

HECKINGTON FEN SOLAR PARK
FURTHER (TARGETED) CONSULTATION
INFORMATION LEAFLET

NOVEMBER 2022



We are consulting on localised changes to our proposals that have been made since our Statutory Consultation closed, on 1 September 2022.

Ecotricity (Heck Fen Solar) Limited is preparing a Development Consent Order application under the Planning Act 2008 for a new solar park at Heckington Fen in Lincolnshire.

Based on further assessment and feedback received during our Statutory Consultation, we have reduced our Order Limits and determined that the grid connection route will extend from the east of the solar park, cross the A17 and the South Forty Foot Drain, and then enter Bicker Fen Substation from the west. We are no longer considering using the area around the Farm Shop and Park Farm Lane for the route. It is now wholly within Boston Borough.

However, we have made a few other localised changes to our proposals, which mean our Order Limits now cover a small number of additional areas. As these were not part of the Order Limits we consulted on during the Statutory Consultation, we are consulting on them.

Between 11 NOVEMBER AND 18 DECEMBER we are consulting on plans to:

- Change the outer Order Limits to ensure sufficient space is available to construct the new access off the A17;
- Change the outer Order Limits in the north west corner of the solar park to re-instate the public right of way enabling the permissive path which provides a 5km loop around the solar park;
- Change the outer Order Limits along the grid route to facilitate access to all of the grid connection corridor from the Triton Knoll access track.

We have made the changes mainly for engineering reasons, specifically in relation to the grid route, and due diligence. Although the changes are minor, they require a small amount of additional land. That said, the overall size of the site has actually decreased since the Statutory Consultation, due to the grid connection route we have opted for.

We are holding this further (targeted) consultation to give you the opportunity to comment on these localised changes to the project.

This consultation will be undertaken, so far as relevant and proportionate, in accordance with the principles and methods set out in our Statement of Community Consultation dated June 2022, which you can download here: <https://www.ecotricity.co.uk/our-green-energy/heckington-fen-solar-park-consultation>. If you require a hard copy please let us know using the details below:

Email: heckingtonfensolar@ecotricity.co.uk
Freephone: 0800 151 0784
Post: Freepost ECOTRICITY SOLAR PARK

WHO ARE WE CONSULTING?

Anyone directly impacted by our plans is welcome to take part. Our team of specialists have considered the impacts of the changes and determined that they do not constitute a material change. Therefore, we don't need to consult as extensively this time. All relevant landowners will be notified of the start of the consultation by letter.

PRINCIPLES

We will deliver an inclusive consultation by providing multiple ways for people to engage with our proposals.

METHODS – HOW ARE WE CONSULTING?

We will implement a digital led-approach which ensures the proposals can be viewed online, on the Project website, and feedback can be provided via email. We will also utilise non-digital methods to provide alternative means for consultees to engage with our proposals, including providing a hard copy version of all materials on request (free of charge) and enabling consultees to provide feedback verbally and in writing. Upon request, the documents will be made available in alternative accessible formats.

HOW WILL WE USE CONSULTATION FEEDBACK?

We will have regard to all comments received during the consultation. All feedback is important to us and will help influence our designs.

The Order Limits are amended at:

