

Fosse Green Energy Statutory Consultation Information Booklet 21 October to 2 December 2024

# Introduction

### **Reaching net zero**

The UK's transition to a low-carbon energy system is necessary to avoid the effects of climate change. The Government expects that a low-cost, net zero and consistent electricity system is likely to be composed predominantly of wind, solar and nuclear.

Fosse Green Energy will have a key role to play in delivering this energy while supporting the local farming economy and improving the local environment. The UK needs sustained growth in the capacity of the solar sector in the next decade to ensure we are on a pathway that allows us to meet net zero emissions.

This project is protecting the environment both in the short and long term by helping combat the flooding and extreme heat created by climate change, which drives up food inflation, creates huge uncertainty for farmers and is the biggest single threat to food security.

Carbon emissions are near to zero for electricity generated from solar power and over the lifetime of a project through construction, operation and decommissioning phases any greenhouse gas emissions are offset. Solar projects are also quick to construct and operate, meaning they will provide decarbonisation benefits at the earliest opportunity.

The UK already has over 14 gigawatts (GW) of solar installed and operational (<u>Department for</u> <u>Energy Security and Net Zero, 2023</u>).

In 2023 solar energy supplied almost five per cent of the UK's entire electricity demand (National Grid ESO, 2023).

Solar is already, and is set to continue to be, an incredibly important part of the UK's electricity generation sector.

## Background

We are holding a statutory consultation on our proposals for Fosse Green Energy, a new solar and energy storage project south west of Lincoln, in North Kesteven.

The project includes solar photovoltaic (PV) panels, battery energy storage and a connection using an underground cable corridor to the proposed substation at Navenby, along with the delivery of significant biodiversity, landscaping and permissive paths. A non-statutory consultation was held in autumn 2023. Following this consultation, we have taken into consideration all the feedback we received, as well as the findings from ongoing environmental and technical studies.

This second consultation is a statutory consultation, as required by the Planning Act 2008, and the feedback provided will help to shape the project which will form our application for a Development Consent Order (DCO).

## This consultation

Our statutory consultation will run from **21 October 2024 to 23:59 on 2 December 2024**.

We welcome your views and feedback to help us finalise the project's design.

You can provide your feedback online, by email or by post free of charge.

This is likely to be our last stage of public consultation on our plans before we submit a DCO application to the Planning Inspectorate. However, should the application be accepted for examination by the Planning Inspectorate, you will have the opportunity to register your interest and comment on our proposals later.

We would like to hear your ideas on our overall proposals, our Preliminary Environmental Information (PEI) Report, and for opportunities to work with and support the community. Further details about this stage of consultation can be found on page 20 of this booklet and on our website at <u>www.fossegreenenergy.co.uk</u>

#### ? What is net zero?

Net zero refers to the balance between the amount of greenhouse gas produced and the amount removed from the atmosphere. If the UK is to achieve net zero by 2050, we need to have reached a place where we are adding no more carbon to the atmosphere than we are taking away. This is also referred to as being carbon neutral.

? What is low carbon?

There are four main types of low carbon energy: solar, wind, hydropower and nuclear power. These types of energy sources release substantially less carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) than fossil fuels such as coal, oil and natural gas. CO2 is a key greenhouse gas that drives climate change and by using low carbon energy sources we can minimise future climate change and its impacts.

## Who we are

Fosse Green Energy is being developed by Windel Energy, Recurrent Energy and a professional project team which has been brought together to provide specific support and expertise throughout the consenting stages of the project.



Together, all members of the Fosse Green Energy team have significant experience of working across solar projects and Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs).



Founded in 2018, Windel Energy is a privately held company that specialises in the development and asset management of renewable energy projects and low carbon technologies.

With more than 3.5 gigawatts (GW) of clean, renewable power and battery energy storage in various stages of development, Windel is at the forefront of low carbon technologies including solar, energy storage, and onshore wind, and are helping to pave the way to achieve the UK's net zero target by 2050.

Windel Energy is committed to responsible land use and believes that the development and delivery of a large-scale solar energy and storage park can be achieved in harmony with its surroundings.



A subsidiary of Canadian Solar

Recurrent Energy is one of the world's largest and most geographically diversified utilityscale solar and energy storage project development, ownership and operations platforms. With an industry-leading team of in-house energy experts, they are a whollyowned subsidiary of Canadian Solar Inc. and function as Canadian Solar's global development and power services business. Recurrent Energy has successfully developed approximately 11 gigawatts (GWp) of solar and more than 3.7 gigawatt hours (GWh) of battery storage projects across six continents. Across the world, Recurrent Energy has a pipeline of 27 GWp in solar and 63 GWh in battery storage under development.

