arundel | West Sussex | BN18 0AG

Enc.

- Copy of section 42(1)(a) and (b) letter (prescribed consultees and local authorities);
- Copy of section 42(1)(d) letter (persons with an interest in land);
- Copy of section 48 notice;
- The consultation brochure;
- The consultation feedback form; and
- A plan of the proposed Solar PV Site and Grid Connection Corridor.