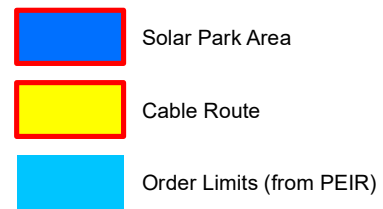
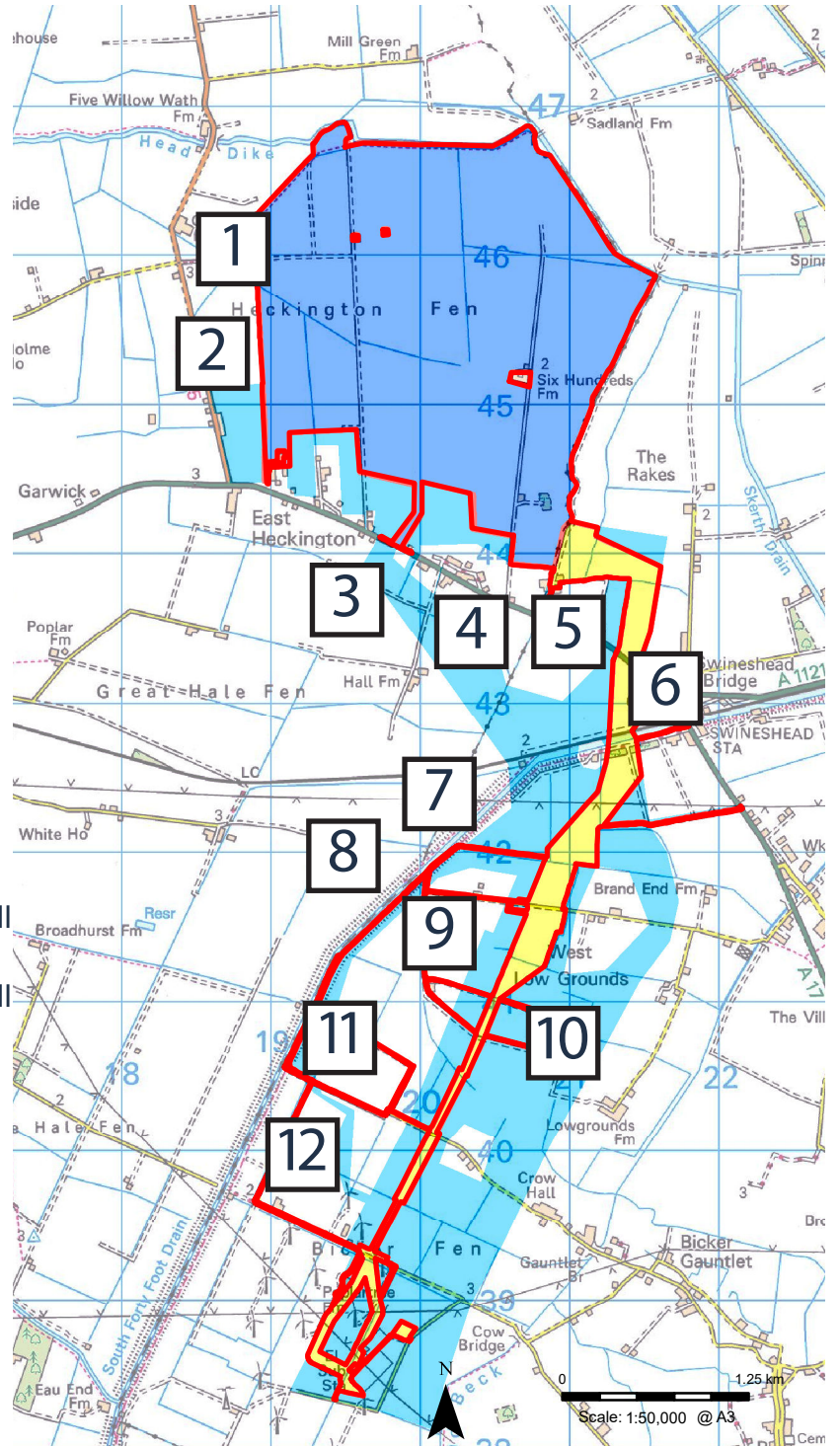
1. North west of the solar park;
2. Western boundary of the solar park;
3. The site entrance;
4. Rakes Farm;
5. North east of Swineshead House;
6. South of the A17 at Bridge Farm;
7. Triton Knoll Access Track;
8. Connecting into the Triton Knoll Access Track, including a spur near Timms Drive;
9. The western section of Timms Drive;
10. Using field accesses near Timms Drive;
11. Connecting spur into the Triton Knoll Access Track via North Drive;
12. Connecting spur into the Triton Knoll Access Track via Doubletwelves Drive

HOW TO RESPOND TO THE CONSULTATION

Consultation responses can be made via:

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Please let us have your comments by 23:59 on Sunday 18 December 2022.

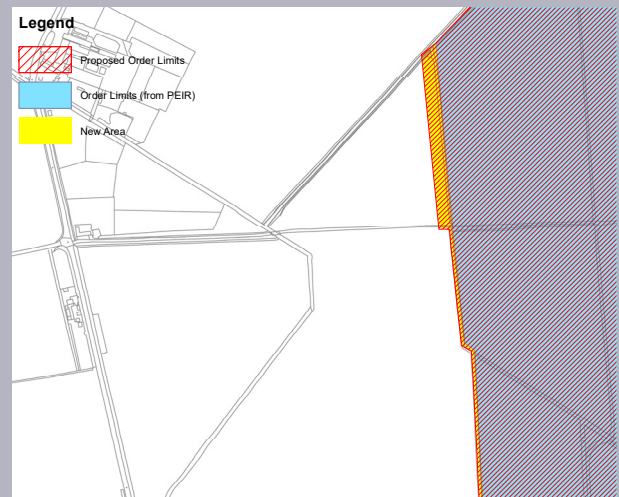


1. Extended Order Limits to enable re-instatement of public right of way

Location - North-west of the solar park, off Crab Lane. Easting and Northing - 518850 , 346100

Why the change was proposed - Engineering to provide access.

