

December 2024

Winking Hill Energy Storage System

Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)



Author Rebecca Randall

Date 03/12/2024

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1 Introduction

1.1 Background

This Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) outlines how RES (the Applicant) has engaged with the local community to inform them about the proposed Winking Hill Energy Storage System, hereinafter referred to as the 'Proposed Development'.

It explains how and when the community were consulted before the planning application was submitted to Rushcliffe Borough Council and how this consultation has shaped the Proposed Development.

The SCI summarises those activities undertaken, details how comments received from the community were considered, and sets out if any consequent changes or mitigating measures have been included in the proposal.

1.2 Proposed Development

The Proposed Development consists of an up to 99.9MW Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) located on land off West Leake Lane, approximately 1.8km from Ratcliffe-on-Soar and 2.5km from Gotham, Nottinghamshire.

The proposed site is not expected to exceed five hectares and would comprise 64 battery storage containers, associated foundations, power conversion systems, substation infrastructure, a transformer, and underground cabling.

The site has been chosen due to its proximity to Ratcliffe-on-Soar substation, where it would connect directly to the grid via underground cabling.

2 The Applicant's Commitment to Consultation

The Applicant is the world's largest independent renewable energy company, working across 24 countries and active in wind, solar, energy storage, green hydrogen, transmission and distribution. As an industry innovator for over 40 years, RES has delivered more than 27GW of renewable energy projects across the globe and supports an operational asset portfolio exceeding 41GW worldwide for a large client base.

The Applicant is committed to finding effective and appropriate ways of engaging with all its stakeholders, including local residents and community organisations, and believes that the views of local people are an integral part of the development process. The Applicant wants to be a good neighbour to the communities that host our projects and will listen to and address questions or concerns that interested parties might have. A comprehensive process that engages with local people and stakeholders at an early stage allows an informed debate that helps the Applicant identify issues of potential concern, explore solutions and design a project that will be welcomed as a positive asset by the local community.

3 Statutory Requirements and Best Practice Guidance

Conducting an early and transparent pre-application public consultation is consistent with the guidance within the NPPF (2023). Paragraph 39 of the NPPF states that:

“Early engagement has significant potential to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the planning application system for all parties. Good quality pre-application discussion enables better coordination between public and private resources and improved outcomes for the community.”

The NPPF goes on to state that:

“[Local Authorities] should also, where they think this would be beneficial, encourage any applicants who are not already required to do so by law to engage with the local community and, where relevant, with statutory and non-statutory consultees, before submitting their applications.”

The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act of 2004 ensures Local Authorities develop strategies to engage the local community in the planning process. These strategies must be set out in a document called a ‘Statement of Community Involvement’ and must be aimed at all sections of society - including identified ‘hard to reach’ groups - and encourage engagement in the planning process. The aim is to encourage ‘ownership’ of the planning process by the community.

As a result, this SCI (for the Proposed Development) also fulfils a recommendation of Rushcliffe Borough Council, as the Local Planning Authority, to provide people with an opportunity to feed into the design process of a scheme.

Rushcliffe Borough Council’s Statement of Community Involvement¹ sets out how early community consultation should take place on planning issues. Paragraph 1.2 states:

“The aim is to ensure that all groups in the Borough are involved in the process early enough for people to be able to have an input, and to address the needs of those groups of people who traditionally have not been involved in the process but may have specific needs to be met or addressed. It is important that all views are sought, not just those of people with a direct interest in a land use proposal.”

It goes on to note in paragraph 4.14 and 4.15:

“At the pre-application stage we consider that developers can have a crucial role in engaging local communities with the planning process.”

“If a proposal is likely to prompt significant community interest, we recommend and would encourage early involvement with the community before submitting a planning application, particularly for larger developments”.

4 Consultation Methodology

The purpose of pre-application community consultation is to improve, where possible, the quality of the proposed planning application by considering public opinions and addressing, wherever possible, any issues raised by stakeholders. It is also intended that any interested stakeholders have access to up-to-date and accurate information regarding the Proposed Development and the opportunity to provide feedback to be considered prior to the proposed planning application being finalised and submitted.

