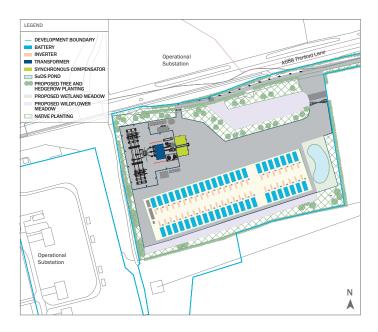


Spennymoor Greener Grid Park -

Application reference <u>DM/23/00745/FPA</u> Recommended for approval

On the 5th of March, Durham County Council will decide on the planning application for Spennymoor Greener Grid Park.

This innovative project, located on land east of Spennymoor National Grid substation, will help achieve zero carbon emissions in Northern England by increasing the stability of the electricity grid and the amount of renewable energy being delivered to the grid network.



Why Spennymoor Greener Grid Park:

This site is an excellent location for a Greener Grid Park due to:

- → Identification of north-east England as an area which requires more grid stabilisation to support the amount of renewable energy being generated.
- → Close proximity to Spennymoor substation meaning the cable connection to the site can be shorter and less intrusive.

No objection from statutory consultees

Town Council

{Ferryhill Town} Council agreed to support the application as the proposed development was necessary to support and stabilise the distribution of renewable energy to the National Grid. This would assist in the transition to net-zero and increase energy security. There would be a net gain in biodiversity and the visual impact would be minimal. – David Anderson, Ferryhill Town Council Clerk

Officer's Report

The proposal would allow for the increased efficiency of renewable energy technologies and would help offset the reliance on fossil fuel energy.

- Officers report- p.15

The development would also provide biodiversity net gain through additional planting and habitat creation. The proposal also provides the landowner with the opportunity for diversification.

- Officers report- p. 27



Local benefits

BIODIVERSITY ENHANCEMENTS:

We have consulted with Durham County Council throughout the pre-application stage and have produced a Landscape Planting Plan to demonstrate the new boundary planting to accompany the Development. Should we get consent we will plant a landscape buffer of over 500 new trees and shrubs, minimising visual impact and enhancing biodiversity.



INVESTMENT IN LOCAL COMMUNITY:

The project will deliver a Community Benefit Fund of £20,000 per year to support low-carbon community projects, starting at construction and continuing over its operational lifetime.



LOCAL SUPPLY CHAIN:

We're committed to increasing local economic benefits. We work with local business groups to increase awareness of opportunities to get involved in the construction and operation of our projects.



PUBLIC CONSULTATION:

We wrote to over 1,000 households and hosted an in-person and virtual consultation event. Community feedback helped us to evolve many elements of the final plans, including increased planting and improved drainage.



Get in touch:

If you have any questions or would like further information, you can contact us by:



Visit: www.statkraft.co.uk/ spennymoor



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