# **Our latest proposals**

Our proposals for Fosse Green Energy have evolved, based on feedback from our initial consultation and the findings from our ongoing survey and assessment work.

As well as helping us refine the design for the project, consultation feedback and the findings from our survey work have informed our selection of a preferred corridor for the underground electrical connection between our site and the substation near to Navenby being proposed by National Grid.

## (j)

Fosse Green Energy is proposed to be located to the north and south of the A46, on land 5.6 miles (9km) south west of Lincoln in North Kesteven, Lincolnshire. It will be made up of solar photovoltaic (PV) panels, power conversion stations, an onsite substation and battery energy storage areas.

## What has changed since our 2023 consultation

We have:



Selected and refined a preferred grid connection corridor to the proposed National Grid substation near to Navenby to minimise social and environmental impact. We can also confirm the cable will be buried underground.



Realigned solar PV panels to preserve views and historic boundaries around River Farm and Church Farm.



Relocated solar PV panels to reduce potential impacts on wildlife and views. This includes preserving land for birds south of Moor Lane.



Maximised the opportunities our site could have to deliver clean energy by identifying areas where further panels could be placed.



Enhanced links across the site, via permissive paths connecting into public rights of way, to provide greater connectivity to local villages as well as local walking routes.



Optimised the design of the Solar and Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) to enhance the safety of the site, and to provide flexibility on the location of BESS.



Proposed planting, screening measures, and buffering – including on land southeast of Thorpe on the Hill – to reduce visual and noise impacts.



Refined our proposals for vehicular access to the site, providing further clarity on transportation options.

# **Solar and Energy Storage**

The project is made up of a ground-mounted solar photovoltaic (PV) generating station with battery storage, onsite substations and associated infrastructure to generate and export/import electricity in excess of 50MW, as well as areas of landscaping and biodiversity enhancement.

It also includes a grid connection corridor of approximately 10km in length, which will connect the site to the proposed new National Grid Substation near Navenby, using a 400kV underground cable corridor. Fosse Green Energy will then export and import electricity to the national grid.

The ground-mounted solar PV panels convert sunlight into DC electrical power. Each panel is likely to have a DC generating capacity of between 400 and 850 watts, or potentially more depending on advances in technology at the time of construction.

Panels are fixed to a mounting structure, otherwise known as tables, which will be arranged in rows. The solar panel tables will be arranged in either a south facing fixed configuration or a single axis tracker configuration. In a south facing configuration, the tables would be aligned east to west with the panels sloping towards the south, at a fixed angle of 5 to 45 degrees from horizontal.

The panels will therefore move from east to west during the course of the day operated by a small motor. The panels will then reverse this process at the end of each day, returning to a horizontal position where they remain overnight.

#### (?) What is BESS?

A Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) is proposed for Fosse Green Energy to store the energy produced by the project and release it to the grid when it is most needed. We are considering options for 'decentralised' BESS, with battery containers located throughout the Solar PV Array Areas, or 'centralised' BESS within a single compound, and would welcome your feedback on these options.

## How it works



# Layout plan

This layout plan shows our updated proposals following the community consultation held in autumn 2023. It considers the feedback we received as well as further design work we have carried out which has considered the local environment, ecology, flood risk and technical requirements.

The first layout plan shows the areas we are proposing for the solar panels, battery storage and substation. This physical infrastructure will take up only a small percentage of the land inside our site boundary, creating significant opportunities for community benefits, biodiversity net gain and the maintenance of existing habitats and agricultural land use.

The second plan over pages 8 to 11 shows the areas we are proposing for landscaping, including planting for screening, community orchards and areas for wildlife. To read about what has changed since the last consultation, please see pages 4 and 5 of this booklet.

We welcome your comments on this layout, and any suggestions you have for landscaping and environmental mitigation.









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# **Connecting to the National Grid**

## **National Grid Connection Proposals**

The onsite substation at Fosse Green Energy will connect with the proposed Navenby Substation via a buried export cable corridor which is approximately 10km in length. This is shown as a grid connection corridor.

The connection involves running 400 kilovolt (kV) and associated cables from the site to the substation at Navenby which is installed via open trenching and then backfilling trenches to reinstate the land and return it to its current use. The substation then connects the energy produced by Fosse Green Energy into the grid for use in homes and businesses. The proposed Navenby Substation is subject to a separate planning application put forward by National Grid and is not part of the Development Consent Order (DCO) application for Fosse Green Energy.

