



25 October 2024

Dear Sir/Madam

**Green Hill Solar Farm**

**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”)**

Green Hill Solar Farm Limited (“the Applicant”) intends to build a solar generating station and energy storage project (“the Green Hill Solar Farm”), located within the administrative boundaries of West Northamptonshire Council, North Northamptonshire Council and Milton Keynes City Council.

1. The Green Hill Solar Farm will consist of:
  - a. Green Hill A, A.2, B, C, D, E, F, G and Green Hill BESS, with photovoltaic (PV) solar panels across eight sites and a dedicated battery energy storage system site, located across between Northampton, Wellingborough and Milton Keynes.
  - b. Electrical infrastructure including solar panels, conversion units, inverters and substations of between 33kV and 400kV. Two larger 400kV substations will be located at the Green Hill C and Green Hill Bess Sites. The proposed locations of the 132kV substations are within Green Hill A, B, E, F and G and shown on the Indicative Masterplan. The locations of the remaining smaller substations of 33kV will be determined as part of the design process following the statutory consultation.
  - c. A battery energy storage system located within Green Hill BESS. A second location for energy storage is also being considered at Green Hill C.
  - d. Underground electricity cables, located within a cable route search area, connecting the Green Hill sites, substations and the energy storage system to the National Grid substation at Grendon; and
  - e. Associated infrastructure, mitigation and enhancement measures, and other ancillary works, for example, fencing, security (including CCTV), local grid connections, temporary access roads, permanent means of access, highway works, temporary works compounds and work sites.

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 Green Hill Solar Farm. The DCO application will contain full details of Green Hill Solar Farm and will be accompanied by an Environmental Statement in accordance with the 2008 Act and the 2017 Regulations.

### **Consultation on the Green Hill Solar Farm**

The Green Hill Solar Farm 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 Green Hill Solar Farm (under section 42 and section 44 of the 2008 Act);
- Consultation with the local community in the vicinity of Green Hill Solar Farm (under section 47 of the 2008 Act); and
- General public consultation on Green Hill Solar Farm (under section 48 of the 2008 Act).

The consultation will run from **7 November 2024 until 11:59pm on 19 December 2024**.

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 Green Hill Solar Farm and to help inform consultation responses. It should be noted that the EIA is an ongoing process and the design of Green Hill Solar Farm will continue to evolve during the pre-application stage.

Copies of the consultation materials are available free of charge online at [www.greenhillsolar.co.uk](http://www.greenhillsolar.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 Newsletter, Feedback Form and Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC).

The consultation materials are available (in hard copy or electronic copy as specified in the enclosed section 48 notice) at Local Information Points. Hard copies of the consultation materials are also available upon request (some of which are subject to payment). Details of the Local Information Points, 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.greenhillsolar.co.uk](http://www.greenhillsolar.co.uk).

#### **How to respond to this consultation**

**Responses must be received no later than 11.59pm on 19 December 2024.**

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 Green Hill Solar Farm. Completed responses must be submitted:

- a) By email to [info@greenhillsolar.co.uk](mailto:info@greenhillsolar.co.uk)
- b) Online at [www.greenhillsolar.co.uk](http://www.greenhillsolar.co.uk)
- c) Returning hard copy feedback form to FREEPOST GREEN HILL SOLAR FARM

#### **Further information**



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

- Emailing:** [info@greenhillsolar.co.uk](mailto:info@greenhillsolar.co.uk)
- Calling our Freephone:** 0800 012 9882
- Visiting our website at:** [www.greenhillsolar.co.uk](http://www.greenhillsolar.co.uk)

Yours faithfully,

Lesley Giles  
Project Development Manager  
On behalf of Green Hill Solar Farm Limited





## SECTION 48 PLANNING ACT 2008

Regulation 4 of The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009.

Notice publicising a proposed application for a Development Consent Order (“DCO”) to construct, operate, maintain and decommission a solar photovoltaic (PV) generating station, with a generating capacity of more than 50MW and associated infrastructure on land in Northamptonshire and Milton Keynes (Green Hill Solar Farm).

