SENT VIA EMAIL

7 January 2025

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to you on behalf of Leoda Solar Farm Ltd, a subsidiary of Telis Energy UK, to inform you that we are currently exploring the potential development of Leoda Solar Farm – a new solar energy generation and battery storage facility located northwest of Leadenham in Lincolnshire.

The project is set to launch to the public later this week on Thursday 9 January 2024, with our initial six-week non-statutory consultation launching on Thursday 23 January 2024 and closing on Thursday 6 March 2024.

Ahead of these milestones, **we would like to invite you to an online briefing to introduce the project team and provide you with some preliminary information about the project**. If this is of interest, please contact our community relations team by phone on **0800 1577352** or via email at **info@leodasolarfarm.co.uk**.

The project, which would span approximately 2,400 acres, would have a targeted generating capacity of between 500 and 600 megawatts (MW) of electricity, supporting the UK government's net zero targets and strengthening our energy security by providing reliable and affordable energy at a time when we need it most.

I have attached our project launch newsletter, sent to homes and businesses in the area surrounding the proposed site, to provide you with some further preliminary details about the project.

As part of this process, we are committed to engaging with stakeholders and the local community. We are currently undertaking early land surveys and assessments to develop our initial proposals for the project. Further project details will be made available as part of our public non-statutory consultation. To keep you informed on our progress, we will launch a dedicated project website: www.leodasolarfarm.co.uk.

The project is being developed by Leoda Solar Farm Ltd, which was founded by Telis Energy UK, a green energy company that is transforming the UK energy landscape with innovative hybrid energy hubs, to help to solve grid challenges.

Telis Energy UK is part of the Telis Energy Group, a European green energy development platform with a target development pipeline of 10 gigawatt (GW) across Europe by 2030 delivered by local teams through four subsidiaries across France, UK, Germany and Italy.

Telis Energy Group believe that a great investment opportunity extends beyond financial returns. It is an investment in our environment, health, society, local communities, and the broader economy.

The way we consume energy is rapidly evolving. The transition towards renewables and away from fossil fuels is an environmental and economic necessity. Achieving net zero and addressing climate change require bold steps to increase solar energy generation.

The proposed Leoda Solar Farm would be a significant step forward in this effort, which is reflected in its classification as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP). Under the Planning Act 2008, this classification requires an application for a Development Consent Order.

The application will be examined by the Planning Inspectorate, the independent body responsible for assessing NSIPs, who will make a recommendation to the Secretary of State for the Department of Energy Security and Net Zero. The final decision on the application rests with the Secretary of State.

We look forward to discussing this exciting project with you and hearing your thoughts. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any immediate questions or require additional information.

Yours sincerely,

Alex Herbert

Head of Planning
Leoda Solar Farm Ltd

Enc. Consultation Newsletter

leoda solar farm

Non-Statutory Consultation Newsletter

23 January 2025 to 6 March 2025

Leoda Solar Farm is a proposed new solar project on land situated northwest of Leadenham in Lincolnshire.

The project would have a targeted generating capacity of between 500 and 600 megawatts (MW) of electricity, supporting the UK government's net zero targets and strengthening our energy security by providing reliable and affordable energy at a time when we need it most.

Leoda Solar Farm would also feature a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), which will store surplus energy for use during peak demand, increasing the resilience of the national power grid.

Our non-statutory consultation formally opens on **23 January 2025**. It will be open for 6 weeks, closing at **11:59pm** on **Thursday 6 March 2025**. We want to hear from you on what you think is important as we develop our plans.

Key Benefits:

Clean Energy Generation: Leoda Solar Farm will produce between 500 and 600 MW of renewable electricity, contributing to the UK's net zero targets.

Energy Security: Locally generated renewable energy reduces reliance on imports, stabilising supply and shielding consumers from price volatility.

Community Investment: A Community Benefit Fund will support local initiatives, ensuring direct benefits for the surrounding communities.

Who are we?

The project is being developed by Leoda Solar Farm Ltd, which was founded by Telis Energy UK, a green energy company that is transforming the UK energy landscape with innovative hybrid energy hubs, to help solve grid challenges. Telis Energy UK is part of the Telis Energy Group, a European green energy development platform with a target development pipeline of 10 gigawatts (GW) across Europe by 2030 delivered by local teams through four subsidiaries across France, UK, Germany and Italy.