#### Installing and Connecting the Cables

We will be installing the grid connection corridor cables using an open trench technique for the majority of its route:

- 1. A trench approximately three metres wide and three metres deep will be excavated to lay the cables.
- 2. During construction the working width of land needed would be between 30 to 40 metres to allow for the movement of vehicles alongside the trench, laydown, and soil stockpiles.
- 3. Jointing pits are needed where one section of cable joins the next.

2

 When land is reinstated, the land can be returned to agricultural land use but has certain restrictions preventing other development within the easement.

In certain locations, trenchless construction techniques (such as horizontal directional drilling) may be used, such as when crossing under the A46 or the Rivers Witham and Brant. This is to help avoid disruption and to reduce environmental impacts.

#### ?) What is a grid connection corridor?\_\_\_\_\_

A grid connection corridor is a broad ribbon of land through which a buried electrical connection would be routed. The corridor can vary in width.

# What is a substation?

Substations are highvoltage electric system facilities which are used to gather voltage and step it up or down for export/import.





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This map shows the proposed Grid Connection Corridor and Navenby Substation location.

# Construction, operation and decommissioning

Should development consent be granted for Fosse Green Energy, construction is anticipated to start in 2031, with plans to connect to the Grid by 2033. We anticipate it would take around two years to build.

### Construction

Building the principal site for Fosse Green Energy would involve:

- Site preparation such as upgrading existing roads/tracks, upgrading existing crossing points like bridges, and establishing temporary construction compounds.
- Solar and energy storage park construction

   such as putting the solar panels in
   place, installing cabling underground, and
   constructing the onsite substation and battery
   storage units.
- Testing and commissioning of the site.
- Landscape, planting, and habitat creation.

The Environmental Statement (ES) to be submitted with the DCO application will provide further details of the proposed construction activities. We will also be submitting several Management Plans, including:

- Framework Construction
   Environmental Management Plan (CEMP): This will describe the measures we will take to alleviate and/or reduce construction impacts including noise, traffic, and use of land.
- Framework Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP): This will demonstrate how we will alleviate and/or reduce impacts relating to construction traffic.
- Framework Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan (DEMP): this will set out how we will decommission Fosse Green Energy.

You can find more information about how the connection for Fosse Green Energy to the National Grid substation near Navenby would be constructed on page 12 of this booklet.

## Vehicle movement and access

During the construction phase, one main construction compound and several secondary compounds may be created, alongside temporary roadways for access to the Fosse Green Energy site.

There will be approximately 12 construction site access points for vehicles on the principal site. These would provide access to an internal network of access tracks that will typically be five metres wide, with passing bays provided as required.

A map of the construction compounds and access points can be found in the Preliminary Environmental Information (PEI) Report in Volume 2 Figure 3-1, available on our website.

We expect that there will be, at most, around 50 HGV (Heavy Goods Vehicles) deliveries per day, with 35 deliveries per day on average. As above, a CTMP will be produced as part of the DCO Application to mitigate any potential impacts, such as avoiding HGV arrivals and departures during peak traffic hours and specifying traffic routes to/from the site.

## Working on site

On average, we will be employing 350 workers per day to construct the site. At the peak of construction, currently expected during 2032, we would require up to 600 workers per day.

Working hours are anticipated to be:

- Monday to Friday: 7am to 7pm
- Saturday: 7am to 1pm

There will be no works on Sunday and Bank Holidays, and if work is needed outside the above hours, we will ensure prior notification is provided to the council before the work begins and that we clearly signpost the information on our website.







## Operation

Fosse Green Energy is proposed to be in operation for 60 years. Once operational, activity on the site will be limited to:

- Vegetation management.
- Equipment maintenance and servicing, including the periodic replacement of components.
- Site inspection including fence inspections.
- Environmental / biodiversity surveys and monitoring.

During operation, some construction access points will still be used along with the dedicated operational accesses. Additionally, there will be three separate accesses for emergency services. Operational traffic will be minimal, with four vehicles per day anticipated. These access points are illustrated in the PEI Report in Volume 2 Figures 3-2a and 3-2b, available on our website.

We are aware of the potential impact of noise from the site and are considering mitigation measures to minimise the impact of this noise.