1. Notice is hereby given that Green Hill Solar Farm Limited (Company registration number 13362769) of Unit 25.7 Coda Studios, 189 Munster Road, London, England SW6 6AW (the Applicant), proposes to apply to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero under section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 for a Development Consent Order for the Green Hill Solar Farm (the Application).
2. The Green Hill Solar Farm will cover a combined area of approximately 1,200 hectares and will consist of the following sites:
  - a. Green Hill A, A.2, B, C, D, E, F, G, and Green Hill BESS: eight solar array sites and a dedicated battery energy storage system site, located between Northampton, Wellingborough and Milton Keynes. The solar array sites will include solar panels, conversion units, inverters, and 132kV substations in Green Hill A, B, E, F and G and two 400kV substations in Green Hill C and Green Hill BESS.
  - b. A battery energy storage system located within Green Hill BESS. A second location for energy storage is also being considered at Green Hill C.
  - c. A cable route search area has been identified for the underground electricity cables connecting the Green Hill sites, substations and the energy storage system to the National Grid substation at Grendon; 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.
3. The sites are located across several parishes and administrative areas:
  - Green Hill A and A.2 are located in the parishes of Old and Walgrave and in the administrative area of West Northamptonshire, approximately 600m south of Walgrave.
  - Green Hill B is located within the parish of Holcot and in the administrative area of West Northamptonshire, approximately 1.2km north of Moulton.
  - Green Hill C is located within parishes of Sywell and Mears Ashby and in the administrative area of North Northamptonshire, approximately 2km west of Wellingborough.
  - Green Hill D is located within the parish of Mears Ashby and in the administrative area of North Northamptonshire, approximately 2km west of Wellingborough.



- Green Hill E is located within the parishes of Mears Ashby and Wilby in the administrative area of North Northamptonshire, approximately 500m north of Earls Barton.
  - Green Hill F is located within the parishes of Easton Maudit and Bozeat in the administrative area of North Northamptonshire, approximately 300m west of the village of Bozeat.
  - Green Hill G is located within the parishes of Warrington and Lavendon in the administrative area of Milton Keynes, approximately 600m north of Lavendon.
  - Green Hill BESS is located within the parish of Grendon and in the administrative area of North Northamptonshire, approximately 600m north of Grendon.
4. The proposed DCO will, among other things, authorise:
- Construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of the solar PV electricity generating station and associated development including grid connection and energy storage facility;
  - Compulsory acquisition of land, including interests in land, rights over land and imposition of restrictions, powers to override, suspend or extinguish rights over land and powers for the temporary use of land;
  - The application, modification and/or disapplication of legislation including legislation relating to compulsory purchase and landlord and tenant; and
  - Such ancillary, incidental and consequential provisions, licenses, property rights, permits and consents as are necessary and/or convenient.
5. Green Hill Solar Farm is an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) development for the purposes of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017. This means that the proposed works involved constitute development for which an EIA is required and the proposed application for a DCO will therefore be accompanied by an Environmental Statement. The Environmental Statement will provide a detailed description of the Green Hill Solar Farm and its likely significant environmental impacts. Information compiled so far about the Green Hill Solar Farm's likely significant environmental effects is set out for consultation in a Preliminary Environmental Information Report (the PEIR) and summarised in a Non-Technical Summary.

#### **Statutory consultation**

6. The Applicant is undertaking a statutory consultation on the proposals for the Green Hill Solar Farm between **Thursday 7 November 2024 and Thursday 19 December 2024**.
7. A copy of the PEIR, together with a Non-Technical Summary, our Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC), and other consultation documents, plans and maps explaining our consultation process and details of the nature and location of the Green Hill Solar Farm can be found on the Applicant's website in the

documents library at [www.greenhillsolar.co.uk](http://www.greenhillsolar.co.uk). These documents will be free to read, download and print from 7 November 2024 until 19 December 2024.

8. Hard copies of the PEIR and Non-Technical Summary will be available for inspection from 7 November 2024 until 19 December 2024 at the following information points. Hard copies of the Consultation Information Booklet and the Consultation Feedback Form will be available to take away free of charge. We recommend contacting the venues to check the opening times prior to visiting.

<p><b>Moulton Community Library</b> Moulton Community Centre, Sandy Hill, Reedings, Moulton, Northamptonshire, NN3 7AX <b>Monday – Saturday 9:00am – 5:00pm</b> <b>Sunday 9:00am – 4:00pm (self-service only)</b></p>	<p><b>Rothwell Community Library</b> Market Hill, Rothwell NN14 6EP <b>Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday – 10:00am – 4:00pm</b></p>
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9. Electronic copies of the PEIR and Non-Technical Summary may be viewed on a computer at the following information points from 7 November 2024 until 19 December 2024. While access to computers at these information points is free, a membership for the library may be required. Hard copies of the Consultation Information Booklet and the Consultation Feedback Form will be available to take away free of charge. We recommend contacting the venues to check the opening times and membership requirements prior to visiting.

