



FEASIBILITY WORK FOR GROUND MOUNTED SOLAR, DUNSMORE HOME FARM

Steve M Smith <stevesmithps@warwickshire.gov.uk>
To: Phillip Morris-Jones <phillipmorris-jones@warwickshire.gov.uk>

5 April 2016 at 08:38

Dear Phillip

Last September (10/09/15) Cabinet considered and agreed a report supporting work towards development of ground mounted solar (GMS) projects on the council's estate. I'm writing now to let you know that further work is starting and that one of the current priority sites is located within your County Council Division - namely at Dunsmore Home Farm, Clifton on Dunsmore. An outline of the project is given below.

A plan is attached showing WCC's holding at the farm.

- The total let area is nearly 63Ha (155 acres) - from which it is expected that around 6Ha (15 acres) would be needed plus a hard-cored access track for installation and future maintenance.
- This will enable us to accommodate the generation capacity for which we have agreement with Western Power Distribution (owner of the network). This scale of project is smaller than most developers would consider - and from our perspective will fit into the landscape more easily
- It should generate around 2.5M kWhrs electricity a year.

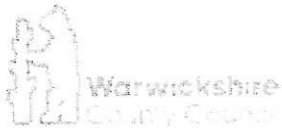
On-going work will include understanding the electrical engineering potential to increase income, landscape assessment, planning to minimise visual intrusion, various ecological / archaeological / heritage surveys and consideration of the best grid connection route. WCC's tenant farmer Mr Ian Birden is aware of the proposal - and has already allowed access for an agricultural land quality survey to be carried out. The outcome of these investigations will help determine more specifically where the project would be located.

If you would like to discuss the matter - please call either myself or Jonathan Horsfield (01926 41-2006). Jonathan is currently working Mondays – Wednesdays.

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Income from Ground Mounted Solar - Dunsmore Home Farm

Jonathan Horsfield <jonathanhorsfield@warwickshire.gov.uk>
To: Phillip Morris-Jones <phillipmorris-jones@warwickshire.gov.uk>
Cc: Holly Hiorns <hollyhiorns@warwickshire.gov.uk>

25 April 2016 at 14:41

Hello Cllr Morris-Jones

Further to our recent telephone conversation I am now able to send you an indicative plan of the potential project as requested. If you'd like a face to face meeting then I'd be happy to oblige - either at Shire Hall or wherever is more convenient for yourself.

The purpose of a meeting would be to share with you the early feedback from ecology, archeology and other specialists so you can understand the thinking. The plan is indicative - and I've shown a couple adjacent locations where thinking from the various specialists is converging.
Here are some headlines:

- Installed capacity proposed is c. 3.3MW (3,340,900kW) peak
- Annual generation expected - over 3,000,000kWhrs / yr
- Land required would be around 22 acres - out of the 155 acres of the small holding
- Our tenant farmer (Ian Birden) with whom we want to work closely would be able to graze his sheep under the panels - and we would seek some level of ecological improvement.
- Mr Birden has been very helpful in enabling various surveys - and we plan to have a meeting with him soon to discuss more detail.

I am at least partly aware of the campaigning activities of the ASWAR in the area and I can guess of the likely sensitivity of residents of Clifton on Dunsmore with the redevelopment of masts site to the south and the new link road up into Rugby Town. I'd appreciate hearing from you about your engagement with local residents in the area - and whether once you have a feel for the proposal - the breadth of public reactions we might expect.

I'll give you a call early next week. In the meantime I hope that you have a good week. I have copied in Holly Hiorns, County Land Agent.

Customer service is very important to us, please tell us what you think

Jonathan
Renewable Energy Adviser

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I generally am not working on Fridays'