Description - To provide for temporary access from the Solar Park to construct a new culvert or footbridge over the private watercourse to the north-west of the Solar Park. This crossing would re-instate the public right of way known as HECK/15/1 and enable the permissive path to be accessed via the footpath network, creating a 5km loop for users.

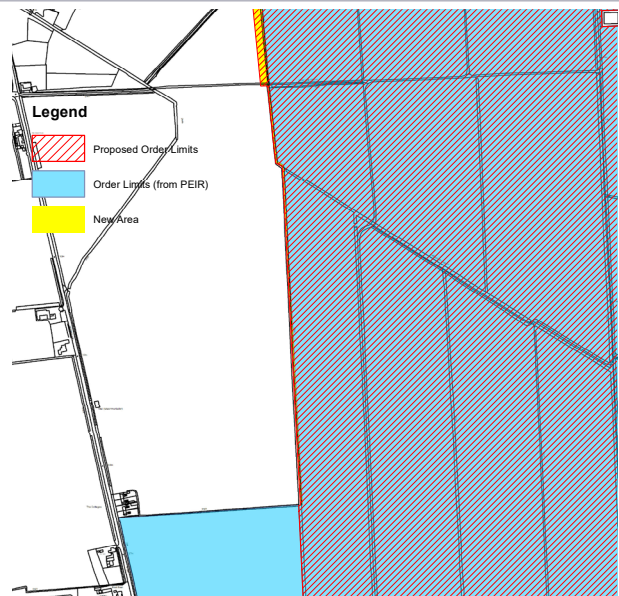


2. Extended Order Limits within solar park site - along western boundary

Location - West of the Solar Park. Easting and Northing - 518930 , 345459

Why the change was proposed - Due diligence.

Description - The Order Limits have been adjusted to align with the ownership and field boundary.

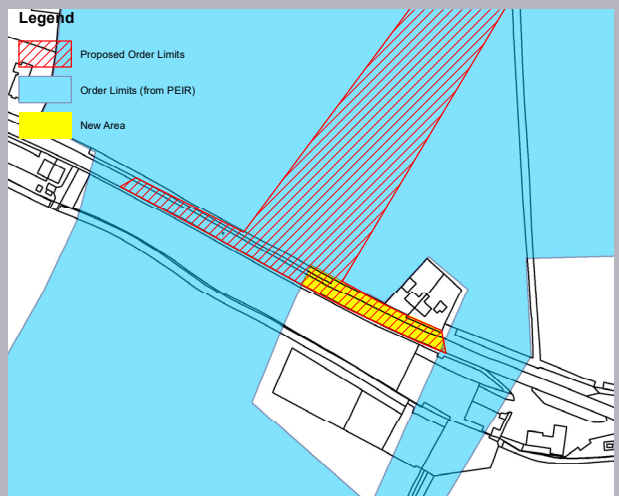


3. Extended Order Limits on A17 near solar park site entrance

Location - South of the solar park. Easting and Northing - 519863 , 344049

Why the change was proposed - Engineering to enable access.

Description - The Order Limits have been adjusted to ensure the largest component can access the site.

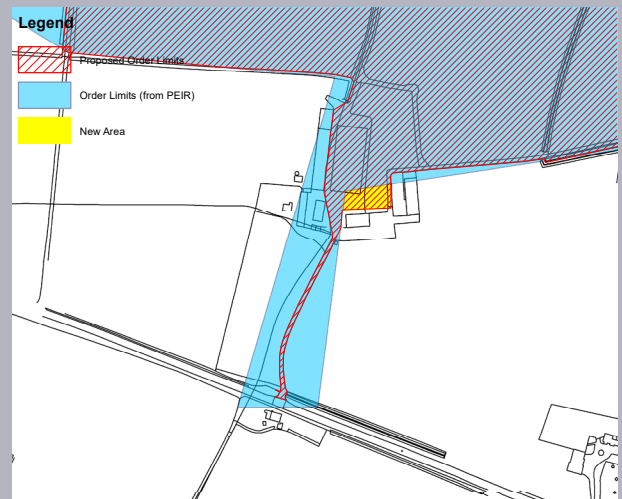


4. Extended Order Limits around Rakes Farm

Location - South-east of the solar park at Rakes Farm. Easting and Northing - 520907 , 343784

Why the change was proposed - access to the grid connection route.