4.1 Community and Stakeholder Mapping

This section details the key local stakeholders that the Applicant identified and consulted with during the pre-application consultation process. Prior to the start of the consultation, the Applicant undertook desktop research to develop a comprehensive understanding of the key stakeholders to engage with during pre-

¹ <https://www.rushcliffe.gov.uk/media/xf0pnozcf/final-statement-of-community-involvement-march-2019.pdf>

application community consultation. This research involved identifying local stakeholders located around the site of the Proposed Development.

The stakeholder groups identified included:

- Locally elected political representatives including:
- MP for Rushcliffe Constituency
- Relevant ward councillors from Gotham Ward of Rushcliffe Borough Council
- Ratcliffe-on-Soar Parish Meeting
- Thrumpton Parish Meeting
- Gotham Parish Council
- The local population around the Proposed Development, including Gotham, West Leake, Kingston-on-Soar and Ratcliffe-on-Soar villages.

5 Consultation

The pre-application public consultation began on 20 August 2024. During the pre-application public consultation, a range of communication methods were used to provide information about the Proposed Development and ensure that the local community had the opportunity to provide their feedback. These methods included:

5.1 Letter emailed to elected representatives – 20 August 2024

The Applicant wrote to the Gotham Ward councillors to advise them that the Applicant was investigating the potential for an energy storage development at the site location and would commence a number of consultation activities shortly - including setting up a dedicated project website and holding an online public exhibition to gather people's feedback on the proposal.

The letter also invited these representatives to contact the Applicant if they wished to arrange a meeting to discuss the proposal. A copy of the letter can be found at **Appendix A**.

5.2 Project Website – 21 August 2024

On Wednesday 21 August 2024, a project website was launched at www.winkinghill-energystorage.co.uk containing information on the Proposed Development, details of the upcoming online consultation activities, as well as contact details for the project team to facilitate direct engagement.

The project website remains live and will be updated when the planning submission is made, to include links to all planning application documentation.

5.3 Pre-Exhibition Advertising – 4 and 9 September 2024

The Applicant placed two advertisements which appeared in the Nottingham Post on 4 September and 9 September 2024 to help raise awareness of the upcoming online public exhibition and opportunity to book individual telephone or video appointments with the project team. A copy of the advertisement can be found at **Appendix B**.

5.4 Community Pre-Exhibition Newsletter Mailing – 6 September 2024

On 6 September 2024, the Applicant sent a newsletter, advertising the upcoming online public exhibition and opportunity to book individual telephone or video appointments with the project team, to 247 properties identified within 2km of the Proposed Development. A copy of the newsletter can be found at **Appendix C**.

5.5 Launch of Online Public Exhibition – 16 September 2024

An online public exhibition was launched on Monday 16 September 2024, with detailed information on the project. Screenshots of the online exhibition information can be found at **Appendix D**.

Telephone and video call appointments, as advertised in the pre-exhibition newsletter, were made available on Wednesday 18 September 2024, from 10am – 2pm and 4pm-8pm as part of the online exhibition. These time slots were intentionally scheduled to overlap with lunchtime and extend into the evening to maximise convenience. Additionally, contact details for the team were included in all project communications, ensuring that anyone could reach out at any time with questions throughout the project's development. No requests for appointments were received by the Applicant.

A comment form was provided as part of the online public exhibition to encourage feedback from visitors about renewable energy in general, as well as the project design specifically, and was made available as a downloadable Microsoft Word document which could be returned by email or by post. A copy of the comments form can be found at **Appendix E**.

The consultation period for feedback on the proposal ran from 16 September 2024 to 2 October 2024. A total of one completed comment form was received by the Applicant (in addition to other feedback received by email).

At all stages of the consultation process the Applicant clearly set out the purpose of the consultation and emphasised that comments made were not representations to the determining authority (Rushcliffe Borough Council) and that there would be the opportunity for representations to be made to the determining authority once the planning application was submitted.

5.6 Newsletter emailed to locally elected representatives – 17 September 2024

A follow-up email was sent to all elected representatives on Tuesday 17 September reminding them of the online public exhibition and sharing a copy of the newsletter mailing sent to the community.

5.7 Other consultation and correspondence

In addition to the activities outline above, the Applicant has been receiving and responding to enquiries and comments from elected representatives, including MP James Naish, Cllr Rex Walker, and hosted a phone meeting with the deputy chair of Ratcliffe-on-Soar Parish Meeting. All comments and

queries received throughout the pre-application consultation period can be found in section 6, along with the Applicant's responses.

