

Minutes

Project	Soay Solar & Greener Grid Park Construction
Meeting	Community Liaison Group (CLG)
Date	19:00 – 20:00, 13 February 2024
Location	Online or at Phoenix Software, YO42 1NS
Attendees	Alison Hood, Communications, Statkraft Max Glover, Project Manager, Statkraft Ember Doyle, Project Manager, Statkraft Jane Smith, Clerk, Allerthorpe Parish Council Debbie Forster, Chair, Allerthorpe Parish Council Mike Sutton, Councillor, Allerthorpe Parish Council Clare Metcalfe, Councillor, Allerthorpe Parish Council Dave Whitwell, Chair, Thornton Parish Council Gavin Metcalfe, Vice Chair, Thornton Parish Council Bronya Emmison, Councillor, Barmby Moor Parish Council Paul West, Ward Councillor, Wolds Weighton Ward, ERYC Derrick Carey, Ward Councillor, Wolds Weighton Ward, ERYC Steve Robshaw, resident, Warren Farm
Apologies	Leo Hammond, Ward Councillor, Wolds Weighton Ward, ERYC

Introductions

Welcome to new members of the CLG and thank you to Clare for co-ordinating the meeting venue to allow a virtual meeting to be accessible to all.

Project Overview and Construction Update

(The presentation is attached to the end of these minutes.)

Ember Doyle is a member of the project delivery team. Ember shared photos of the site and a general progress update.

Construction traffic: The table for Phase 1 of construction has been shared. Max advised Phase 2 traffic plan was being updated by the contractor and shared an example of the look-ahead information that the contractor provides. He advised that traffic levels will increase from current activity, it is expected that peak traffic movements will be during May-July.

Agreed that Statkraft will share a three month look ahead with the group, in a simplified form. Some residents will be familiar with the traffic movements from the nearby prison construction which are 1 movement every 10 minutes, and might find it a helpful comparison to that.

Site dirt: – Max noted that with the long access track on the site, dirt is already minimised however road sweepers, wheelwash etc would be used if the need arises. A security guard/watchman is assigned to monitor the state of the road. Entrance to the site will be tarmac for first 20 metres.

Comment was raised about the road state from National Grid works. Statkraft have regular co-ordination meetings and Max will raise with them at this meeting.

Site deliveries: It was observed that there was some clarity required on the route for site deliveries. Max confirmed that no traffic is going through Melbourne, the battery units will be delivered via the A1079. Alison noted to share the delivery route maps and publish on the website to provide clarity.

Site fencing: The full security fence will be installed around that site once the components are delivered, this will appear similar to the fencing around the existing substation.

Agreed that Statkraft will publish a short monthly look-ahead on the project website at the beginning of each month. It will focus on access road and traffic movements.

Site entrance works: Creating a tarmac area at site entrance (bell mouth), traffic lights in operation but work expected to be complete shortly.

Piling works: Max advised these were ongoing, but small and not expected to be noticeable.

Max gave an explainer about the piling work and why it is needed: The water table is high in this area – it is taking place to support the electrical busbars in the HV Yard. The high sensitivity of the equipment means extra precaution is needed, via 200mm concrete piles. Vibration monitoring will be set up, but Max confirmed it will be less than the vibrating roller. Dave W commented that it will potentially impact on a few homes, and Max will report on locations and duration of the piling, but expected this would be approximately two weeks duration.

Dave W asked about recent vibration noticed by some close neighbours, Max reported this was most likely due to the heavy roller used by the National Grid contractor for compacting the ground.

Traffic Safety

Some discussion about the Siemens Energy approach to safety - Statkraft to share a copy of their information booklet.

It was advised that the 30mph zone will stay in place until likely end of this year. Max noted that the feedback from ERYC traffic team was that compliance was usually better when implemented in a shorter distance, or they started to speed up.

Discussion took place about potential for flashing road signs – this may need police and ERYC permission, Max will investigate along with the contractors, and report back to the group.

Mike S noted that there is a Community Speedwatch Group that could be mobilised, and could be kept as an option.

When asked about damage to the roads, Max confirmed that Statkraft have completed a dilapidation survey in conjunction with EYRC and will do so again upon completion to make good any damage.

Communications Update

Alison advised that the website now has a page to store CLG documents.

All to share the Local Supplier link on website, and with Pocklington and Market Weighton

Statkraft have booked a regular advertisement space in the bi-monthly Parish News.

It is Statkraft's intention to send a Postcard roughly every 6 weeks at this stage with project update. Alison was open to paying a local resident who may want to deliver – can they please contact her directly.

Aware that there will remain some confusion about differentiating activity from Stakraft and National Grid site works.

Community Benefit Fund – whilst this is discussed in detail separately to this meeting, it is positive to hear that people are nominated for the panel and a meeting with Grantscape is underway.

Steve R and Max G to meet on site when the new site manager has joined – Max to arrange with Steve directly.

AOB

There was some discussion about a PR statement made by Ashcourt regarding topsoil being removed from the site. MG advised that this was actually subsoil. Ashcourt removed approx. 20 loads of sandy subsoil which was washed and recycled in concrete for use on other sites. This is regarded as a good sustainable construction practice.