Description - The Order Limits have been adjusted following the installation of a building. The Order Limits in this area would be used to access the grid route.

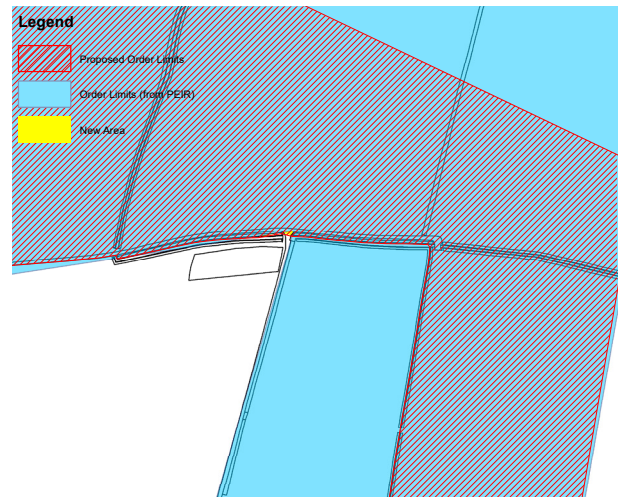


5. Extended Order Limits north east of Swineshead House

Location - East of the solar park and east of Rakes Farm. Easting and Northing - 521261 , 343843

Why the change was proposed - Due diligence

Description - The Order Limits have been adjusted to align with the field boundary.

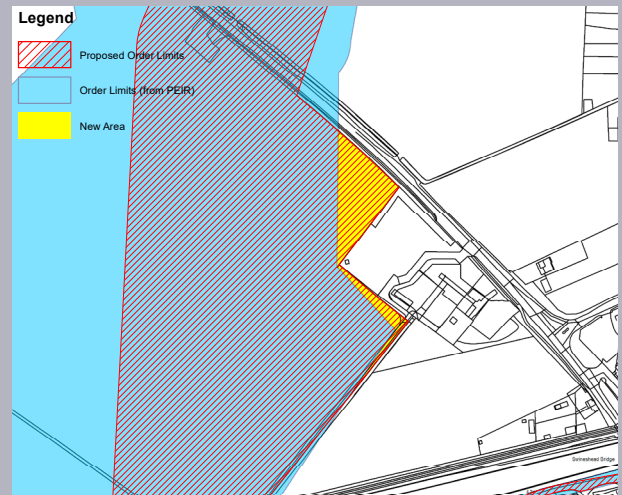


6. Extended Order Limits south of A17 at Bridge Farm

Location - North of South Forty Foot Drain near Swineshead Bridge. Easting and Northing - 521514 , 343122

Why the change was proposed - Engineering - to provide access

Description - The Order Limits have been adjusted to align with the field boundary which includes a track around the outer edge of these fields. This access would be used to construct the grid route which crosses the South Forty Foot Drain and the railway near this location.

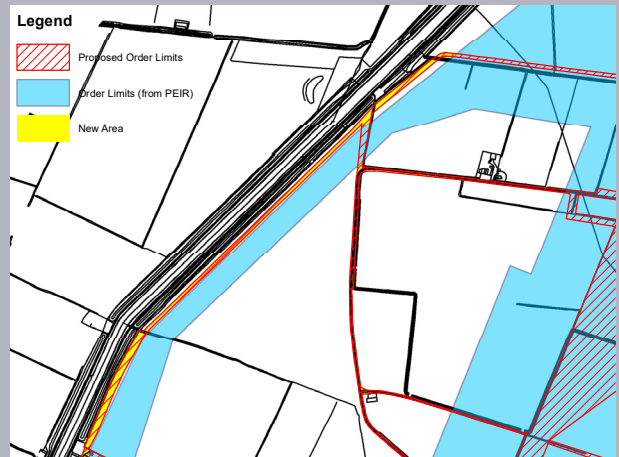


7. Extended Order Limits covering Triton Knoll Access Track

Location - North of Timms Drive, east of the South Forty Foot Drain. Easting and Northing - 520258 , 342040

Why the change was proposed - Due diligence.

Description - The Order Limits have been adjusted to align with the Triton Knoll Access Track boundary.