In summary, a range of engagement and communication activities were undertaken as part of the pre-application consultation - reaching both local stakeholders as well as audiences in the wider area. This activity included:

- Letters to elected representatives;
- Advertisements for the online public exhibition in the local press;
- Newsletter informing local residents and elected representatives about the online public exhibition;
- Online public exhibition; and
- A dedicated project website.

6 Feedback and Applicant's Response

The Applicant believes in meaningful and effective consultation, to facilitate constructive dialogue with stakeholders and the community. All feedback received through the pre-application consultation activities has been considered, as part of the pre-application process.

The feedback received ahead of submitting the application is summarised below together with the Applicant's response.

Issue raised	Applicant's response
<p>Location</p> <p>Precise location of your development <i>"It would be very help to have more clarity on the precise development site"</i></p> <p>Description of location: <i>"Your letter refers to Winking Hill being 2.5 miles from Gotham. Why you said this is unclear as Ratcliffe village is barely one half a mile from Winking Hill farm. Such assumptions that the project is a long distance from the "important" locations"</i></p> <p>Green belt/why not on power station brownfield: <i>"Piecemeal erosion of the green belt near the Ratcliffe site rather than developing on it".</i></p> <p><i>"I'm not clear about why you'd be siting things off the very large brownfield site opposite."</i></p>	<p>The Proposed Development is located just 250 metres southeast of Ratcliffe-on-Soar Grid Supply Point (GSP) at which it would connect, on land off the A453 and West Leake Lane.</p> <p>Energy storage developments need to be located as close as possible to the substation from which its grid connection is provided in order to limit electrical losses, ensure efficiency of the system, and to limit potential environmental impacts from underground or overhead cabling.</p> <p>The brownfield site of Ratcliffe-on-Soar Power Station has a specific Local Development Order (LDO) which was developed by Rushcliffe Borough Council and the site owners prior to the Applicant identifying this area for an energy storage system. The LDO area is fully occupied and has no availability for third party development of this nature. Consequently, the Applicant has chosen this site as it is still close enough to the Ratcliffe-on-Soar substation to react quickly enough to support the grid infrastructure, and immediately adjacent to the LDO to minimise</p>

<p>Other developments: <i>“Are you aware there was another developer which has been denied for battery storage right next door to you?”</i></p>	<p>potential visual impact and not encroach significantly into the wider area.</p> <p>The Applicant understands local concerns on the loss of greenbelt land and the project is being specifically designed to minimise any potential impacts. Over half of the total footprint of the Proposed Development is dedicated to biodiversity improvement.</p> <p>Through measures provided as part of the Landscaping Plan, which accompanies the planning application, a Biodiversity Net Gain of 77.4% in habitat units and 79.27% in hedgerow units could be achieved.</p> <p>Furthermore, the land will be re-instated to its current condition after decommissioning; there will be no long-term loss of greenbelt as a result of this project. The Applicant has endeavoured to tuck the project into the edge of the LDO, with the aim to reduce potential visibility as much as possible.</p> <p>The Applicant is aware of the neighbouring development, for which the planning application had been denied at the time it was discussed with the consultee. The Applicant notes that the neighbouring development submitted an appeal to the council in September 2024, and will be attending a hearing in January 2025.</p>
<p>Community Benefit</p> <p><i>“Over the years, the community has received very little benefits from the developments.”</i></p>	<p>The Applicant seeks to be a power for good in communities that neighbour their projects by working openly and constructively to ensure tangible local benefits. Some of the most direct benefits from the Proposed Development, if consented, are jobs and employment for local businesses and contractors. The Applicant is committed to ensuring, wherever practical, local contractors are used in all aspects of the project development.</p> <p>As part of the pre-application consultation, the Applicant, through the comment form, invited the local community feedback on any priorities and projects they would like to see delivered or supported in their community from the Proposed Development, should it receive consent. The Applicant was contacted in early September 2024 by Kingston on Soar Beer Festival to discuss the event and its fundraising activity towards the Village Hall refurbishments. On 12 September 2024, the Applicant approved and paid a funding request of £550. The Applicant was the title sponsor for this event and together with the festival, made QR codes and the</p>

