ELGIN

PROPOSED HURWORTH MOOR SOLAR PV FARM

Land to the east of Burma Road, Hurworth Moor, Darlington

"Solar farms typically take up less than 5% of the ground they occupy, leaving huge scope for biodiversity enhancements in a protected space"

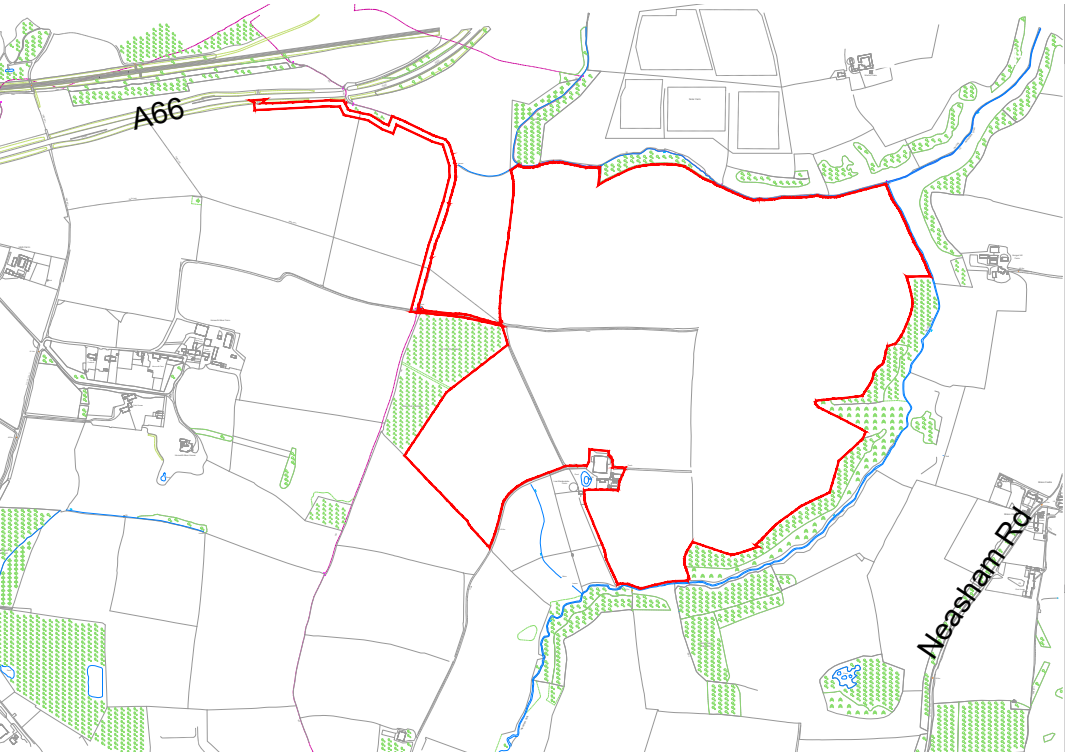
BRE National Solar Centre Biodiversity Best Practice Guidelines 2014

Introduction

Elgin Energy EsCo Ltd is seeking to develop a ground mounted Solar PV farm on land to the east of Burma Road Hurworth Moor, Darlington. We are seeking your views on this proposal ahead of submitting a planning application to the Darlington Borough Council. The red line on the map below indicates the site boundary of the proposed development.

Please visit HurworthMoorSolarFarm.com to learn more.

Please note that partaking in this process does not affect your statutory rights to make representations in respect of the planning application when submitted.



Project overview

The proposed development is located on Land to the east side of Burma Road Hurworth Moor, Darlington, DL2 1QG. 1.5 km to the southeast of Darlington, approximately 1.5km southwest of the village of Middleton St George and 2.3km northeast of the village of Hurworth-on-Tees, Durham. The proposed access will be coming of the A66 avoiding residential areas.

The proposed project covers approximately 190 acres and will accommodate 38 megawatts (MW) of solar export capacity for a project lifetime of 40 years is proposed.

The proposed solar farm will generate approximately 57,000,000 kilowatt hours (kWh) per annum powering 16,000 homes or 19,134 electric vehicles (EVs) every year.

Local engagement

Elgin Energy EsCo Ltd is committed to the local communities in which we operate. We engage with communities on each project through public consultation.

Local contractors and businesses will be engaged as far as possible during the installation phase. It is estimated that installation will take approximately 16 weeks. For the operational phase it is envisaged that local contractors and service providers will be engaged to maintain the solar farm. If you would like to obtain further information about a community benefit fund or enquire about providing services for this project, please visit the project website

Pre-planning process

A number of assessments are being conducted to establish any potential affects of the proposed development on the site and surrounding lands. These reports include ecology, archaeology & cultural heritage, construction access & traffic and flood risk. In addition, a landscape and visual impact assessment has been undertaken to identify any impacts on nearby viewpoints. These viewpoints and the proposed site layout can be viewed on the project website. A glint & glare assessment is also carried out although glint & glare effects from PV panels are rare as they are designed to absorb, not reflect, sunlight. This is evidenced by the installation of PV panels adjacent to the runways at Gatwick airport.

Existing field boundaries, trees, and hedgerows will be retained as far as possible. The provision of bird boxes, insect hotels, and wildflower meadows provide significant opportunities for biodiversity enhancements. Once the solar farm is operational, sheep farming can take place ensuring the land remains in agricultural use.

Physical elements of the development

The following components are proposed for this development:

· Solar panels will be arranged in rows facing southwards at an inclination of typically 25 degrees. The distance between the rows will be between 2 - 6 metres (m). The panels are set at 0.8m above ground level and increase to [2.4 -3/3.3]m approximately.

· A mounting system comprising upright galvanised steel posts which are screwed or pushed into the ground and an aluminium support frame which is bolted together.

· Inverters measuring approximately 7m x 2.5m x 3m high. They convert the DC electricty produced by the panels into grid-compatible AC current. They will be located throughout the site.

· A primary substation

· Underground cabling from the panels/inverters to the substation

· Several permeable stone tracks to facilitate access to the inverters

· Rural 'timber & post' deer fence measuring 2.4m in height will enclose the site. A gap of 10cm at ground level will allow ecology to freely enter and exit.

· 3m high pole-mounted CCTV cameras inside the site to monitor the solar farm. The solar farm requires no concrete foundations except for the substation bases.

It is designed to be reversible and leave no trace when removed.

About Elgin Energy

Elgin is a leading international solar company, bringing projects from origination through development to energisation. The company has a portfolio of projects in late-stage development totalling 15GW+ across four key markets: the UK, Australia, Ireland and Germany, with an unparalleled 98% success rate in gaining planning permission across all its markets.

Since being founded in 2009, Elgin has expanded internationally and has a team of over 150 professionals in its London, Dublin, Rome, Ulm and Sydney offices.

To find out more about Elgin and the work we do, please visit www.elgin.com.

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