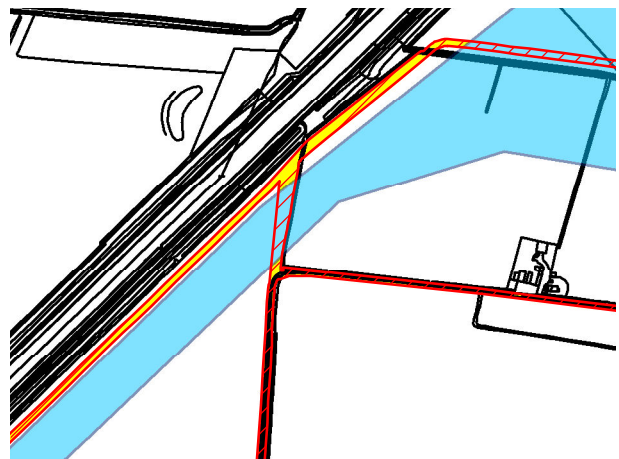


8. Extended Order Limits covering Timms Drive Spur

Location - Spur off Timms Drive and in proximity to Triton Knoll Access Track, extending into field access also known as Timms Drive, east of the South Forty Foot Drain. Easting and Northing - 520016 , 341499

Why the change was proposed - Due diligence.

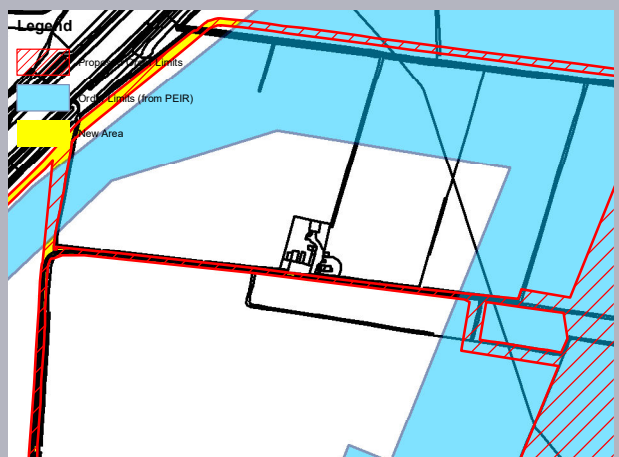
Description - The Order Limits have been adjusted around the Triton Knoll access, including a connecting spur to Timms Drive, which continues south as a field access.



9. Extended Order Limits covering western section of Timms Drive. Location - Timms Drive extension. Easting and Northing - 520342 , 341709

Why the change was proposed - Engineering - to enhance access.

Description - The Order Limits have been extended to utilise an access back onto the Triton Knoll Access Track.



10. Extended Order Limits covering Lowgrounds Farm
Location - Lowgrounds Farm. Easting and Northing - 520322 , 340839

Why the change was proposed - Engineering - to enhance access

Description - The Order Limits have been extended to utilise existing points of access.



11. Extended Order Limits covering Connecting spur into the Triton Knoll Access Track via North Drive
Location - North Drive. Easting and Northing - 519877 , 340429

Why the change was proposed - Transport and access and due diligence

Description - The Order Limits have been extended to utilise existing access tracks.



12. Extended Order Limits covering Doubletwelves Drive

Location - Timms Drive extension. Easting and Northing - 519046, 339983

Why the change was proposed - Transport and access and due diligence

Description - The Order Limits have been extended to utilise Doubletwelves Drive which links onto the Triton Knoll Access Track.



It is also worth noting we have made the below design changes since the original consultation. These changes are not part of the current consultation but included for information:

- We have reduced the southernmost extents of the main site and removed some of the areas previously set aside for biodiversity net gain, predominately in the southern and western parts of the site. Removing this land from the order allows it to remain in agricultural usage, resulting in a site which is comprised of over 80% Grade 3 agricultural land. Whilst this will reduce the biodiversity net gain, we still expect it to be substantial.
- We have reduced the overall height of the panels from 4.5m panels to 3.5m and determined that they will be fixed, rather than tracking. This height factors in a 1 in 1,000 year extreme weather event, as well as an allowance for climate change (for flood risk).
- We have removed the option for overhead lines across the solar park site and opted for a single, central substation. This infrastructure will be further away from properties around the site and closer to the central farm buildings. The energy storage is also moved to this location.
- We have reduced the physical size of equipment (containers, inverters and transformers), but we will require slightly more equipment. We have also incorporated water tanks and associated infrastructure in and around the energy storage area.
- We have reduced the area required for the grid connection between the solar park and Bicker Fen Substation by a refining of the cable route and points of access.

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DESIGN



ENVIRONMENT



PLANNING



ECONOMICS



HERITAGE



PEGASUSGROUP.CO.UK

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