	<p>proposal webpage available for anyone to view throughout the weekend. The Applicant welcomes further feedback throughout the determination phase.</p>
<p><u>Grid network</u></p> <p>Grid offer/acceptance: <i>“The situation with regard to acceptance of power by the grid. We would expect that you will have applied. With experience of a number of other solar and battery storage projects (now in excess of 6 individual projects) we have none that have successfully acquired a date by which the grid will accept power from the project”</i></p> <p>Connection to grid: <i>“The location of the pylon (or otherwise) you which to intend to connect”</i></p> <p>National Energy System Operator (NESO): <i>The creation of the National Energy System Operator (NESO) on October 1st is reputed to bring planning under one roof. At present the long lead time from completion of a scheme to delivering power is worrying. What impact do you think the new body will make?</i></p>	<p>The Applicant has accepted a grid offer that sees the project connecting to the GSP at the Ratcliffe-on-Soar substation via an underground cable. The Distribution Network Operator (DNO) will be responsible for confirming the grid route.</p> <p>Additional pylons will not be required for the grid connection.</p> <p>One of NESO’s main priorities is to ensure that our energy infrastructure is secure, resilient, flexible, and future proof. In recent forums the strategy of such has been heavily discussed, and what NESO aims to produce is a plan whereby connections that are needed now more than ever, are prioritised somewhat based on the generation type, in relation to the national and regional needs regarding the network. I.e. In regions of the network across the UK, they will study what generation mix is best and needed asap.</p> <p>Given the importance of energy storage in the UK energy mix, the Applicant hopes to see the connection dates of storage projects expedited to help support the roll-out of renewable generation across the grid, as well as help maintain grid stability more generally.</p>
<p><u>Energy Storage</u></p> <p><i>“The means by which you intend to deliver power to the grid”</i></p> <p><i>“Where are you storing energy from?”</i></p>	<p>Like most energy storage systems of this size, the Proposed Development would not be directly linked to an electricity generating station. The Proposed Development would be connected directly to the wider grid network, via the Ratcliffe-on-Soar GSP, and will be utilised by the network operator to balance peaks and troughs in energy demand and generation.</p> <p>This type of energy storage is considered the fastest technology for responding to sudden spikes in demand and is essential to help support the wider roll out of green energy across the UK.</p>
<p><u>Traffic and Transport</u></p> <p><i>“West Leake Lane already has large vehicle movements with the quarry and gypsum extraction nearby”</i></p>	<p>A Transport Statement accompanies the planning application and outlines details of the proposed transport management arrangements during the construction of the Proposed Development, and also provides details of transport movements during both construction and operation of the Proposed Development.</p>

	<p>Engineering assessments of the local road network have been undertaken and conclude that the impact on traffic and other road users is expected to be negligible.</p> <p>Heavy construction traffic is largely concentrated to the first quarter of the construction period, where earthworks are taking place and heavy equipment is being removed from site. After this, traffic is largely limited to personnel movements.</p> <p>Operational traffic movements are generally low, on average once a month for maintenance purposes and site inspections. Active monitoring is carried out by the Operations & Maintenance team and site manager which can reduce site attendance through early fault detection.</p>
<p><u>Timescales</u></p> <p><i>“... when are you hoping to energise the site?”</i></p>	<p>If the Proposed Development is consented, construction of energy storage systems of this size is expected to take approximately two years, subject to grid connection.</p>
<p><u>Archaeology</u></p> <p><i>“There is nothing on the site of any consequence but during construction please can you keep a waiting brief? The area is historically rich”</i></p> <p><i>“I am not aware of anything specific to flag”</i></p>	<p>A Heritage Report accompanies the planning application, which presents the result of a full site survey that was undertaken.</p> <p>Results from the report suggest that the site has limited archaeological potential and as such, the Proposed Development is unlikely to have any impact.</p>

7 Summary

The Applicant believes that consultation and effective communication is extremely important when developing an energy storage project. The Applicant has consulted proactively on the Proposed Development in order to facilitate an early and constructive consultation process and used a variety of methods to communicate and engage with the local community, stakeholders and other interested parties in order to facilitate a strong public understanding of the potential impacts and benefits of the Proposed Development.

This SCI sets out the consultation in respect of a full planning application for the Proposed Development. During the consultation period, one comment form was submitted in addition to correspondence and conversation with local elected representations. The comments and questions received during the consultation period and the one comment form received were neutral to the project. Any concerns or queries received by the Applicant were able to be allayed with the provision of more information, for example, confirmation that the Applicant would not be proposing additional pylons in the local area.

