Forest Road Energy Storage System Community Information

www.innova.co.uk/projects/forest-road-ess

Innova are working on a proposal for an Energy Storage System (ESS) facility on land to the southeast of Thurlaston Lane, Enderby. Innova aims to own and operate this proposal which will connect into the nearby Enderby National Grid substation with an anticipated storage capacity of 908 Megawatt (MW). The energy storage facility at Thurlaston Lane has the potential to be used by local homes and businesses. The final design of the site will be reviewed following the conclusion of the remaining surveys being undertaken including Landscape, Geophysical, Flood Risk and final noise modelling, as well as any feedback received from the community.

The site area shown overleaf has been carefully selected through a detailed initial assessment process, which considered grid availability, access, landscape, ecology, heritage, and environmental designations. The agricultural land quality survey is yet to be completed but high-level mapping indicates that it is Grade 3. Further information on the UK grading of agricultural land is included within the pack.

The UK has committed to becoming Net Zero by 2050 and has set a target to decarbonise the electricity grid by 2035. As part of this, the Government has set an ambitious target to deliver 30GW of energy storage by 2030. In 2020 Blaby District Council published ambitions to be carbon neutral as an organisation by 2030 and support the district in becoming carbon neutral by 2050, projects like Forest Road Energy Storage System are a key part of meeting these targets and supporting the transition to renewable energy.

We ourselves pride on working with local communities to deliver high quality developments to ensure those living closest to our projects see the benefits. An important part of the project's evolution and design of the proposed development is to engage directly with the local community. We are therefore distributing information packs to the local community. All posted documents contain contact information for our in-house team, allowing residents to raise any questions, provide feedback or arrange a one-to-one meeting. Feedback can be provided via the feedback form included within this pack or via our website which is listed above. The pack we have also included QR codes which will take you directly to the Innova project website.

You can request further information by emailing info@innova.co.uk.



The Site

We are proposing an Energy Storage System (ESS) on land to the east of Thurlaston Lane, Enderby. The proposal will enable up to 908MW of electricity to be stored and discharged when needed to balance the supply and demand for energy in the grid. The development area has been carefully selected and designed via a detailed assessment process. This has considered grid availability, heritage and archaeology, landscape and visual amenity, noise, ecology, environmental designations, access and agricultural land quality.



Blaby District Council do not currently offer pre-application advice service however we have sought to engage proactively to discuss the project at a high level with the council. Any feedback will further inform the planning application, which we anticipate being submitted in Spring 2024. The project will be constructed over two years and will be operational for a period of 50 years. At the end of the 50 years, the site will be dismantled and restored to agricultural use.

Biodiversity

Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) will be delivered on adjacent parc as through planting along the site boundaries and other ar the development. BNG is a strategy to develop land and con recovery of nature. It is a way of making sure the habitat for will better state than it was before development. The planting plant being established and a BNG calculation will form part of th application.

We are also looking to provide beehives within the BNG area w be available to local beekeepers.



Access

Two access points are proposed for construction and operatio utilising the existing farm access at the south western corner, the access used by maintenance vehicles once the site is co There will be a newly constructed access to the north of this I which will allow access into the site for construction deliveries serving as a second entrance for emergency vehicles.

During construction a traffic management plan will be put in p the storage system installation is complete, the site requires maintenance. Operational access will comprise (approximately) visits in regular cars or 4x4 vehicles.

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Point of Connection

The site will connect to the Enderby National Grid substation. The cable route will travel underground from the site east to Enderby National Grid substation. The exact route is yet to be confirmed.

Frequently Asked Questions

Do we need renewable energy

developments?

The UK has a legally binding target to achieve net-zero by 2050 and has committed to fully decarbonising the electricity network by 2035. This results in many low carbon and renewable developments being needed across the UK. There will be a significant increase in demand for electricity in the coming years as more sectors (such as cars, heating, haulage and trains) rely more extensively on electricity as a fuel source. Energy Storage Systems are leading the way in balancing demand for electricity and providing flexibility to the supply of electricity in terms of where it can be stored on the network, and the times when it can be utilised.

What do Energy Storage Systems (ESS) do?

The ESS will be able to charge up and store electricity during times of oversupply on the network. During periods of peak demand, or during unexpected drops in generation, the ESS is able to export electricity back into the national grid. The system can operate without delay and can play a role in maintaining grid frequency and stability.

How safe is the ESS?

ESS are a safe technology and there are many sites across the UK operating today. The development will incorporate a number of embedded safety mitigation measures to ensure the development operates safely and in accordance with regulatory requirements.

Why do we need to develop here?

The nearby Enderby National Grid Substation has available capacity and infrastructure to allow this project to be connected. The positioning of the site is required to be near the National Grid substation to enable an efficient cable connection, minimising transmission losses. The land is available for development with an engaged landowner.

Will the site reduce my energy bills?

Solar is by far the cheapest form of electricity generation in the UK and wind is cheap as well, however, both of these are intermittent. ESS allows for solar and wind energy produced when demand is low to be stored and then released when demand is high. The delivery of sites like Forest Road ESS will increase the amount of renewable energy generation across the UK and with its cheaper rates, the overall national energy price will reduce.

Will the site emit noise?

The equipment will emit some localised noise. The Noise Impact Assessment is under way, and will ensure that there are no unacceptable impacts.



About Innova

The Innova Group is a leading renewable energy company. We have been active in the development of renewable energy projects since 2010. Our team have extensive experience delivering and operating renewable energy projects around the United Kingdom.



OUR COMMUNITY PROMISE

The below figures are based on the contributions which will be made every year for the project of £50 per MW of energy storage which will be paid into a local community fund, and £20 per MW of energy storage which will be paid to charity.





£18,160 To Charitable Fund

The above figures are indicative and final figures will be confirmed after planning and prior to energisation. All sums are indexed link for the lifetime of our projects.

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