

Tuesday 24 September 2024

Dear sir/madam,

EAST PARK ENERGY

Statutory consultation under Section 42 of the Planning Act 2008 and the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedures) Regulations 2009 (the APFP Regulations)

Notification under Regulation 13 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (the EIA Regulations)

BSSL Cambsbed 1 Ltd (“Brockwell Storage and Solar”) proposes 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 2008 Act”) for East Park Energy (“the proposed development”), a new solar farm and energy storage project located in Bedfordshire and Cambridgeshire.

We are holding a statutory consultation on the proposed development in accordance with the requirements of the 2008 Act from Tuesday 24 September 2024 until Tuesday 29 October 2024.

During the pre-application process, we must consult with a variety of persons and organisations about our proposed development in accordance with the requirements of the 2008 Act. We are writing to you as you have been identified as a prescribed consultee for the purposes of section 42(1) of the 2008 Act.

This letter explains how you can find out more about the proposed development and comment on the proposals.

The proposed development

The proposed development would comprise of a new ground-mounted solar photovoltaic energy generating station and an associated on-site Battery Energy Storage System (“BESS”) on land to the north-west of St Neots, in the administrative areas of Bedford Borough Council and Huntingdonshire District Council. The enclosed newsletter includes a plan of the area the project is proposed for.

The proposed development also includes associated infrastructure for connection to the electricity transmission network at National Grid’s Eaton Socon substation, and would allow for the generation and export of up to 400 megawatts (“MW”) of renewable electricity, as well as the storage and export of up to 100 MW of electricity in the BESS. The precise generating capacity and storage capacity will be subject to detailed design.

The area of the proposed development extends to approximately 766 hectares, and includes all land required for the solar development, BESS, landscaping, cabling, access and grid connection. For ease of reference, the area of the proposed development has been sub-divided into four sites where above ground infrastructure would be located, along with three linear corridors proposed for underground cabling to connect the different parts of the proposed development and provide a connection to the Eaton Socon substation.

The proposed development is classed as a nationally significant infrastructure project (“NSIP”) as defined by section 15(2) of the 2008 Act. Brockwell Storage and Solar is therefore required to submit a DCO application to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero in order to obtain development consent to construct, operate, maintain and decommission the proposed development. These permissions will include a number of other provisions, including those which authorise the compulsory acquisition of interests in, on or over land, if necessary, to construct and maintain the proposed development. You can find more information on the DCO process via the Planning Inspectorate’s website at infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk.

The proposed development is also an Environmental Impact Assessment (“EIA”) development under the EIA Regulations. An Environmental Statement (“ES”) will accompany the DCO application. To support the statutory consultation, we have published and are consulting on a Preliminary Environmental Information Report (“PEIR”).

Consultation on the proposed development

Brockwell Storage and Solar is holding a consultation on the proposed development pursuant to the 2008 Act between Tuesday 24 September and 11:59pm on Tuesday 29 October 2024 (“the consultation period”).



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ENERGY**

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During the consultation period, a series of public consultation events will be held. These events will provide an opportunity to hear further details about the proposed development and to speak with the project team. Dates, times and locations for these events are provided in the enclosed newsletter and in the Statement of Community Consultation ("SoCC"), which is available to view free-of-charge on the project website, eastparkenergy.co.uk.

Regulation 13 of the EIA Regulations requires that Brockwell Storage and Solar provides a copy of the notice being published in accordance with Section 48 of the Act. This is enclosed alongside the project newsletter, whilst the full set of documents produced as part of this consultation will be available free-of-charge from Tuesday 24 September 2024 on the Document library page of the project website, eastparkenergy.co.uk.

Paper copies of consultation documents can be provided on request by contacting the project team by email at info@eastparkenergy.co.uk or by calling 0808 258 5991. Questions about the proposals may also be directed to these contact channels. Whilst paper copies of most consultation materials, including the consultation brochure and feedback form, are provided free-of-charge, some technical documents (such as the full PEIR) may be subject to a reasonable copying charge of £0.35 per page to cover print and postage costs.

Responding to the consultation

Consultation responses can be submitted in the following ways:

- By completing the feedback form on the project website, eastparkenergy.co.uk
- By returning a letter or paper copy of the feedback form at a consultation event or via post to Freepost EAST PARK ENERGY (no further stamp or address needed)
- By emailing comments to info@eastparkenergy.co.uk

When submitting your response, we would appreciate it if you could include your name/the name of the organisation you are responding on behalf of, contact details and confirmation of the nature of your interest in our proposals. **Please ensure that you submit any response by the deadline of 11:59pm on Tuesday 29 October 2024.**

Brockwell Storage and Solar will review its proposals in light of the feedback received as part of this consultation and will consider if changes are needed to its proposals before it makes a DCO application. As part of this process, it may be required to make copies of consultation responses available to the Planning Inspectorate. Personal details will be held securely in accordance with the applicable data laws and our privacy statement, which can be found on the project website at eastparkenergy.co.uk.



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If you have any questions about the proposed development, please do not hesitate to get in touch using the contact details provided above.

Yours sincerely,

Gary Bird
Development Director
BSSL Cambsbed 1 Ltd