

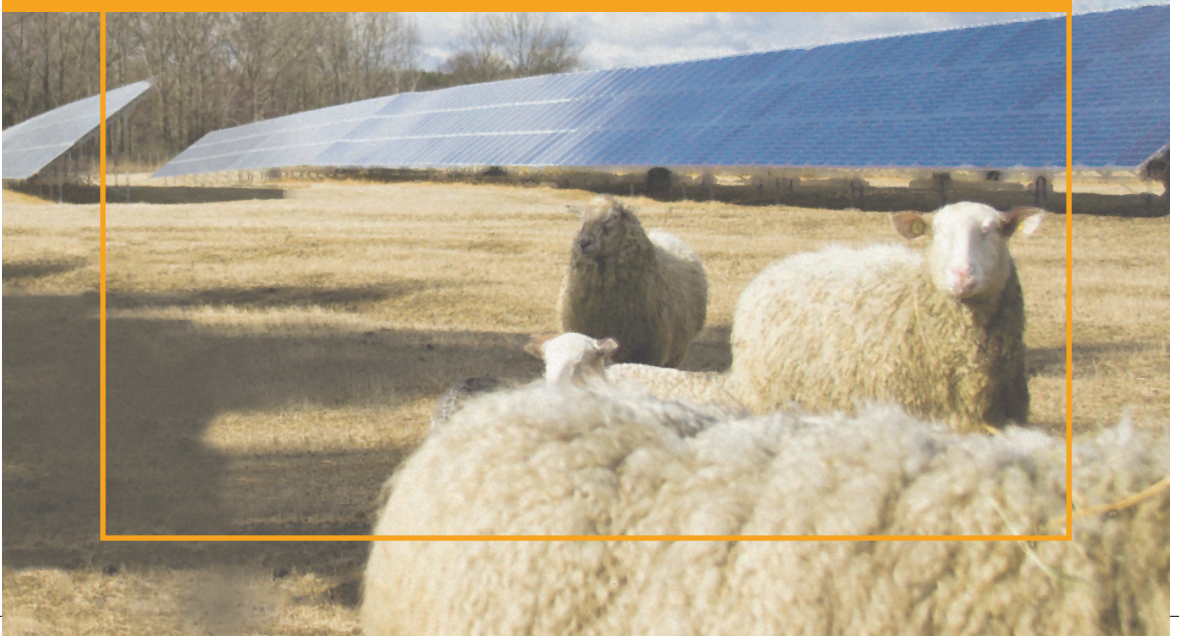


**Little Crow**  
*Solar Park*

# **Little Crow Solar Park**

Green Energy for North Lincolnshire

Community Consultation Newsletter  
& Invitation to Public Consultation Events  
December 2018



## Introduction

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INRG Solar (Little Crow) Ltd are proposing to develop a renewable led energy scheme on a site directly east of the British Steel Works, Scunthorpe and to the north west of the village of Broughton, North Lincolnshire. The site is bounded by woodland on the north, south and eastern boundaries. This site will generate enough electricity to power approximately 40,000 homes in the North Lincolnshire area as well as saving circa 50,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per year which is equivalent to 15,000 diesel cars.

This newsletter invites you to attend a public consultation event near you and also provides you with detailed information about the proposals. The formal consultation period runs from 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2018 to 4<sup>th</sup> March 2019.

This pre-application consultation follows non-statutory consultation that commenced in January 2018 and continued to the end of November 2018. This included public exhibitions undertaken in January 2018 and informal consultation with various consultees.

Consultation with North Lincolnshire Council has been ongoing throughout 2018. A Statement of Community Consultation (SOCC) has been agreed with North Lincolnshire Council and is available to read on our website.



## What is Little Crow Solar Park?

The main element of the proposal is the construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of a ground mounted solar park with a maximum design capacity of up to 150MWp (megawatts peak) and up to 90MW of battery storage capacity.