<p><b>Brixworth Library</b> Spratton Road, Brixworth, Northampton, NN6 9DS <b>Monday to Friday 9:00am to 5:00pm</b></p>	<p><b>Duston Library</b> Duston Community Centre, Pendle Road, Northampton NN5 6DT <b>Monday – Friday – 9:00am – 5:00pm</b> <b>Saturday – 10:00am – 2:00pm</b></p>
<p><b>Earls Barton Community Library</b> 27 Broad Street, Earls Barton, Northampton NN6 0ND <b>Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday – 2:00pm – 5:00pm</b> <b>Wednesday – 10:00am – 1:00pm</b></p>	<p><b>Milton Keynes Library</b> 555 Silbury Boulevard, Milton Keynes MK9 3HL <b>Monday – Friday - 9 am – 6 pm,</b> <b>Saturday - 9 am – 5 pm</b></p>

10. Hard copies of the Consultation Information Booklet and the Consultation Feedback Form will also be available to take away free of charge from **Wellingborough Library**, 7 Pebble Lane, Wellingborough NN8 1AS (Monday - Friday 9 am - 6 pm, Saturday 9 am - 5 pm). We recommend contacting the venue to check the opening times prior to visiting.

11. The Applicant will host consultation events to provide opportunities to view the relevant consultation documentation and speak with members of the project team. The details of the consultation events are as follows:

Venue	Date and Time
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<b>Grendon Village Hall</b> Main Road, Grendon, Northampton, NN7 1JW	Monday 18 November 2024 <b>2:00pm – 7pm</b>
<b>Webinar</b> Online or via telephone	Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> November 2024 <b>6:00pm – 7:00pm</b>
<b>Lavendon Village Hall</b> 22 High Street, Lavendon, Bucks, MK46 4HA	Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup> November 2024 <b>12:00pm – 5:00pm</b>
<b>Webinar</b> Online or via telephone	Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> November 2024 <b>6:00pm – 7:00pm</b>
<b>Swanspool Pavilion</b> Swanspool Parade, Wellingborough, NN8 9SR	Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> November 2024 <b>2:00pm – 7pm</b>
<b>Webinar</b> Online or via telephone	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> December 2024 <b>12:30pm – 1:30pm</b>
<b>Walgrave Village Hall</b> 1 Newland Road, Walgrave, Northampton, NN6 9PZ	Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup> December 2024 <b>12am – 5:00pm</b>

12. These consultation events offer an opportunity to find out more about the Green Hill Solar Farm. Attendees do not need to register in advance to attend an in-person consultation event. A link to the webinars will be available on the project website. Attendees will need to register in advance to attend a webinar either online or via telephone via the link on the project website.
13. For further information or queries, please call 0800 012 9882 (free of charge); write to FREEPOST GREEN HILL SOLAR FARM (no stamp or further details required); email [info@greenhillsolar.co.uk](mailto:info@greenhillsolar.co.uk) or visit [www.greenhillsolar.co.uk](http://www.greenhillsolar.co.uk).

#### **To obtain hard copies of the consultation documents**

14. A hard copy of the PEIR can be printed and delivered at a cost of £750 per copy. All other consultation documents can be made available in hard copy, large print, audio or braille format, free of charge upon request to the Applicant on 0800 012 9882 (free of charge) or by email at [info@greenhillsolar.co.uk](mailto:info@greenhillsolar.co.uk). Requests for translated documents will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

#### **Have your say**



15. Feedback can be provided through the consultation feedback form on the Applicant's website at [www.greenhillsolar.co.uk](http://www.greenhillsolar.co.uk). Hardcopy feedback forms will also be available at the information points listed above and at the in person consultation events..
16. The consultation feedback form, responses to or other representation in respect of the Green Hill Solar Farm can also be sent to the Applicant by email to [info@greenhillsolar.co.uk](mailto:info@greenhillsolar.co.uk) or by post to FREEPOST GREEN HILL SOLAR FARM (no stamp or further details required).
17. Any response or representation in respect of the proposed DCO **must** be received by the Applicant on or before **11.59PM on Thursday 19 December 2024**.

The Applicant will consider and have regard to all responses to consultation and publicity when developing its DCO application. Individual responses may be made publicly available, or made available to the Secretary of State, the Planning Inspectorate and other relevant statutory authorities, in accordance with the requirements of the Planning Act 2008 and data protection legislation. Respondents do not have to provide any personal information, but this information will help the Applicant to understand the range of responses and enable the Applicant to send you further information relating to the Green Hill Solar Farm. Personal information will be kept confidential where possible. Please refer to our Privacy Notice for more details: [https://greenhillsolar.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/Privacy-Notice\\_StatCon151482463.1.pdf](https://greenhillsolar.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/Privacy-Notice_StatCon151482463.1.pdf)