Next Meeting

Proposed for Tuesday 2 April at 7pm. All agreed the hybrid meeting format worked well and could continue for the next meeting. **Meeting ends.**

Action	Outcome
Statkraft to share 3 monthly look-ahead of construction traffic	To be shared at next meeting
Max to raise road conditions with National Grid at next co-ordination meeting.	Complete.
Alison to publish construction traffic maps on website	Done and included on February postcard to residents
Statkraft to schedule a website update each month to focus on traffic movements and transport.	On track.
Max to report on locations and duration of the piling, but expected this would be approximately two weeks duration.	Piling complete. Update at next meeting.
Statkraft to share a copy of Siemens Energy information booklet	To be shared at next meeting
MG will investigate potential for flashing road sign along, and report back to the group.	Update at next meeting
ALL to widely share the link for local suppliers.	
SR and MG to arrange to meet on site.	In progress.



Soay Community Liaison Group

13 FEBRUARY 2024



1. Introductions
2. Project Overview and Construction Update
 - Transport and traffic safety
 - Planting
 - Local Suppliers
3. Communications Update
 - Community publication & mailings
 - Awareness of other construction activity
 - Website
4. Other Items for Discussion
5. Next Meeting



Project Update

- The Siemens Energy team on site chose Pocklington Pantry as their Christmas Cause – Statkraft were pleased to boost their efforts with a corporate donation.

HV Yard construction (Phase 1)

- The access track & welfare area is substantially complete.
- The site entrance will contain a full tarmac bell mouth to maximise road safety. There are traffic lights in place during these works, starting 14th Feb for approximately 1 month.
- Work has begun on the main HV yard compound, due for completion in Q4 2024

Battery Units (Phase 2)

- Appointed H&MV the construction contract for Phase 2. They are presently contracted on construction of our Battery project near Glasgow.
- Work is expected to start in April 2024 to Q3 2025.



Keeping the site clean



400kV CDM Area – post handover



Welfare



Ducting



Construction Traffic

- Expected traffic per day figures for Phase 1
- Now that H&MV are appointed they are working on the same for the Phase 2 works
- We do anticipate increased traffic movements for Phase 2, which we can share

	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24
HGV Movements										
General Deliveries	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40
Grid Connection Works (Phase 1)										
Mobilisation	40									
Geotextile		4								
Access Works and Platform		132	132	132	132	192				
Foundation Steel					11	11				
Foundation Concrete					191	191	191	191		
Cabling								16		
Cable Sand								100	100	
Cranes								20		
AIL Deliveries								4		
LGV & Car Movements										
Construction Staff	176	352	352	352	352	352	352	352	352	352
AIL Escorts					16					
Commissioning								88	88	88
HGV Total per Month	80	176	172	172	374	434	231	371	140	40
LGV Total per Month	176	352	352	352	368	352	352	440	440	440
Total Traffic per Month	256	528	524	524	742	786	583	811	580	480
HGV Total per Day	4	9	9	9	19	22	12	19	7	2
LGV Total per Day	9	18	18	18	18	18	18	22	22	22
Total Traffic per Day	13	26	26	26	37	39	29	41	29	24

Prepared by: **Danny Glover**
 Prepared on: **05.02.24**

Lookahead Start Week Number
 Lookahead Week Commencing

19
 05-Feb-24

4 Week Lookahead **REV A**

Prog No.	Description	Resource (Ganger)	% Complete (end of Re-Per)	4 Week Lookahead																											
				Week 18 VIC 05 February 2024							Week 19 VIC 12 February 2024							Week 20 VIC 19 February 2024							Week 21 VIC 26 February 2024						
				H	T	W	T	F	S	S	H	T	W	T	F	S	S	H	T	W	T	F	S	S	H	T	W	T	F	S	S
05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	01	02	03				
	Access Road																														
	Construct Passing Places	Keltbray 1	Complete																												
	Road Remediation Works	Keltbray 2	Complete																												
	Low Spot Remediation Works / Re-grade	Keltbray 2																													
	Connection road from compound to piling mat	Keltbray 1	Completed																												
	Ducting Installation Stats Corridor - Outside S278 Works	Keltbray 1																													
	Install Remaining Burns Fencing Scope	Burns Fencing	Completed																												
	Temp Compound																														
	Cabin Switch		Complete																												
	Drainage & Tie-ins Install																														
	Compound																														
	Tank Install	Keltbray 2	Completed																												
	Reinstatement works Around Temp Compound	Keltbray 2																													
	Test Pile Matt	Siemens																													
	Piling Mob Start Date	Roger. B																													
	S278 Works																														
	Dig out bellmouth	Keltbray 2																													
	Stone up bellmouth - Capping - Extention Works	Keltbray 2																													
	2no. Road crossing	Keltbray 2																													
	Ducting Installation - Inside S278 works	Keltbray 2																													
	Kerbing - Extention Works	Keltbray 2																													
	Stone up bellmouth - Type 1 - Extention Works	Keltbray 2																													
	Farmers Land (Tipping Field)																														

Traffic Safety

- Siemens Energy give every driver an information booklet that sets out the route they must use and the speed limits that apply.
- Ashcourt vehicles are fitted with satellite tracking and individual vehicle speeds can be checked.
- Temporary 30mph zone in place along Melbourne Road
- Siemens are looking into feasibility of flashing speed signs.
- Temporary traffic lights are required at the site entrance for approximately one month beginning 14th Feb. These will only be at the site entrance to minimise disruption to local traffic.