The photovoltaic panels would be laid out in straight arrays set at an angle of c. 20 degrees from east to west across the field enclosures. The distance between the arrays would respond to topography but would typically be between 3.5 metres and 6 metres. The top edges of the panels would be up to 3.5 metres above ground level and the lower edges of the panels would be approximately 0.8 metres above ground level. The arrays would be static.

Battery storage will allow the development to fully utilise the network connection capacity when the solar park is not exporting at peak capacity. Battery storage will be connected to the distribution terminals in the substation and consist of batteries that can store energy from, and release electrical energy to the electricity network.

An operational lifespan of 35 years is being sought for both elements.

There will also be electrical connection infrastructure and a substation compound which would be centrally located within the site and to the east of the existing double row of 132kV overhead electricity pylons which traverse the site and duly provides the point of connection to the local electricity network.

The solar park would generate clean renewable energy for approximately 40,000 homes a year. The anticipated CO<sub>2</sub> displacement is circa 50,000 tonnes per annum.

The construction phase is anticipated to be circa 11 months. During the operational phase, the activities on site would amount to servicing of plant and equipment and vegetation management.

Due to the capacity of the solar park exceeding 50MW, the project is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP). The development consenting regime for NSIP projects comes under the Planning Act 2008 and the application process is known as a Development Consent Order (DCO).

## Meetings and Public Events

We are holding public consultation events at locations near the site, including Broughton Village Hall, Appleby Village Hall and Scunthorpe Civic Centre. These events will provide members of the public the opportunity to view our plans and discuss them with members of the INRG development team.

### SESSION 1

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December  
2:30 – 7.00pm

Appleby Village Hall,  
School Lane,  
Appleby,  
DN15 0AS

### SESSION 2

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December  
2:30 – 7.00pm

Scunthorpe Civic Centre,  
Ashby Road,  
Scunthorpe,  
DN16 1AB

### SESSION 3

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December  
2:30 – 7.00pm

Broughton Village Hall,  
59 High Street,  
Broughton,  
DN20 0JX

At these events we will present additional information about the development and the team will be on hand to answer any questions you may have. Paper copies of the Preliminary Environmental Impact Report (PIER) will be available for public inspection.

Any comments following the public consultation events at the above listed venues can be submitted to the development team before 5pm on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2019.

INRG Solar (Little Crow) Ltd will also present the latest scheme to the local Parish Councils early in the New Year:

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2019, 7.00pm:  
Appleby Parish Council, Appleby Village  
Hall, School Lane, Appleby, DN15 0AS.

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2019, 7.30pm:  
Broughton Parish Council,  
Phil Grundy Community & Sports Centre,  
Scawby Road, Broughton, Brigg, DN20 0AF.

All events have disabled access, however for specific mobility or access requirements please contact us (contact details can be found on the back page).



Below is a summary of how the Development Consent Order application process works and further information on the planning process can be found here <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk>

### Pre-application

INRG Solar (Little Crow) Ltd notifies and consults the public, statutory consultees and those with an interest in the affected land on its proposed application, through early consultation.

### Submission

INRG Solar (Little Crow) Ltd will review the feedback received during consultation and finalise the proposals taking the feedback into account. The consultation period closes on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2019. A DCO application will then be submitted to PINS, who will appoint the examination team for the application.

### Acceptance

After the application is submitted, PINS will decide whether it is suitable for examination.

### Pre-examination

If accepted for examination, there will be an opportunity for people to register their interest in the application with PINS. Anyone registered will be kept informed of the progress of the application by PINS, including how they can provide comments. PINS will invite all those registered to a preliminary meeting that will explain the timetable and format of the examination.

### Examination

The examination will take six months. People who have registered their interest will be able to take part in the examination and send their comments to PINS.

### Decision

Following the examination, PINS will make its recommendation on the application to the Secretary of State, and the Secretary of State has the final decision as to whether consent is to be granted.

This application is currently at the 'pre-application' stage.



## Proposed Site Layout



30 bird boxes will be placed around the site.



New native hedgerow planting along the line of the existing public right of way with flora margins. Public Right of Way diversion during construction and decommissioning phase.



20 bat boxes will be placed around the site.



