

Mallard Pass Solar Farm

Notice of Acceptance of an application for a Development Consent Order (“DCO”) by the Planning Inspectorate (on behalf of the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy) under Section 56 of the Planning Act 2008.

Regulation 9 of the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009.

Regulation 16 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017.

1. Notice is hereby given that the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (the “Secretary of State”) has accepted an application (the “Application”) by Mallard Pass Solar Farm Limited (Company No. 12575861) of 111 Park Street, Mayfair, London, W1K 7JF (the “Applicant”) for a Development Consent Order (“DCO”) under the Planning Act 2008. The Application (Reference No. EN010127) was submitted by the Applicant to the Secretary of State via the Planning Inspectorate on 24 November 2022 and was accepted for examination on 21 December 2022.

Summary of the Proposed Development

2. The Application is for development consent to construct, operate, maintain and decommission a solar photovoltaic (PV) electricity generating facility with a capacity of over 50 megawatts (MW) and export connection to the National Grid.

3. Mallard Pass Solar Farm Limited is a partnership between Windel Energy and Canadian Solar Inc. Mallard Pass Solar Farm (the “Proposed Development”) will be near Essendine, partly situated in South Kesteven, Lincolnshire, and partly in Rutland, and will cover an area of approximately 852 hectares (ha). The principal components of the Proposed Development comprise solar PV arrays, mounting structures, inverters, transformers, switchgears, onsite substation and ancillary buildings, low voltage distribution cabling, fencing, security and ancillary infrastructure, access tracks, temporary construction compounds, mitigation and enhancement areas and green infrastructure.

4. Development consent is required to the extent that development is or forms part of a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) pursuant to sections 14(1)(a) and 15(1) and (2) of the Planning Act 2008, as an onshore generating station in England with a capacity greater than 50 MW. It is for this reason that the Proposed Development falls within the remit of the Secretary of State’s decision-making powers.

5. The Development Consent Order (“DCO”), if granted, would authorise the compulsory acquisition of land, interests in land and rights over land, and the powers to use land permanently and temporarily. The DCO would also authorise alterations to the layout of streets, the construction of accesses to the Proposed Development, the temporary stopping up or management of the public rights of way, street works, removal of hedgerows and the application and disapplication of legislation.

Environmental Impact Assessment Development

6. Due to its nature and size, the Proposed Development is classified as an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) development for the purposes of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017. This means that the Proposed Development constitutes development for which an EIA is required. The Application is therefore accompanied by an Environmental Statement.

Application form and accompanying documents

7. The Application form and its accompanying documents (including accompanying plans, maps, the Environmental Statement, the Non-Technical Summary and the draft Order (the “Application Documents”)) can be viewed and downloaded free of charge online on the Mallard Pass Solar Farm page of the Planning Inspectorate’s National Infrastructure Planning website under the Documents tab:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/east-midlands/mallard-pass-solar-project/?ipcsection=docs>

8. The documents will be available on the website until at least the end of the Relevant Representation period on **Thursday 02 March 2023**.

9. The documents are also available via the project website from now until 02 March 2023, for the public to view, download and print at:

<https://www.MallardPassSolar.co.uk/documents>

10. An electronic copy of the Application documents can be supplied free of charge on a USB memory stick. To request a USB, please email info@MallardPassSolar.co.uk, write to **FREEPOST MALLARD PASS SOLAR FARM** (free of charge; no need for a stamp) or telephone **0808 196 8717** (free of charge).

11. The full suite of Application documents can be made available in hard copy format on request at a cost of £5,000 per copy. For any bespoke or hard copy document requests (for example in large print, audio or braille formats) please contact the Applicant using the contact details at the bottom of the notice, who will provide the cost. Copies of individual documents are also available on request and a reasonable copying charge may apply.

Making Representations

12. Becoming an Interested Party gives you the right to make representations about the Application to the Planning Inspectorate. Any person may register as an Interested Party by submitting a Relevant Representation on the Application during the representation period, which must be made directly to the Planning Inspectorate. Any representations (giving notice of any interest in, or objection to, the Application) must be made on the Planning Inspectorate’s Registration and Relevant Representation Form. The Registration and Relevant Representation Form can be accessed and completed online from 05 January 2023 on the Planning Inspectorate’s website:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/east-midlands/mallard-pass-solar-project/?ipcsection=overview>

13. If you require guidance, or other methods to obtain and complete a hard copy of the Planning Inspectorate’s Registration and Relevant Representation Form, please telephone 0303 444 5000. Completed forms should be sent to **The Planning Inspectorate, National Infrastructure Directorate, Temple Quay House, Temple Quay, Bristol BS1 6PN**. The Planning Inspectorate reference for the Application (EN010127) should be quoted in any correspondence.

14. The Planning Inspectorate’s Advice Note 8.2: How to register to participate in an Examination, provides further guidance on how to register and make a relevant representation and can be accessed via the following link:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/legislation-and-advice/advice-notes/advice-note-8-2-how-to-register-to-participate-in-an-examination/>

15. Please note that representations must be received by the Planning Inspectorate by **11.59pm on Thursday 02 March 2023**.

16. In submitting a representation, it should be noted that the personal data and correspondence relating to any representation will be made publicly available. If you do not wish personal data to be made publicly available, you should state why when submitting the representation. The Planning Inspectorate will publish the representations with your name removed, however, the representations may be given less weight during the Examination as a result. Please note that all representations submitted will be published on the Planning Inspectorate’s website and will be subject to their privacy policy, found online here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/planning-inspectorate-privacy-notices/customer-privacy-notice>

Contact us

17. Further information about the Application may be obtained from the Applicant, through the contact details provided below.