The Applicant is committed to continuing the open dialogue it has established with the local community during pre-application consultation as the planning process continues. The Proposed Development’s website at www.winkinghill-energystorage.co.uk will be updated regularly to enable people to keep up to date with the latest news about the Proposed Development as it progresses. Once the planning application has been validated by Rushcliffe Borough Council, the Applicant will write to stakeholders and members of the

community who have asked to be kept updated on the Proposed Development, to provide them with the planning reference number and contact details for Rushcliffe Borough Council's Planning department, should they wish to submit a formal representation.

Appendices

Appendix A. Letter to stakeholders (August 2024)

Appendix B. Public exhibition newspaper advert (September 2024)

Appendix B1. Public exhibition newspaper advert in the Nottingham Post 4 September

Appendix B2. Public exhibition newspaper advert in the Nottingham Post 9 September

Appendix C. Public consultation newsletter (September 2024)

Appendix D. Online exhibition information

Appendix E. Public consultation comment form

Appendix A – Letter to stakeholders (August 2024)



Renewable Energy Systems Limited

Beaufort Court, Egg Farm Lane, Kings Langley
Hertfordshire WD4 8LR, United Kingdom
+44 (0)1923 299 200 | info@res-group.com

[Redacted]

By email only

20 August 2024

Sent to email: [Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

RE: Winking Hill Energy Storage System Proposal

I am writing to let you know that RES is exploring the potential for an energy storage project on land off West Leake Lane approximately 2.5km from Gotham.

Increasing the installed capacity of energy storage is essential to enabling and accelerating the rollout of zero carbon energy to support the UK's net-zero emissions target. Energy storage helps support National Grid by storing energy at times when generation exceeds demand and releasing electricity back to the national grid network when demand exceeds generation, thus creating a more stable and secure electricity system.

The Winking Hill project is expected to cover a total area of 4 - 5 hectares and have an installed generating capacity of under 100MW and as such will be considered and determined by Rushcliffe Borough Council. The project is being specifically designed to include planting of native trees, hedgerows and wildflower grass areas. These will not only reduce potential visibility of the scheme but also seek to deliver a significant biodiversity net gain by providing wildlife corridors and vital resources for mammals, birds, and insect species.

At this early stage of the project, we are liaising with Rushcliffe Borough Council and have recently submitted a Screening Request. We are also undertaking a number of technical and environmental surveys to ensure that any potential impact on the environment, landscape, and local residents is assessed and mitigated, this includes the potential cumulative effects from other developments in the area.

RES is committed to engaging with the local community and key stakeholders to facilitate constructive consultation. Over the next few weeks, we will begin a number of consultation activities, including setting up a dedicated project website and launching an online public exhibition with opportunities for people to arrange calls with the project team for further information, to ask any questions and in order to gather people's

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feedback on the proposal.

We would welcome the opportunity to arrange a video or telephone call with you, should you wish to discuss the project further or ask any questions.

Yours sincerely,



Milo Amsbury-Savage
Development Project Manager

E: milo.amsburysavage@res-group.com **T:** +44 1923 299 277

Appendix B – Public exhibition newspaper advert (September 2024)

Winking Hill Energy Storage System Online Public Exhibition



RES is exploring the potential for an energy storage project on land off West Leake Lane approximately 2.5km from Gotham.

RES is now at the stage of consulting with the local community to get feedback on the proposal. All feedback will be considered, along with the results of site surveys and assessments, as we refine and finalise the design.

We are keen to engage with the local community and as part of our pre-application consultation we will be launching an Online Public Exhibition on **Wednesday 18th September 2024**. This will allow us to share more information and to enable members of the public to provide us with feedback.

As part of the online public exhibition, RES are offering individual telephone or video call appointments between **10am – 2pm and 4pm – 8pm** on the day, for anyone wishing to discuss the proposal further or ask specific questions.

The online public exhibition will be hosted at

www.winkinghill-energystorage.co.uk.

Appointments should be booked in advance.

To book an appointment or to submit comments on the proposal please contact Milo Amsbury-Savage at **milo.amsburysavage@res-group.com**, by calling **01923 299 277** or by writing to RES, Beaufort Court, Egg Farm Lane, Kings Langley, Hertfordshire, WD4 8LR.