Grassland seed mixes sown between panels will contain nectar sources for bees.



Plan not to scale and for inc

### KEY

- Site area boundary
- ▨ Indicative area for ground mounted solar panels
- Grassland
- Woodland



Approximately 2.5ha of the site will be specifically managed for the benefit of arable plants.



No construction vehicles would travel through Broughton.



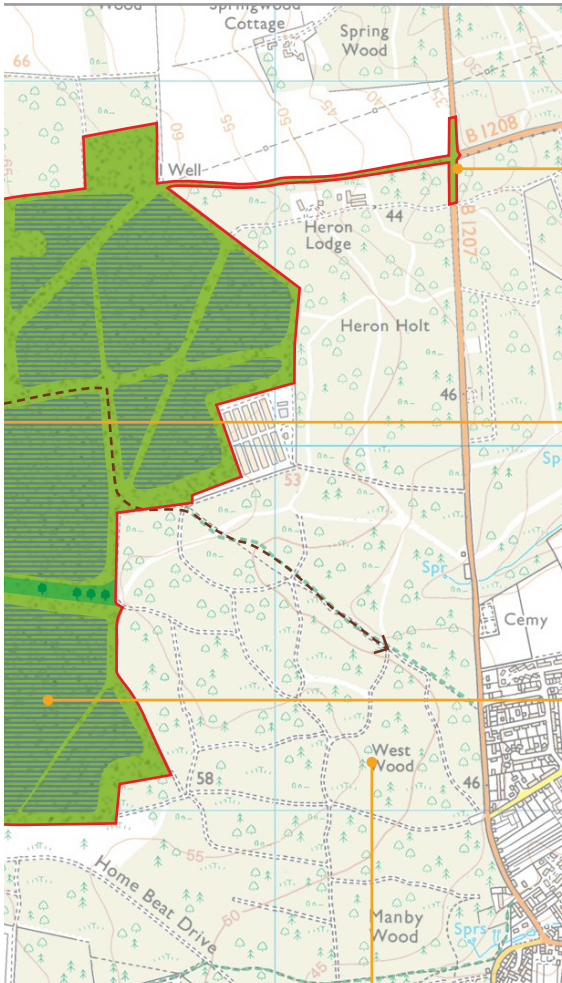
Areas managed to promote ground nesting birds such as Skylarks and Lapwings.







Ecological surveys have been carried out in and around the site for great crested newt eDNA survey, bat activity survey, water vole survey, arable plants survey, wintering bird surveys and breeding bird surveys.



The village of Broughton is separated from the site by an extensive area of dense woodland.



for indicative purposes only

-  Battery
-  Public footpath
-  Hedgerow
-  Pond

## What are the Benefits of Little Crow Solar Park?



Significant levels of **annual income** will be generated for North Lincolnshire to invest in local services over the projected lifespan of the solar park.



Little Crow Solar Park would save annually circa 50,000 tonnes of **CO<sub>2</sub> emissions**. This is equivalent to 15,000 diesel cars.



Ensure **security** of supply in the Lincolnshire area through more local energy generation.



Through **biodiversity** enhancements a net biodiversity gain is anticipated across the site. Solar parks are also very beneficial to the local biodiversity. The land will be grazed by **sheep** for the duration of the projected lifespan of the solar park.

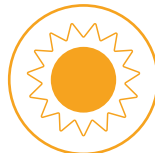


### **Subsidy free.**

Little Crow Solar Park will not require Government subsidies. Solar is one of the most cost-effective sources of electricity generation in the UK.



Little Crow would provide a much needed clean **power supply** into the local power network to support the development of local business.



**Solar is safe** and the UK energy supply will be more resilient and less reliant on imported energy (e.g. gas).



Our proposal includes 90MW of **battery storage**. Solar power can be stored through battery storage, distributing power to the grid when demand is at its greatest.



# Environmental Statement

## EIA Environmental Impact Assessment

INRG Solar (Little Crow) Ltd is voluntarily preparing an Environmental Statement to support the DCO application. This means that an Environmental Impact Assessment will be carried out. This process will consider whether Little Crow Solar Park is likely to have significant effects on the environment. It will also look at potential measures for mitigation of such effects, if and where required.

