

Dear [Sir/Madam]

Cottam Solar Project

Statutory Consultation

Section 42 of the Planning Act 2008 (“the 2008 Act”) and Regulations 11 and 13 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (“the 2017 Regulations”)

Cottam Solar Project Limited (“The Applicant”) intends to build a solar and energy storage project located within the administrative boundary of West Lindsey District Council and Lincolnshire County Council and the administrative boundary of Bassetlaw District Council and Nottinghamshire County Council (“the Cottam Solar Project”).

1. The Cottam Solar Project will consist of:
 - a. Cottam 1, 2 and 3: three solar array sites with one site located in the area around Coates (Cottam 1), one site located east of the village of Corringham (Cottam 2) and one site located to the north-east and south-east of the village of Blyton and east of Pilham (Cottam 3), in the district of West Lindsey, Lincolnshire including solar panels, conversion units, inverters, and 132kV substations in Cottam 2 and 3 and a 400kV substation in Cottam 1.
 - b. An energy storage system located within Cottam 1.
 - c. Underground electricity cables connecting Cottam 1 to 3 solar array sites, substations and the energy storage system to the National Grid substation at Cottam Power Station; and
 - d. Associated infrastructure, mitigation and enhancement measures, 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.
 - e. The majority of Cottam Solar Project 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 Bassetlaw District Council and Nottinghamshire County Council.

The Applicant is part of Island Green Power.

The Applicant intends to make an application to the Secretary of State for a Development Consent Order (“DCO”) under the 2008 Act for the Cottam Solar Project. The DCO application will contain full details of the Cottam Solar Project and will be accompanied by an Environmental Statement in accordance with the 2008 Act and the 2017 Regulations.

Consultation on the Cottam Solar Project

The Cottam Solar Project is currently in the pre-application stage. As part of that process the Applicant is required to carry out consultation on the proposed DCO application before it is submitted. Your feedback as part of this consultation will be considered before the Applicant finalises its DCO application and will also be reported to the Planning Inspectorate when the application is submitted. Any representations you have already made will also be reported.

We are writing to you as you have been identified as a consultee for the purpose of section 42 of the Planning Act 2008/or Regulation 11 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017, or it has been decided it would be appropriate to consult in any event.

This consultation includes:

- Consultation with prescribed bodies, host and neighbouring authorities (under section 42 of the 2008 Act);
- Consultation with any persons with an interest in the land affected by Cottam Solar Project (under section 42 and section 44 of the 2008 Act);
- Consultation with the local community in the vicinity of Cottam Solar Project (under section 47 of the 2008 Act); and
- General public consultation on Cottam Solar Project (under section 48 of the 2008 Act).

This consultation will run from **15 June 2022 until 27 July 2022**.

In addition, section 48 of the 2008 Act and Regulation 13 of the 2017 Regulations require the Applicant to publicise its proposed DCO application. A formal notice publicising the proposed application is therefore enclosed with this letter and sets out further details regarding the consultation.

Consultation materials

The Applicant has prepared a Preliminary Environmental Information Report ("PEIR"), which has been informed by the Scoping Opinion issued by the Planning Inspectorate and which reports the results of the Environmental Impact Assessment ("EIA") that has been carried out to date. The PEIR forms the basis of this consultation and also includes a non-technical summary. The purpose of the PEIR is to enable consultees to understand the likely environmental effects of the Cottam Solar Project and to help inform consultation responses. It should be noted that the EIA is an ongoing process and the design of the Cottam Solar Project will continue to evolve during the pre-application stage.

Copies of the consultation materials are available free of charge online at www.cottamsolar.co.uk under the document library heading and include:

1. The PEIR (including appendices, plans and figures);

2. A non-technical summary of the PEIR;
3. Additional documents including the Community Consultation Leaflet, Feedback Form and Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC).

A USB device containing copies of the consultation materials can be provided free of charge upon request. Hard copies of the consultation materials are also available on request (some of which are subject to payment). Details of how to request these documents and any related charges are set out in the enclosed section 48 notice.

Consultation events

The Applicant will also be holding multiple community events in public and online throughout the consultation period, details of which are listed in the enclosed section 48 notice. If you would like to register for the online webinars, this can be requested through the project contact information below which can also be found on www.cottamsolar.co.uk.

How to respond to this consultation

Responses must be received no later than 11.59pm on 27 July 2022. Responses received after this time may not be considered.

When providing your response, please include your name and contact details (a postal or email address) and confirm the nature of your interest in the Cottam Solar Project. Completed responses must be submitted:

- a) By email to info@cottamsolar.co.uk
- b) Online at www.cottamsolar.co.uk
- c) In writing to FREEPOST CAWB Solar Projects

Further information

If you would like further information about this letter, the consultation or the Cottam Solar Project, please contact the project team by using one of the contact methods provided below:

Emailing: info@cottamsolar.co.uk

Calling our Freephone: 0808 169 1848

Writing to us at: FREEPOST CAWB SOLAR PROJECT

Visiting our website at: www.cottamsolar.co.uk

Yours faithfully,

Eve Browning
Project Development Manager
On behalf of Cottam Solar Project Limited