Leoda Solar Farm Ltd is a wholly owned subsidiary of Telis Energy UK, and will be the applicant in the Development Consent Order (DCO) application for Leoda Solar Farm.

This newsletter contains information about our initial proposals, where you can find out more information about the project and how to engage with us as part of our non-statutory consultation.

To learn more about our project and share your feedback, please visit our website at www.leodasolarfarm.co.uk or scan the QR code:

Our indicative site map

The shaded area on this map represents the land currently in consideration for the proposed development. This indicative development area would span approximately 2,400 acres of agricultural land to the northwest of Leadenham. The project site includes both solar photovoltaics (PV) facilities and battery storage infrastructure, as well as spaces for landscaping, buffers, and areas designed to enhance biodiversity.

During the site selection process, we carefully considered how the project would fit into the existing landscape. The proposals for Leoda Solar Farm are being designed using a landscape-led approach, which would take advantage of natural screening due to contours in the land and existing hedgerows and woodland.

As solar panels are low-profile compared to other forms of infrastructure they can be easily screened. Screening would be improved with reinforcement or new planting using native species of hedgerows and trees; this is all considered during the planning process.

The project includes commitments to increasing habitats from the current baseline, which will contribute towards biodiversity net gain. We are exploring a variety of methods to achieve this, including, but not limited to, the creation of new wildlife habitats, grasslands and wildflower meadows.

Additionally, we are aware of the existence of other renewable energy schemes locally. Where possible, we will co-ordinate and work with these projects to minimise cumulative impacts and explore opportunities for collaboration.

Please note that these plans are still in an early stage of development and are subject to change following feedback from national statutory bodies, local authorities and the local community during our upcoming consultation.

The development process

Solar projects with a generating capacity of over 50 MW[1], such as Telis Energy UK's Leoda Solar Farm, are classified as Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) under the Planning Act 2008.

As a NSIP, the project requires approval through a Development Consent Order (DCO), which is submitted to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero. The Secretary of State will appoint an independent Examining Authority to examine the application and provide a recommendation, with the final decision made by the Secretary of State.

The DCO process is independently managed by the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) and ensures that the views of community members, local authorities and other stakeholders are thoroughly considered. Everyone with an interest in the project will have multiple opportunities to provide formal feedback during the consultation and examination phases.

Our consultation process will follow this approach:

- **Phase One** – Non-statutory consultation: 23 January 2025 to 6 March 2025
- **Phase Two** – Statutory consultation, Q3 – Q4 2025

Consultation is a critical part of the development process and will help shape our proposals. We greatly value the local knowledge and feedback we receive, and we'll aim to incorporate it into our plans where possible.

During the statutory consultation phase, we will also publish a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) to detail how local communities can engage with and contribute to the process.

Protecting and enhancing the environment

The environment is at the heart of how we are designing the Leoda Solar Farm project. We are carefully assessing a range of environmental factors to ensure the development is both sustainable and sensitive to the local area.

Leoda Solar Farm would demonstrate how solar installations can coexist with agriculture. The approach we plan to take allows land to be used for both energy generation and agricultural activities such as sheep grazing. We also intend to explore how the project can enhance local biodiversity, and we will be assessing native plantings, wildlife habitats and ecological corridors, to ensure long-term environmental benefits and healthier soil.

During this non-statutory consultation, we welcome feedback on environmental mitigation measures and biodiversity enhancements that could further improve our approach to delivering net positive environmental benefits. Your input will help us ensure Leoda Solar Farm creates lasting value for the local environment.

Key environmental matters under investigation include:

- Agricultural land and soils
- Air quality
- Climate change
- Heritage and archaeology
- Glint and glare
- Landscape and visual amenity
- Noise and vibration
- Socio-economics and health
- Traffic and transport
- Water bodies and hydrology

[1] Currently 50 MW at time of writing, December 2024.

Why we need Leoda Solar Farm

The way we consume energy is already changing. The move towards renewables and the transition away from fossil fuels is an environmental and economic necessity.