Various technical and environmental studies have already been carried out, and as part of this consultation, INRG Solar (Little Crow) Ltd is publishing a Preliminary Environmental Information Report ["PEIR"] and Non-Technical Summary ["NTS"]. The PEIR is available from 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2018 and INRG Solar (Little Crow) Ltd must consult on it before it can make its application for a DCO. The PEIR takes the format of a Draft Environmental Statement, that will be made publicly available on the project website as we conduct the public consultation.

Before submitting an application for a DCO, the applicant has the opportunity to ask the Secretary of State for a formal written opinion on the information to be included in the final Environmental Statement. This is known as a scoping opinion and it is envisaged that the applicant's scoping request will be made in December 2018.

Copies of these reports will be made available on our website as we conduct the public consultation.

For updates on the project please visit our dedicated website [www.littlecrowsolar.co.uk](http://www.littlecrowsolar.co.uk) or if you would like to contact us, use the "contact us" details also on the website.

Twitter: [@littlecrowsolar](https://twitter.com/littlecrowsolar)

## Next Steps Following Consultation Events

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Consultation period closes 4<sup>th</sup> March 2019.



The development team will review all comments received and update the scheme where appropriate. Consideration will be given as to whether further consultation is required or the scheme can be progressed to an application.



We will continue to liaise with North Lincolnshire Council and statutory consultees on all relevant aspects of our proposal.



We will continue working with the Economic Development Team at North Lincolnshire Council in further developing a data base of local businesses who express an interest in being involved in the future construction and ongoing maintenance opportunities at Little Crow Solar Park.



We will schedule further meetings with local Parish Councils to inform them of progress and request feedback.



Formal submission to PINS is planned for Summer 2019.

## Hard Copy Reference Locations

In order to ensure the information is accessible locally, consultation materials, maps, technical reports and plans will be available to view at the following locations:

Location	Address	Standard Opening Hours
Scunthorpe Central Library	Carlton Street, Scunthorpe, North Lincolnshire, DN15 6TX	Monday: 9am – 5pm Tuesday: 9am – 5pm Wednesday: 9am – 7pm Thursday: 9am – 5pm Friday: 9am – 5pm Saturday: 9am – 4pm Closed on Bank Holidays
Park Library	Avenue Vivian, Scunthorpe, North Lincolnshire, DN15 8LG	Monday: 2pm – 7pm Tuesday: closed Wednesday: 10am – 1pm Thursday: closed Friday: 1pm – 5pm Saturday: 10am – 1pm Closed on Bank Holidays
Bottesford Library	Cambridge House, Cambridge Avenue, Bottesford, Scunthorpe, North Lincolnshire, DN16 3LG	Monday: 1pm – 5pm Tuesday: closed Wednesday: 1pm – 7pm Thursday: 10am – 1pm Friday: 2pm – 5pm Saturday: 10am – 1pm Closed on Bank Holidays
North Lincolnshire Council Civic Centre	Development Management Team, North Lincolnshire Council Civic Centre, Ashby Road, Scunthorpe, North Lincolnshire, DN16 1AB	Monday: 9am – 5pm Tuesday: 9am – 5pm Wednesday: 9am – 5pm Thursday: 9am – 5pm Friday: 9am – 4.30pm Closed on Bank Holidays

Opening times have been checked, but they are dependent on the organisation itself and may be subject to change.



Write to us at:

**Little Crow Solar Park, C/O Pegasus Group, First Floor,  
South Wing, Equinox North, Great Park Road,  
Almondsbury, Bristol, BS32 4QL**



Email us at:

**[info@littlecrowsolar.co.uk](mailto:info@littlecrowsolar.co.uk)**



Call us on:

**01454 625945**



Visit our website:

**[www.littlecrowsolar.co.uk](http://www.littlecrowsolar.co.uk)**



Twitter:

**[@littlecrowsolar](https://twitter.com/littlecrowsolar)**

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