



Planning Application Planning Statement

Installation of Roof Mounted Solar PV

Client:

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Burbage
Hinckley
LE10 3BQ

Agent:

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Site:

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HV/LV



SOLAR



BATTERY



EV



O&M

1. The Development

- 1.1 The development consists of the installation of 1764 no. 425W Photovoltaic Solar modules (as per the attached Datasheet) to provide a non-polluting and sustainable energy source to the applicant's property, which will reduce usage of fossil fuel and increase the energy efficiency of the property.
- 1.2 The proposed development is a roof mounted solar installation. The module dimensions are included in the additional information and can be removed after the installation's useful life of approximately 25 years, leaving no sign of any installation. The attached Plans, drawings and additional supporting information should be sufficient information submitted in order for the council to assess the application.

2. Siting

- 2.1 The installation will be installed on the existing roof on the building of the depot – DPD HUB 4.

Figure 1.



- 2.2 The application involves the land as identified within the accompanying site location plan drawing 100-0428-P01-P01.
- 2.3 The application is not within the curtilage of a Listed Building and is not within a Conservation area.
- 2.4 Type of Application: Full Planning Application, as under Town and Country Planning Act 1990.
- 2.5 There will be no change of the sites current use.

3. Planning Policy

3.1 National Planning Policy Statements

Sustainable development is a core principle underpinning National Planning Policy. The Climate Change Act of 2008 sets a target to ensure that the net UK carbon account for the year 2050 is at least 80% lower than the 1990 baseline.

3.2 Supplementary Planning Guidance: Air Quality SPD

Type 3 Mitigation

TABLE 5 – TYPE 3 MITIGATION

Off-set mitigation to support:

- Implementation and operation of Clean Air Zones (CAZ), Low Emission Zones (LEZ) or Low Emission Strategies (LES)
- Growth in low and ultra-low emission public transport, including buses
- Electric Vehicle Plans
- On-street EV recharging
- Air Quality Monitoring programmes
- Car clubs (including electric) and car sharing schemes
- Cycling Hubs and corridors, including bike and e-bike hire schemes
- Plugged-in development and demonstration schemes e.g. new occupants given trial demonstration of plug-in vehicle
- Contributions to subsidised public transport for staff or residents
- Low emission waste collection services
- Contributions to renewable fuel and energy generation projects
- Infrastructure for low emission, alternative fuels e.g. refuse collection and community transport services

3.3 National Planning Policy Framework 2021

152. The planning system should support the transition to a low carbon future in a changing climate, taking full account of flood risk and coastal change. It should help to: shape places in ways that contribute to radical reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, minimise vulnerability and improve resilience; encourage the reuse of existing resources, including the conversion of existing buildings; and support renewable and low carbon energy and associated infrastructure.

155. To help increase the use and supply of renewable and low carbon energy and heat, plans should:

- a) provide a positive strategy for energy from these sources, that maximises the potential for suitable development, while ensuring that adverse impacts are addressed satisfactorily (including cumulative landscape and visual impacts);

b) consider identifying suitable areas for renewable and low carbon energy sources, and supporting infrastructure, where this would help secure their development; and

c) identify opportunities for development to draw its energy supply from decentralised, renewable or low carbon energy supply systems and for colocating potential heat customers and suppliers.

158. When determining planning applications for renewable and low carbon development, local planning authorities should:

a) not require applicants to demonstrate the overall need for renewable or low carbon energy, and recognise that even small-scale projects provide a valuable contribution to cutting greenhouse gas emissions; and

b) approve the application if its impacts are (or can be made) acceptable. Once suitable areas for renewable and low carbon energy have been identified in plans, local planning authorities should expect subsequent applications for commercial scale projects outside these areas to demonstrate that the proposed location meets the criteria used in identifying suitable areas.

3.4 National Planning Policy Guidance

3.10.1 The government has committed to sustained growth in solar capacity to ensure that we are on a pathway that allows us to meet net zero emissions. As such solar is a key part of the government's strategy for low-cost decarbonisation of the energy sector.

