

# Beechwood Farm Battery Energy Storage System



Invitation to a public consultation event:

**Thursday 23rd March 2023 | 14.00-19.00**

Jordan Room, St. John Baptist Church,  
Church Lane, Berkswell, CV7 7BJ

Indicative image not representative  
of scheme design

Beechwood Farm - BESS location and access to Hodgetts Lane (excluding cable route)



# Introducing Beechwood Farm BESS

Enso Energy is proposing to construct a 57MW Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) located on land at Beechwood Farm, Hodgetts Lane, Coventry, CV7 7DG.

The BESS will offer backup power and help stabilise the electricity grid by connecting to Berkswell Substation, thereby supplying electricity to the grid at times of peak energy demand and helping make renewable energy outputs a secure and reliable part of the UK energy supply.

The project is at an early stage and we would like your views on the development proposals.

# Why do we need Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS)?

We need to make the best use of all available technologies and resources to achieve net zero by 2050. As the share of renewable energy generation increases, the ability to store and balance energy supply and demand will be essential to achieve a zero-carbon economy.

According to the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy around 30 GW of short duration storage and flexible demand may be needed by 2050. In 2021, installed capacity was 1.6 GW.

Due to technological advances in battery technology, renewable energy can now meet peaks in energy demand throughout the day. Battery storage provides an important role in decarbonising our energy system by storing energy and discharging it over periods of high demand when renewable sources may not be generating.



# The Site and Proposed Development

The proposed development would be located on land at Beechwood Farm, Hodgetts Lane, Coventry CV7 7DG, with the underground cable connecting the proposed development to Berkswell Substation and access taken from Hodgetts Lane.

The proposed site location for the BESS forms a single field currently used for grazing and is surrounded by dense hedgerows and trees.

The site is not covered by any statutory or non-statutory designations or assets that relate to biodiversity, landscape and cultural heritage. The cable route will cross underneath Waste Lane using directional drilling, so there is no need to dig up the road for cable laying.

All land will be subject to environmental surveys and assessments which will be used to refine the design alongside feedback received. The total site area is approximately 5 hectares, however the majority of this area will remain in its current use once construction has been completed.

A scheme of landscape and ecological improvements will be prepared, ensuring the project provides a biodiversity net gain.



- The BESS would support the UK's urgent need for energy security.
- The BESS would also support the UK's goal to decarbonise the UK power system by 2035.
- Provides a consistent source of renewable energy for use by the National Grid, even when the wind stops blowing and the sun isn't shining.
- It will assist the Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in line with local, national, and international targets.
- The proposed scheme would not require any Government subsidies.

## Construction

The construction of the proposal would take place over 6 months, with construction vehicles accessing the Site via Hodgetts Lane.

Once operational, there will be minimal traffic generated by the proposals.



## Policy Context

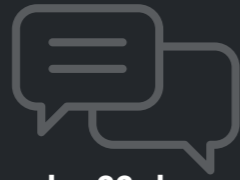
A significant increase in renewable and low-carbon energy generation is supported by national policy and relevant material planning considerations, such as the UK Government's legally binding 2050 'net zero' target supported by the Net Zero Strategy and the British Energy Security Strategy, which requires a rapid and expanded deployment of zero and low-carbon electricity generation, supported by energy storage, if climate change is to be tackled within our lifetimes and achieve a fully decarbonised power system by 2035.

National Grid advised, in their July 2022 Future Energy Scenarios, that electricity storage will need to increase significantly to support the decarbonisation of our electricity system, with as much as twelve-fold increases in capacity by 2050. The Climate Change Committee further highlights the need for urgent action in their recent reports to ensure that reliable power is always there at the flick of a switch.

On a local level, Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council joined a growing number of local authorities who have declared a climate emergency, pledging in 2019 to become carbon neutral in authority by 2041.



# Public Consultation



- 1 **Attend our public consultation event on Thursday 23rd March 2023 from 14.00-19.00**

You are invited to attend our public consultation event at which you can see our plans, learn more about our proposal and talk to the project team.

We're holding our public consultation event at **Jordan Room, St. John Baptist Church, Church Lane, Berkswell, CV7 7BJ.**

- 2 **Fill in the feedback form that accompanies this public consultation brochure.**

Please read through this brochure and provide feedback to us by way of the free post feedback form.

- 3 **Visit the project website:**  
<https://ensoenergy.co.uk/projects/>

We have set up a project website, where you can find further information about our draft proposals.



| KEY |                   |
|-----|-------------------|
|     | Site Boundary     |
|     | Control Room      |
|     | Switchroom        |
|     | Battery Container |
|     | Inverter          |
|     | Transformer       |
|     | Access Road       |
|     | Gate              |
|     | CCTV Camera       |
|     | Site Access Route |

Evolving concept design of Beechwood Farm BESS - Indicative only

## About Enso Energy

We are one of the UK's leading developers of renewable energy projects. We are firm advocates for renewable, low carbon, efficient, secure and sustainable energy that can be generated, stored and utilised locally.

Our approach to subsidy-free renewable energy is assisting the country's move towards a more secure renewable energy supply.

## Have your say

This brochure forms part of our pre-planning application process. We are asking for your opinion on a proposed BESS at Beechwood Farm.

Please take your time to consider the information within this brochure, and don't hesitate to contact a member of our team should you have any questions.

We would be grateful if you could answer the feedback form and let us have your contact details for the purpose of informing the project design and our planning application. Feedback received will be included within a Statement of Community Involvement which will accompany the application.

For further information, please do not hesitate to email [consultation@ensoenergy.co.uk](mailto:consultation@ensoenergy.co.uk)



### Register for updates

Please visit <https://ensoenergy.co.uk/projects/> where information about our proposals will be updated.

## Feedback form

To return your completed feedback form please tear it from the brochure and pop it in the post by **Thursday 30th March 2023**. Alternatively, you can return your form via email to [consultation@ensoenergy.co.uk](mailto:consultation@ensoenergy.co.uk)

Title:  Name:   
 Address:  Postcode:   
 Email:  Telephone:

1. Has this brochure been helpful in understanding our proposal?  Yes  No  Not sure

2. Do you support the proposals you have read about in this brochure:  
 Support  Do not support  Undecided

3. Please use this space to provide any comments on the proposal.

By filling-in this form you are agreeing that the Enso Energy project team can hold and process your personal data in relation to this public consultation exercise only. Your data will be stored in line with the General Data Protection Regulation and will not be shared or publicised without your consent. A copy of all written comments received will accompany the planning application made to Hart District Council. **Your contact details will not be listed on the planning application documentation.**



# Freepost ENSO ENERGY

FOLD HERE

## **Instructions**

To return your feedback form, please fold and put it in the post to us.

If you'd like more space to share your thoughts, send us an email, or just write your comments down and pop them in an envelope with 'FREEPOST ENSO ENERGY' written on the front. You don't need any further address or stamp.

Any queries or problems? Get in touch via [consultation@ensoenergy.co.uk](mailto:consultation@ensoenergy.co.uk).