To hit the government's net zero and climate change targets, boosting our solar energy generation is essential, as set out in the latest Clean Power 2030 Action Plan.

The Action Plan highlights the importance of achieving 45-47GW of solar power by 2030 to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and reduce dependence on imported energy.

National Farmers Union President Tom Bradshaw has highlighted the need for a balanced perspective in regard to solar's impact on food security, stating, "It's a small amount of land which is being taken out of production."[2]

This is an ambitious national challenge that will require a fivefold increase in solar deployment and capacity. To achieve these targets, the UK will need to deploy solar across rooftops, brownfield, and greenfield sites.

Despite this significant growth, solar panels currently occupy just 0.1% of the UK's land, and government plans indicate that no more than 0.3% would be needed to provide around 12% of the UK's energy needs.

Meeting these targets for affordable, homegrown renewable electricity will depend on projects like Leoda Solar Farm being delivered across the country.

2. https://pro.politico.eu/news/183361

Project benefits

Generation of clean, renewable energy. Leoda Solar Farm would have a maximum power output of over 50MW of electricity, supporting the UK government's net zero targets.

Stability of supply. Renewable energy produced in the UK means less reliance on imported energy, which can impact on consumers' bills and reduce our energy security.

Battery storage for a rainy day. The proposed Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) will primarily enhance the efficiency of the solar PV system, ensuring the most effective and efficient use of the land. Additionally, it will store surplus energy for use during peak demand, improving the resilience of the national power grid and helping to keep the grid running smoothly.

To learn more about our project and share your feedback, please visit our website at www.leodasolarfarm.co.uk or scan the QR code:

Ground-mounted solar projects provide major environmental benefits. In addition to providing renewable low-carbon energy, which is good for the planet, they also improve biodiversity locally by creating new habitats for wildlife and letting plant life grow around the panels over time, compared to harvesting crops yearly.

Efficient energy generation, even when the sun isn't shining. Solar PV panels use radiation from the sun, meaning they do not need direct sunlight to operate and can produce power all year round.

Supporting wider sustainability and community benefits. The project will support North Kesteven District Council and Lincolnshire County Council's climate goals and we are committed to funding projects and initiatives in the area through a community benefit fund.

Supporting the long-term sustainability of agricultural land. Using fields for solar helps bring poor agricultural land back in use. Repurposing the land for a period allows the soil to recover from intensive farming, improving farming prospects in the long term.

Our non-statutory consultation

We want to hear your views on our proposals for Leoda Solar Farm. Your feedback is important in helping to shape the project at this early stage.

How to provide feedback

- Complete our feedback form online at www.leodasolarfarm.co.uk.
- Request a hard copy of the feedback form via our communication channels, complete it, and return it to FREEPOST LEODA SOLAR FARM (no stamp required).
- Submit your comments or feedback form via email at info@leodasolarfarm.co.uk.

Our consultation documents and an online version of this newsletter are available on our website **www.leodasolarfarm.co.uk**.

If you would like to request paper copies of the documents or need them in another format, please contact us by:

- Email at info@leodasolarfarm.co.uk
- Freephone on 0800 1577352 (at no charge).
- Mail at Freepost LEODA SOLAR FARM (no stamp required).

Please submit your response by 23:59pm on 6 March 2025. Project information and key consultation materials will also be available at a range of public locations. Please visit www.leodasolarfarm.co.uk for details.

Meet the team

We are holding a series of public information events as part of our consultation. These events are an opportunity to meet the project team, ask questions, and share your views about our proposals, at this early stage.

Event schedule:

Two in-person events:	
4 February 18:30 - 21:30	Leadenham Village Hall, Main Road, Leadenham, Lincolnshire LN5 0QB
6 February 16:00 - 20:00	Welbourn Village Hall, Adj. to 38 Beck Street, Welbourn, Lincoln LN5 0LZ
Two online webinars:	
1 February 11:00 - 12:30	Visit our website at www.leodasolarfarm.co.uk for details
11 February 18:00 - 19:30	

You can get in touch with the team using any of the methods below:

Phone: 0800 1577352

Email: info@leodasolarfarm.co.uk

Freepost LEODA SOLAR FARM