

NOTES ON MEETING BETWEEN RwkPC, SOLAR 2 and RECURRENT ENERGY

HESSAY SOLAR FARM

TUESDAY 1 OCTOBER 2024 AT 2.30pm IN RUFFORTH VILLAGE INSTITUTE HALL

Present: Cllrs. Peter Rollings, Nick Murray, Frank Di Lorenzo, Linda Young, Terry Edmonds and Suzie Fynn.

John Moisey, Richard Morgan from Solar 2

Cai Anwyl, Helen Heward from Recurrent Energy

- Solar 2 will be handing over to Recurrent Energy once conditions of planning are satisfied. Trenches are being dug now for archeology.
- There are Landscaping provisions with fencing moved back from horse training establishment to provide emergency landing for the gliding club.
- Connection date **June 2026**
- Highways will be avoided as much as possible to make connections to grid.
- DNO (District Network Operator) is Northern Power (NPG)
- ICP is an Independent Connection Provider
- * All cables will definitely be underground and so no planning usually needed though they may get an application even underground.
- **NO OVERGROUND CABLES**
- The highest structures would be 3 windsocks for the gliding club at 6m high
- Recurrent Energy would look to occupy the site in June 2025
- The Parish Council asked for regular update emails.
- Landscaping would be completed a full year before connection
- Recurrent Energy are looking to tie the connection into the new development at Cattal. The effect of the Cattal development will affect the grid but RE will try to minimize this. The final decision on connection points rests with the National Grid.
- The NPG connection is Poppleton Sub Station
- The sub station on site will belong to Recurrent Energy
- There is a planning condition that all traffic avoids Rufforth Village. Drivers would be briefed and the traffic would be from the A1237. The PC would need a contact to make sure drivers were avoiding the village. We could then report to the contact any vehicles coming through the village. It was important to develop a good working relationship with Recurrent Energy.
- Recurrent Energy are a subsidiary of Canadian Solar.
- **JUNCTION WITH CYCLE PATH:** at present this is a safe junction used by families, children cycling to school and for pleasure and it is a bridleway. Once heavy construction traffic starts there are serious safety concerns. Cai said they would look at the junction, it could be manned. He

understood the need to stop the risk and it would be managed. A plan will be agreed with the PC before construction starts.

- Once a construction manager is in place a Recurrent Energy (RE) can establish contact with the PC. A relationship with Yorwaste already exists. Once closer to construction, the first 6 weeks are the worst, RE will let us know likely traffic volumes and timings
- Liaison was needed also with Hessay. Hessay Parish Council had not been in operation and no one was sure if it now existed. Cllr Hook would be asked
- PR stated that the PC already had regular liaison meetings with Yorwaste and those meetings could always be used as a way of liaising with RE.
- A plan would have to be made at the beginning of the construction stage to look at letting residents know what was happening at key stages
- Roughly looking at 16 months lead in, work on site 12 months construction. In the next couple of months will have a better idea of when construction phases would happen. Looking at January for a meeting before things are set in stone. At this stage a construction plan would be put forward and regular liaison meetings would take place throughout the construction process
- RE may build out and then sell on or manage it.
- The Community Benefit Fund = £500 per megawatt at 40 megawatts per year.
- Pot given to benefit the community. By the next meeting RE would come back with firm information on how it would be managed.
- Solar Panels are all maintainable from a distance. There would just be the odd maintenance vehicle once up and running. Panels would lose efficiency over the years.
- Construction: Summer 2025 - June 26