To ensure the solar and energy storage park runs smoothly and safely, there will be up to four permanent staff undertaking daily maintenance tasks, with the potential for up to 20 staff if need be.

There will be water storage tanks on site to reduce any risk of fire, and we will work in partnership with Lincolnshire Fire Service and our Local Authorities. Relevant guidance from the National Fire Chiefs Council has also informed our BESS proposals.

The grassland created within the Solar PV Array Areas will ideally be used for grazing by suitable livestock. This has been successfully used on other solar farms, and helps to improve soil health and biodiversity.

## Decommissioning

Fosse Green Energy is planned to operate for 60 years until 2093.

When operation ends, the site will need to be decommissioned. All material from the site, including PV panels, substations, and batteries, will be removed and disposed of sensibly over 24 to 30 months. Recent research shows that 99 per cent of a solar panel can be recycled, and we will commit to maximising recycling materials where practicable.

We will set aside money for decommissioning Fosse Green Energy. Once decommissioned, most of the site will then be returned to the landowners and will be available for its original use. Solar does not permanently displace agricultural land, it only borrows it. As agricultural land under a solar farm is in effect left fallow, soil health can recover. Any planting we have done will also be retained where practicable.





# **Agricultural Land Classification**

## Climate change and food security

Climate change is the biggest threat to food security. The UK is already seeing unpredictable weather patterns and more rain, which is attributed to climate change and will impact our food security making it harder to produce crops reliably.

Therefore, it is important we reduce our carbon emissions to limit the effects of climate change and the UK can take leading role in doing this. The UK Government Food Security Report, published in December 2021 stated that "The biggest medium to long term risk to the UK's domestic production comes from climate change and other environmental pressures like soil degradation, water quality and biodiversity."

This was supported by the Green Alliance's report in August 2024, which found that "climate change's impact on reducing food production is already greater than the reduction that would be caused by using low grade farmland for solar farms."

Solar Energy is an important form of renewable energy which will contribute to reducing our carbon emissions and limiting impacts on farming. It can protect the environment both in the short and long term by helping combat the flooding and extreme heat created by climate change which drives up food inflation, creates uncertainty for farmers and is the biggest single threat to food security.

Solar farms can also provide reliable revenue, helping to keep UK farms profitable and securing domestic food supplies. Solar can diversify farming activities, so farms can have a mix of different revenue streams, with solar being a steady stream of income while crops may vary year on year.

# Agricultural land classification

Agricultural Land Classification are categories of land based on its suitability for food production. When developing solar and energy storage parks, poorer quality land is used in preference, rather than "best and most versatile (BMV) land", which is excellent to good quality land in grades 1, 2, and 3a.

We have been carrying out surveys to determine the agricultural land classification of the Fosse Green Energy site. This surveying has been undertaken with reference to Natural England guidance.

The results from this survey will help us to carry out an assessment of the project's effects on agricultural land-use. This assessment forms a very important part of our work and will consider impacts which could result during the construction, operation and decommissioning of the project due to land-use changes.

From the work we have undertaken so far, 72 per cent of the project's physical infrastructure will be built on poorer quality land, therefore avoiding development on BMV land as far as practicable.

As well as considering agricultural land classifications, there are also other factors which are involved when planning the location for Solar and Energy storage parks. This includes the location of a viable grid connection, and areas where there is flood risk and environmental considerations which need to be taken into account.



www.metoffice.gov. uk/weather/climatechange/effects-ofclimate-change

## $(\mathbf{i})$

# **51.36**%

of the land currently used on the proposed principal site for Fosse Green Energy is for nonfood crop, the majority of which is being used for fuels for carbon-intensive sources of energy.





# **Environmental Considerations**

We are developing Fosse Green Energy with consideration to the local environment. We have developed the layout of the project considering ecology in the area, and will achieve biodiversity net gain across the site.



# Environmental impact assessment

Fosse Green Energy is classed as an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) development. This means that it must be subject to an EIA to ensure the likely significant effects of the development are understood and that appropriate measures to avoid and/or mitigate those effects are put in place. The results of this work will be presented in an Environmental Statement (ES) submitted as part of the DCO application.

## **Biodiversity net gain**

We are committed to achieving a minimum 10 per cent biodiversity net gain as part of the project. It is expected that the design at DCO Submission will demonstrate much more than 10 per cent is achievable.

# What is biodiversity net gain?

Biodiversity is the variety of plants and animals present in an area, and is a key indicator of the health of an ecosystem. By working to achieve biodiversity net gain, we will ensure our work results in more or better quality environments for plants and animals. It's an approach to development or land management that aims to leave the natural environment in a measurably better state than it was in prior to development.

