



STONESTREET GREEN SOLAR Community Newsletter November 2023

Introduction

EPL 001 Limited¹ ("EPL 001") is intending to develop a renewable energy generating project, including solar photovoltaic ("PV") arrays and on-site energy storage, together with associated infrastructure and an underground cable connection, on land at Aldington, near Ashford in Kent, to be known as Stonestreet Green Solar (the "Project").

Extensive consultation on the Project has been undertaken throughout 2022 and 2023 and EPL 001 is grateful to those people who attended local information events or responded to the consultation.

This newsletter explains the ongoing work that is being undertaken by the Project team and provides an update regarding the timing for submission of the Development Consent Order ("DCO") application for the Project.

The 2023 Statutory Consultation

Following the 2022 Statutory Consultation held between 25 October 2022 and 29 November 2022, EPL 001 conducted the 2023 Statutory Consultation between 12 June 2023 and 17 July 2023.

We welcomed over 100 people to our local information events for the 2023 Statutory Consultation and valued the opportunity to explain the updated proposals for the Project to the local community. During our 2023 Statutory Consultation we received 101 responses from individuals and statutory bodies on our proposals for the Project, of which 76 were from the public/local community and 25 were from statutory consultees.

A summary of the feedback that was received and how EPL 001 has had regard to it will be provided in the Consultation Report that will be submitted with the DCO application.

Ongoing work

Since the 2023 Statutory Consultation ended, we have reviewed all of the feedback received and continued to actively engage with landowners, stakeholders, community groups and individual residents.

A Community Liaison Panel meeting was held on 21 September 2023 with key members of the community including local councillors – this is the fifth meeting of this type. The Community Liaison Panel will continue to meet regularly throughout the remaining stages of the DCO process. Notes from the meetings are available to view on the Project website:

www.stonestreetgreensolar.co.uk/Consultation/Community+Liaison+Panel

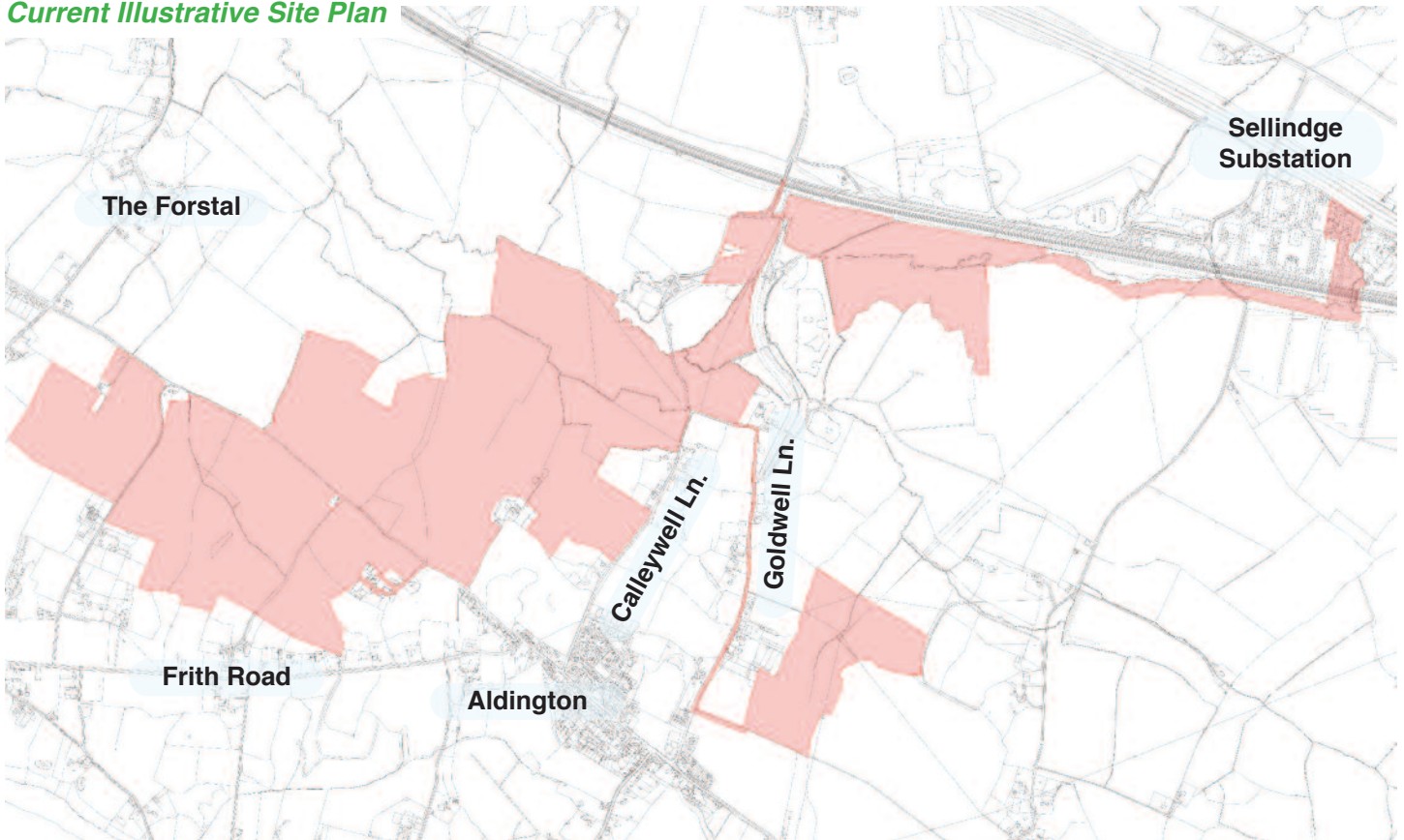
We are continuing to progress the Project in light of the feedback received and ongoing design review.