3.10.2 Solar also has an important role in delivering the government's goals for greater energy independence and the British Energy Security Strategy states that government expects a five-fold increase in solar deployment by 2035 (up to 70GW). It sets out that government is supportive of solar that is co-located with other functions (for example, agriculture, onshore wind generation, or storage) to maximise the efficiency of land use.

3.10.3 Government is also supporting solar through the Contracts for Difference Scheme and will include it in future rounds.

3.5 Energy White Paper: Powering Our Net Zero Future (December 2020)

As announced in the Prime Minister's Ten Point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution, we will continue to hold regular CfD auction rounds every two years to bring forward a range of low-cost renewable technologies.

The next auction in late 2021 will be open to onshore wind, solar photovoltaics and other established technologies, as well as offshore wind. Subject to sufficient projects coming through the planning pipeline to maintain competitive tension, we

plan to double the capacity awarded in the last round with the aim to deploy around 12GW of low-cost renewable generation. Onshore wind and solar will be key building blocks of the future generation mix, along with offshore wind. We will need sustained growth in the capacity of these sectors in the next decade to ensure that we are on a pathway that allows us to meet net zero emissions in all demand scenarios.

3.6 National Infrastructure Strategy (November 2020)

To deliver net zero, the share of generation from renewables needs to dramatically increase. While the UK leads the world in the deployment of offshore wind, greater generation capacity will need to come from onshore wind and solar as well. As recommended by the National Infrastructure Commission (NIC), the next auction round for Contracts for Difference in 2021 will include technologies such as onshore wind and solar PV.

3.7 Clean Air Strategy (2019)

Supporting new energy technologies, including £177 million to further reduce the cost of renewables such as offshore wind, and £265 million for smart electricity systems and storage.

3.8 The Committee on Climate Change's report 'Net Zero – the UK's contribution to stopping global warming' (May 2019).

One of the most positive and important developments since 2008 has been the very rapid cost reduction that has accompanied the global expansion of renewable electricity generation (especially for wind and solar power) and an accompanying fall in the cost of batteries. These technologies have benefited from major scale-ups in global deployment, open global markets that have supported lower cost manufacturing and well-designed policy environments such as auctions of long-term contracts for renewable power.

Household electricity emissions will also need to be very low in 2050, less than 0.03 tCO₂e. Many of the changes to continue reducing electricity emissions will occur on the supply side (e.g. more deployment of offshore wind) but households can take action by installing renewable technologies (e.g. solar PV). It will also be important to ensure that electric cars and/or heat pumps consume electricity smartly, in response to the needs of the grid - with smart systems in the home and across the grid, this can be automated based on price signals driven by supply and demand.

3.9 United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change 'Special Report on Global

Future Climate Change

Continued greenhouse gas emissions will lead to increasing global warming, with the best estimate of reaching 1.5°C in the near term in considered scenarios and modelled pathways. Every increment of global warming will intensify multiple and concurrent hazards (high confidence). Deep, rapid, and sustained reductions in greenhouse gas emissions would lead to a discernible slowdown in global warming within around two decades, and also to discernible changes in atmospheric composition within a few years (high confidence)

Carbon Budgets and Net Zero Emissions

Limiting human-caused global warming requires net zero CO₂ emissions. Cumulative carbon emissions until the time of reaching net-zero CO₂ emissions and the level of greenhouse gas emission reductions this decade largely determine whether warming can be limited to 1.5°C or 2°C (high confidence). Projected CO₂ emissions from existing fossil fuel infrastructure without additional abatement would exceed the remaining carbon budget for 1.5°C (50%)

Mitigation Pathways

All global modelled pathways that limit warming to 1.5°C (>50%) with no or limited overshoot, and those that limit warming to 2°C (>67%), involve rapid and deep and, in most cases, immediate greenhouse gas emissions reductions in all sectors this decade. Global net zero CO₂ emissions are reached for these pathway categories, in the early 2050s and around the early 2070s, respectively.