We will be delivering a minimum 10 per cent biodiversity net gain for Fosse Green Energy, and solar farm developments regularly achieve over this percentage.

We are considering improvements such as creating pollinator-friendly habitats, orchards, grasslands wildflower meadows and other planting across the site. A plan of what we are proposing for landscaping and biodiversity improvements can be found on pages 8 to 11.

#### **Scoping Report**

We submitted an EIA Scoping Report to the Planning Inspectorate on 19 June 2023. The Scoping Report set out environmental, social and health issues likely to be relevant and established the scope of the work that will be carried out in producing the ES for the Proposed Development.

#### Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEI Report)

The PEI Report builds upon the findings from the previous documents and considers the feedback received at the non-statutory consultation and engagement with stakeholders. It is a core technical document which sets out the preliminary findings from environmental studies and assessments.

We are consulting on the PEI Report as part of this consultation. It's accompanied by a PEI Report Non-Technical Summary (NTS), which presents information from the PEI Report in non-technical language.



#### **Environmental Statement (ES)**

After the statutory consultation, the assessments presented in the PEI Report will be developed based on the final design of the proposed development, environmental surveys and impact assessment in order to produce the ES. It will also describe any changes to the project and any mitigation measures which need to be implemented. The ES will form part of the DCO submission.

# **Community benefits**

At our initial consultation, we asked for suggestions on what steps we could take to support local sustainable projects, schemes and initiatives. We believe that the communities closest to Fosse Green Energy should benefit from it, and we are grateful for your feedback on how we could extend the benefits of our project.

We have listened to your feedback, and are consulting on some new benefits which Fosse Green Energy could bring to local communities, including:



A range of permissive paths linking to Public Rights of Way (PRoW), creating connections between local villages and other paths, and increasing walking and cycling opportunities.



Planting community orchards to not only enhance local plant and wildlife, but also to screen the solar panels and reduce visual impact.



Opening up green areas for schools, community groups and animals – such as birds – to use, delivering further biodiversity net gain.



Working with North Kesteven District Council to develop plans for a community benefit fund.

# This is in addition to benefits we previously announced at our last consultation, and which our site will already bring:



Providing enough clean energy to power homes and businesses, and help reach net zero emissions, while supporting the local farming economy and improving the local environment.



Payment of business rates to the local authority when the project is operational, contributing to the provision of local services.



Initial plans to deliver biodiversity net gain through additional planting to encourage more native wildlife with habitats and food sources increased for insects and birds.

We also continue to welcome further suggestions on local schemes, projects and initiatives we can support. Let us know about any ideas you have in your feedback.



Provision of educational packs for local primary schools to utilise in addition to offering educational visits.









#### (i) Community Liaison Group

We are continuously looking at new ways to work with local communities. This is why we are considering setting up a **community liaison group**.

As part of this, we will be inviting local community representatives to engage with us and discuss how we can best serve the communities we are near to.

The group will be set up following the end of consultation and run throughout the planning and construction process.

#### (i) Archaeology

Part of the development of the project will involve archaeological trial trenching across the site. We are keen to share and discuss our findings and where possible involve the local community.



# Taking part in this consultation

This is our second, and statutory, phase of community consultation, which is open from 21 October 2024 to 2 December 2024.

This follows our initial phase of community consultation held in autumn 2023. The plans we are presenting at this stage of consultation have been informed by the feedback received at our initial consultation.

### What we are asking for you to comment on

We want to hear your thoughts on our refined proposals, and would like your feedback on:

- The overall project
- Our Preliminary Environmental Information (PEI) Report, with a particular focus on the following elements:
  - The solar PV arrays, Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) and associated infrastructure, including design and layout considerations
- The grid connection cable corridor
- Environmental mitigation and public recreation
- Construction, maintenance and traffic
- Community benefits, including further suggestions for community initiatives and schemes that we could support



## How you can learn more

There are a number of ways you can take part in our consultation:

#### Join us at a consultation event:

We are hosting several drop-in exhibition events in-person and online, where you can learn about our proposals, meet the project team, and provide us with your comments.

#### Visiting our project website:

The website contains information about our proposals at this stage. You can also provide feedback on our website.

#### Visit a deposit location:

Copies of our consultation materials will be available at six publicly accessible 'deposit locations'. Details of the locations, their opening times, and the documents available can be found on our project website.