How to report concerns:

Share the license plate, date and time (as much information as possible) to
UKProjects@statkraft.com or phone ***0800 772 0668***

Planting

Following a question at the previous meeting, a note on planting:

- All planting will take place at the optimal planting period, starting approximately Q3 2025.
- Planting within the solar farm will take place in the first available planting season following completion of construction.
- Planting detail and times are set out in the “Biodiversity Enhancement Management Plan” and “Landscape and Ecology Mitigation and Enhancement Plan”
- Further information will be available as the project moves towards Phase 3 construction.

No provider has been selected, and we are happy to receive suggestions for local suppliers

Soay Solar Farm and Greener Grid Park
Biodiversity and Landscape Enhancements

Solar farms can help improve the biodiversity of local lands, create new homes habitat, and encourage wildlife. We are planning to enhance biodiversity within the site boundary by around 134%* when compared with the current land use.
*Figures above based on planting estimates.

Allerthorpe Common Nature Reserve
Contribution to help improve and manage lowland heath

Grassland
Over 100 hectares of native grassland, providing food and shelter for birds, insects and small mammals. Areas of grassland around panels.

Solar panels

Screening
Over 4km native species hedgerows and the planting of over 500 native hedgerow trees will help provide additional screening and increase biodiversity.

Access
Construction traffic will cross and travel along very small limited areas of the public footpath network. With temporary diversions, signage, and safety management in place, the route will remain accessible to the public. Proposed new tree and hedge planting will preserve amenity along the route during the operational phase.

Supporting Local Nature Reserve
Contribution to help improve lowland heath and to help manage the Allerthorpe Common Nature Reserve to the north of the site.
We have partnered with the Bumblebee Conservation Trust to create and enhance bee habitats at Soay Solar Farm & Greener Grid Park.

Continued agricultural use
These two fields can remain in agricultural use, and the fields containing solar panels could accommodate grazing. All agricultural land within the site is classified as Grade 3b i.e. not the best and most versatile land for agricultural use.

Wildflower
Over 13 hectares of Red Campion

Existing National Grid Substation

Thornton

Footnote

Local Suppliers




A variety of goods and services are required through the construction of the project, and many local companies would be suited to get involved.

Register your interest or recommend a supplier at www.statkraft.co.uk/soay

Communications Update

- Page on project website to share CLG documents
- Ongoing booking with community magazine
- Next postcard proposed February - using local residents for mail distribution
- Differentiate our site with National Grid works
- Community Benefit Fund



Soay Solar Farm and Greener Grid Park

Update from the Project Team
We started construction of the project late last year, which will be completed in three phases:
Phase 1: 2023-2024: Site mobilisation and grid connection
Phase 2: 2024-2025: Greener Grid Park construction
Phase 3: 2025: Solar Farm construction


At this time we can share information on Phase 1:

- Siemens Energy are contracted to undertake this phase of works.
- The temporary 30mph zone along Melbourne Road near Allerthorpe is to increase road safety until site entrance works are completed, which we expect will be by the end of this year.
- Temporary traffic lights will be required at the site entrance for approximately one month. We expect them to be in place early February. This is a temporary situation for one month at the site entrance only, to minimise disruption to local traffic.

Please note: our construction activity is separate from the local National Grid works.

Visit www.statkraft.co.uk/soay for project updates and to contact us or be added to our mailing list

Local Suppliers
A variety of goods and services are required through the construction of the project, and many local companies would be suited to get involved. Register your interest or recommend a supplier at www.statkraft.co.uk/soay



Contact Us
Call: **0800 772 0668**
Email: ukprojects@statkraft.com
Find out more at: www.statkraft.co.uk/soay

Soay Solar Farm and Greener Grid Park
Neighbour update



Statkraft is building Soay Solar Farm and Greener Grid Park to reduce the UK's reliance on fossil fuels and secure East Yorkshire's position at the forefront of renewable energy generation whilst mitigating the effects of global climate change.

We're getting in touch to wish you a Merry Christmas and let you know about the latest site updates.

Construction Latest

Construction began on site in October 2023 starting with mobilisation and grid connection works on a small portion of the site.

We will be installing temporary traffic lights for approximately one month at the site entrance early next year. We will keep you updated on this and as construction progresses but if you have any questions, or would like to receive project news via email please visit the website.

More information on the construction of the Greener Grid Park and Solar Farm will be provided in advance of any works commencing.

As part of our commitment to minimising disruption during the construction of Soay Solar Farm and Greener Grid Park, we will not be working on site during the Christmas Break. Works on site will finish on 23rd December 2023 and resume on 2nd January 2024.



Scan here to visit our website