3.10 Written Ministerial Statement on Solar Energy: Protecting the Local and Global Environment 25th March 2015

Last year, the Coalition Government published a comprehensive solar photovoltaic strategy setting out our ambitions for the technology as an important part of the United Kingdom's energy mix. In doing so, the strategy underlines the importance of focusing growth on domestic and commercial roof space and previously enveloped land.

My Department supported this by consulting on reforms to permitted development rights which will encourage the take up of much larger scale solar power generation (solar photovoltaic) on non-domestic buildings and complement the existing flexibilities for home owners. These reforms allow for a twenty-fold increase in the

amount of solar that can go onto the roofs of non-domestic buildings such as warehouses and offices without having to submit a full planning application, subject to strict safeguards to protect local amenity. The proposals have been widely welcomed by the solar industry, and the measure will come into force from 15 April.

3.11 British Energy Security Strategy April 2022

For rooftop solar, we will bring down bills and increase jobs by radically simplifying planning processes with a consultation on relevant permitted development rights and will consider the best way to make use of public sector rooftops.

We have already removed VAT on solar panels installed in residential accommodation in Great Britain. We are looking at facilitating low-cost finance from retail lenders to drive rooftop deployment and energy efficiency measures. And we will design performance standards to make installation of renewables, including solar PV, the presumption in new homes and buildings.

As an island nation surrounded by water, we will also aggressively explore renewable opportunities afforded by our geography and geology, including tidal and geothermal. And we are actively exploring the potential for international projects to provide clean, affordable and secure power, for example by expanding the Contracts for Difference scheme.

3.12 Local Planning Policies and Strategies

Local policies and strategies include but not limited to

- The Climate Change Strategy for Leicestershire (March, 2005) presents a climate change mitigation and adaptation strategy for Leicestershire County Council. The strategy recognises that the development of generation capacity from renewable sources has significant potential to offset the emissions of carbon dioxide from fossil fuel use and to provide business growth and job opportunities. The document sets out a number of different strategies that can be implemented, including:
 - The capture and use of methane from old coal mines.
 - The development of bio mass fuel sources such as oil seed crops and woodland.
 - The generation of electricity using waste gas from landfill sites and waste water treatment works.
 - The development of local solar, wind and, where feasible, hydro energy.
- The **Hinckley and Bosworth Core Strategy** was adopted in December 2009. The Core Strategy provides the over-arching strategy and long-term vision for Hinckley & Bosworth. To help ensure the vision for the Borough is achieved, it sets out 13 Spatial Objectives. Objective 12 Climate Change and Resource Efficiency, seeks to minimise the impacts of climate change by promoting the prudent use of resources through sustainable patterns of development, investment in green infrastructure, minimising the use of resources and energy, increasing reuse and recycling of natural resources, increasing the use of renewable energy technologies and minimising pollution, including greenhouse gas emissions.

The Core Strategy policies of relevance to the Renewable Energy study include:

Policy 24: Sustainable Design and Technology sets a requirement that all development in Hinckley, Burbage, Barwell and Earl Shilton, unless it makes the development unviable, meet:

- Minimum of Code for Sustainable Homes Level 3 to 2013;
- Minimum of Code Level 4 from 2013-2016:
- Code level 6 from 2016 onwards.

4. Summary

- 4.1 The system is designed to provide energy to light and power the applicant's property with any surplus energy being fed into the National Grid at the same time as reducing carbon emissions. This installation is to further the goal of the applicant's strategy to become a carbon neutral company.
- 4.2 The small, if any visual impact is far outweighed by the benefit of reduced fuel usage, reduced pollution and the increase in energy efficiency of the property. The proposed development has been sited on the roof of the building and is within keeping of the nature of the area as there are other building with Solar PV already installed.

5. Conclusion

- 5.1 This proposal is for the development of a roof mounted solar renewable energy project of this type is encouraged by the Government, National and local Planning Policy.

The proposed development is in compliance with planning policy and will help meet renewable energy targets.