#### Contacting the community relations

**team:** Please contact us if you cannot attend our events, have any questions, or would like help accessing information about the project or responding to this consultation.

Date and time	Address
Friday 8 November	The Venue @ Navenby, Grantham Road, Navenby,
13:30-17:30	Lincoln, LN5 0JJ
Saturday 9 November	Oliver Roper Parish Meeting Room, Lincoln Lane,
15:00-19:00	Thorpe on the Hill, Lincoln, LN6 9BH
Friday 22 November	Hammond Hall and Sports Centre,
15:00-19:00	35 Lincoln Road, Bassingham, Lincoln, LN5 9HQ
Saturday 23 November	Witham St Hughs Village Hall, Caraway Drive,
12:30-16:30	Witham St Hughs, Lincoln, LN6 9XG
Tuesday 26 November 18:00-19:00	Online event. Register to attend via our website at www.fossegreenenergy.co.uk.

# **Contact us**



(a)

#### 0800 860 6262

open Monday – Friday 9am to 5pm)

This phoneline has a voicemail service for out of hours calls. Calls can be scheduled with the consultation team for outside of working hours.

info@fossegreenenergy.co.uk



FREEPOST FOSSE GREEN ENERGY

#### (?) What is a statutory consultation?

Statutory consultation is required as part of the government's planning process for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects, as set out in the Planning Act 2008.

We would like your feedback on the work we have undertaken to date to develop the project, as set out in significant detail in our PEI Report and more succinctly summarised in our PEI Report NTS (both available on our website at <u>www.fossegreenenergy.co.uk</u>).



# **Providing your feedback**

You can submit your feedback to this consultation online or in writing:

#### Website:

Fill out the online feedback form on our project website at <u>www.fossegreenenergy.co.uk</u>

#### Feedback Form:

Collect a feedback form at a consultation event or contact the community relations team to request a copy (see back of this booklet for contact details). You can submit this form at an event or to our freepost address at FREEPOST FOSSE GREEN ENERGY. You do not need a stamp.

## $\bigcirc$

Send an email with your feedback to our consultation address at info@fosssegreenenergy.co.uk



#### Letters:

Email:

Post a letter with your feedback to our freepost address above.

The deadline for responding to this consultation is 23:59 on 2 December 2024. Responses received after this deadline may not be considered.



#### (i) Feedback Information

All the comments submitted to this consultation will be recorded and considered to inform and shape our proposals. Feedback will be responded to in our consultation report, which will be submitted as part of our application for development consent. Feedback cannot be taken over the phone.

# What happens next?

When this statutory consultation closes, we will review all comments received, together with findings from our ongoing assessments, to finalise our proposals for Fosse Green Energy.

We expect to submit our application for development consent to the Planning Inspectorate in late 2025. Along with other documents, the application will include:

- An Environmental Statement setting out the environmental considerations for the project and how we propose to mitigate them.
- A Consultation Report containing responses to this consultation and an explanation of how we have considered these views.

## The application process

The Planning Inspectorate has 28 days to choose whether to accept the application for Fosse Green Energy. If accepted, there will be a period of examination.

Once the examination is finished, the Planning Inspectorate has three months to make a recommendation to the Secretary of State on whether the application should be given development consent. The Secretary then has three months to decide.

If granted development consent, we anticipate that construction will start in 2031, depending on the final connection date agreed with National Grid.

You will be able to register your interest with the Planning Inspectorate for our proposals once the application has been accepted, before the examination starts. This will make sure that you are kept informed of how our application is progressing and gives you the opportunity to further contribute your thoughts on our proposals.

You can also contact the Fosse Green Energy team at any point during this process using the details on the back of this booklet.

#### Indicative Timeline:

#### Spring 2023

Outline information shared on the project. Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Scoping Request submitted to the Planning Inspectorate.

#### Autumn 2023

First stage of community consultation (non-statutory).

#### Winter 2023/2024

Development of a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) setting out how we will consult on the project at statutory consultation.

#### Spring to Autumn 2024

Further environmental survey and assessment work.

#### • Autumn 2024

Second (statutory) stage of community consultation.

#### Autumn 2025

Finalise DCO application for submission to the Planning Inspectorate.

\*Dates are indicative and could be subject to change



To contact us and provide feedback visit our website using the QR code: Email: info@fossegreenenergy.co.uk Post: FREEPOST FOSSE GREEN ENERGY Phone: 0800 860 6262 (Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm) www.fossegreenenergy.co.uk