As a result, EPL 001 is proposing some minor changes to limited areas of the site boundary (Order limits). During November and December 2023 EPL 001 will be conducting a non-statutory targeted consultation with stakeholders and persons with an interest in the land who are directly affected by the proposed changes, which are all minor and localised in nature. The proposed changes include:

- Land containing agricultural buildings to be removed as it is no longer required
- Additional land to be included at Bank Farm to provide site access for the duration of the Project
- The road verge along Goldwell Lane to be included to provide a wider turning circle for construction vehicles, avoiding the need to remove vegetation for access purposes
- Part of the road and the road verge at Station Road to be included to provide space for necessary visibility splays and to ensure the Project is compliant with UK road safety requirements
- The cable corridor route to be widened following engagement with UK Power Networks and to allow for flexibility during installation of the cable
- The majority of the Sellindge Substation site to be removed, and a small extension to be added to the eastern side of the Substation, following consultation with UK Power Networks
- The alternative cable route to be removed because UK Power Networks have confirmed the grid connection for the Project can be directly into the Sellindge Substation. This results in Folkestone and Hythe District Council no longer being a host authority for the Project.

¹Company name: EPL 001 Limited; company number: 12444050; registered office address: 2nd Floor, Regis House, 45 King William Street, London, United Kingdom, EC4R 9AN; registered in England and Wales.

Current Illustrative Site Plan



The Development Consent Order (DCO) Application process

EPL 001 is expecting to submit its DCO application to the Planning Inspectorate in early 2024. The Community Liaison Panel will be kept informed of progress.

The full application will be uploaded to the Planning Inspectorate website (<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/>) if the application is accepted for examination.

The Planning Inspectorate must decide whether to accept the application within 28 days of receipt.

If the application is accepted, we will publicise the accepted application and issue a newsletter to provide details of how people can register their interest in and comment on the application. At that stage we will also include details of the examination process and how you can take part in it.



Contact details

Anyone with an interest in the project can contact us by:

Emailing: info@stonestreetgreensolar.co.uk

Calling our Freephone information line: 08081 698335

Writing to: FREEPOST Stonestreet Green Solar

You can also follow us on X (Twitter): @SGS_solar