

## Q&As:

### Woolpots Solar Farm Public Presentation 13th July 2023

**You say there is a local grid connection, however your proposal has a new build of grid connection.**

Our grid connection point is located close to the site entrance, across the road from the existing substation.

**Will you need to dig roads to lay the cable?**

We will need to lay the cable under the road from our site entrance to the existing substation.

**What is the output of the new scheme?**

Circa 30MW.

**What is the new proposal?**

We have removed the Northern Section of the site – it is a revised scheme.

**Is this a new proposal – it would appear so as it's substantially different – or does it form part of the appeal to the refuse scheme?**

This is a revised re-submission of the same application.

**Is the BESS design compliant with the new NFCC guidelines?**

Our design will be compliant with all fire safety legislation. We are working with a Chartered Fire Safety Engineer and are currently in dialogue with North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service, and they are happy with our plans.

**What is the increase in acreage for the newly enlarged southern site?**

The boundary hasn't increased for the southern part of the site – there is no increase in acreage.

**What is the BESS size in MWh?**

37MW for a two hour duration – a 74MWH storage capacity.



**Who is funding the proposal? Which company? These proposals are normally funded by pension schemes or insurance companies. Is that true here? Who is going to run the site after it's built?**

Lightrock are developing the site in partnership with Eenergy. Eenergy will build, operate and provide the funding.

**Has the BESS been reduced? What is the storage capacity?**

It has not been reduced. The storage capacity is 37MW for two hours.

**The community fund – is that the same one as previously proposed?**

The community benefit fund has remained at the same level as the previous proposal. The Parish wanted to manage it, and we'll pick that up with them once the submission is progressing.

**Would you be looking to expand the farm in the future? In particular would you use some of the NW site?**

No. There are no plans to expand.

**Will the panels be recyclable? What is the end of life plan?**

The vast majority of materials in a solar farm (aluminium, glass, silicon) can be recycled readily. At the end of the scheme's life, the infrastructure can be fairly readily disassembled, and materials removed. There is a lot of further research going into implementing recycling schemes, which ensure that renewable energy technology can be recycled sustainably. This is the same with batteries.

**When will this be submitted to the planning office please?**

We're currently compiling the technical reports. Our current aim is to submit within the next couple of months.

**Who would be responsible for delivering the biodiversity benefits – is this the landowner's responsibility?**

The commitments are set out in the Landscape Management Plan. They will be delivered by the operator (Eenergy).

**Where is the BESS going to be situated?**

On the opposite side of the road from the existing substation.

**What are the security arrangements at the BESS site?**



Security fencing and CCTV.

**Is there a picture of what the BESS will look like and how it's screened?**

The BESS will look similar to the one at the Boscar Grange site. If you park on the A19 and follow the public right of way, you will be able to see what it will look like. Ours will be screened with hedgerow planting and trees.

**Will the original red border of the new planning application be revised fully, effectively confirming elimination of the North site, as you now intend?**

Yes, the red line now excludes the northern area.

**How many panels will there be?**

Circa 50,000.

**If the battery is the same size, are there more panels now located in the southern site?**

Yes, we have sought to maximise generation potential by optimising the scheme.

**Could the connection infrastructure not be built away from the road, and visibility as you enter this beautiful village?**

We've considered carefully, and with the scheme on the current area we need to consider viability and keeping it as efficient as possible. Therefore, the connection infrastructure needs to remain as close to the substation as possible. Screening will be grown up, and so views will not be direct.

**Could you confirm that the footprint of the southern site is the same as the previous application?**

We have not changed the red line boundary on the southern site.

**Will there be security lights?**

No.

**Are the panels fixed, or so they rotate with the sun?**

They will be single access tracker panels, like those at Boscar Grange. They will tilt to face the sun.

**Will there be a new noise assessment carried out?**



Yes, a whole new suite of documents will be prepared for the re-submission of the scheme as it now stands.

**Have North Yorkshire Fire commented on the BESS risk and mitigation?**

Yes, we are currently in dialogue with North Yorkshire Fire via our fire engineer. They are happy with our plans.

**Please confirm the overall acreage of the site**

128 acres inside the red line – part of this will be used for landscape mitigation.

**Will this use all the spare capacity at the substation?**

No, just the amount that has been allocated to us. In the broader context, there is a push to tee up capacity on the network. It's imperative to get developments built and connected in order to be able to honour our local and national commitments to renewable energy.

**Could you please confirm you are not appealing the refusal of the original application?**

Yes, this is not an appeal. It is a resubmission for a revised scheme, using part of the original boundary.

**How high the BESS unit will be?**

They're typically containerised, like the ones at Boscar Grange. The container units will be circa 3m high.

**Will the new suite of documents contain architectural renderings of all elements of the farm and BESS?**

We will produce photomontages and planning drawings showing elevations. The previous application is a good example of the suite that will be submitted.

**Will the new emergency access route also be the main route into the site for panel deliveries etc – and avoid using the existing road?**

No, the main entrance is opposite the existing substation. The additional access is not expected to be used.

**Will consultation on the new scheme include an in person public meeting?**

This event is to provide the information and design of the amended scheme. We don't propose any further meetings.



**Does the project team consider Boscar is a good example of how a solar farm should look?**

The main infrastructure is similar, however we will have more mitigation, screening, hedgerow planning, trees and woodland. This will be implemented early to ensure its benefit. We will also be providing more ecological enhancements.

**In relation to the fund for the local community, how is “local community” defined?**

This will be discussed with the Parish, if they want to take the reins. A Community Foundation (the route that we normally take) would prioritise the Parishes where the Solar Farm sits, but any surplus would be distributed to areas of higher deprivation within the wider community.

**What is the estimated project cost, and what is the anticipated monetary value of the output/turnover?**

We’re not in a position to answer that due to commercial sensitivity, however it’s a vast amount – in the millions. It will be useful in terms of local employment.

**Why is the site not being used to generate electricity for the local community? What could be done differently to achieve this?**

There is no mechanism to change the flow of electricity in the grid. The best way to decarbonise the local community’s electricity would be to look into roof mounted panels, or a community energy scheme. Perhaps through the community benefit fund.

**Does the substation have sufficient capacity for the expected output. Will it need to be increased? Will there need to be any more pylons?**

Yes, the substation has sufficient capacity, no it will not need to be increased. No, no more pylons will be required.

**Will any local jobs be created by the scheme?**

Yes, various contracts, such as construction, groundworks, fencing, CCTV, landscaping, management and operation will be offered locally.

**I’m not sure who Enconergy is?**

Econergy International are an Israeli Investment Fund. They have 6GW of Solar in the pipeline across major European countries. They want to be a beginning to end,



independent power producer. That means they find, design, build, own and operate sites for the duration of their lifetime.

**How long will it take to construct, and what will the impact be on access roads to Husthwaite?**

It will take approximately six months to construct, and no traffic will be routed through Husthwaite or Carlton Husthwaite. The access route will be similar to that from the construction of Boscar Grange, off the A19.

**One of the planning committee suggested using the old airfield at Linton for solar. Did you look for any brownfield sites?**

Yes, we did look for brownfield sites. All developers start at a viable grid connection, then look for a suitable location, starting with brownfield sites. The MoD is already considering other uses for Linton, and keeping their options open.

**What is the life of the scheme?**

40 years.