The online exhibition initiates a consultation period being run by RES to gather comments on the proposal. The closing date for comments is **is Wednesday 2nd October 2024**. Comments will still be accepted after this date but may not be considered in relation to the design development.

Comments forms will be available on the website from the day of the exhibition and can be submitted via the website stated above. Hard copies can be sent by post to the address above.

Please note that comments submitted to RES at this time are not representations to the determining authority (Rushcliffe Borough Council). There will be an opportunity to submit representations to the determining authority should an application be made.

For more information, please visit our website at

www.winkinghill-energystorage.co.uk

Appendix B1 – Public exhibition newspaper advert in the Nottingham Post 4 September

4 NOTTINGHAM POST WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2024

@nottslive

News

Chase as thief swipes laptops at coffee shop

A WOMAN was reportedly assaulted while chasing a "thief" after two laptops and a mobile phone were stolen from a city coffee shop.

The belongings were allegedly snatched from the table of two sisters sitting in 200 Degrees Coffee in Milton Street. One of the sisters claimed she was assaulted, Nottinghamshire Police said.

Members of the public intervened and detained a suspect in nearby Upper Parliament Street until officers arrived.

Adam Beard, 47, of Upper Parliament Street, Nottingham, has been charged with two counts of theft and assault with intent to resist arrest in connection with the incident, at around 5.30pm on Tuesday, July 23.

He is due to appear at Nottingham Magistrates' Court on Tuesday next week.

Man charged with abducting teenage girl

A NOTTINGHAMSHIRE man has appeared in court after being charged with abducting a teenage girl.

The school-age girl was reported missing after leaving her home in Derbyshire on Friday and was later found by officers at a different address.

Tautvydas Ballonis, of Victoria Road, Netherfield, was charged with an offence under the Child Abduction Act.

The 28-year-old appeared at Nottingham Magistrates' Court on Monday and was remanded in custody. He is due to appear at Nottingham Crown Court on September 30.

Nottinghamshire Police said the girl has since been returned safely to her family and investigations are ongoing.

New look for area brings green shoots of optimism at site of old Broadmarsh**FORMER SHOPPING CENTRE NOW AN OASIS**

By JOEL MOORE

joel.moore@nottsfc.com
@JoelMoore98

RESIDENTS and business owners say they are excited about the landmark green space at the centre of Nottingham's Broad Marsh site, due to be officially opened today.

Commuters and shoppers will have noticed the speed at which the development, called the Green Heart, has undergone its finishing touches and has become something of a gateway to the city.

Scores of trees, flowers, benches, imposing slabs and a pond have all been added to the site. The development is an integral part of Nottingham City Council's masterplan, originally revealed in 2021, for the demolished Broadmarsh shopping centre.

It is hoped the Green Heart will pave the way for an eventual development which will include a hotel, hundreds of homes and office and leisure space, adding to the Broad Marsh Car Park and recently built Central Library. But the area, of which half still remains a building site, has suffered significant funding setbacks.

The city council lost out on landing £20m of Government Levelling Up cash in November, the third time it had been overlooked. But the green space has injected some much-needed optimism into what has been a depressing eyesore for years.

Hilary Silvester, executive chair of Nottingham Civic Society, said she was "delighted" it was opening. "It will be welcoming to people coming from the train station," she said. "It's so good to see some sort of life in what's been very bleak for so long. The Civic Society will be very pleased to see that. We have been concerned about that area."

Workers in Carrington Street,



Michael Meliou, owner of Carrington's Fish and Chips

which connects the development to the railway station, were broadly optimistic about the opening. Kasia Kiss, supervisor at Industry Bar, said she was "trying to think positively" about the green space, which she described as having "Flintstone vibes".

"The demographic who come to this side of town will change which could be interesting to see," said the 27-year-old. "It will definitely help footfall for the business."

"It feels like it's going to pick up again. There's definitely going to be an increase in students using the area, especially with the library as well."

Ms Kiss added: "It will also be a nice place for us to have our lunch, or when I need five on a football day. It's exciting to see some greenery in the city centre."

Shirley Timmins, 80, who regularly walks through the area, said she was looking forward to the opening. "I like it, it's a nice design and very unusual for a city centre," she said.

"It might encourage a few people to come in this direction as Lister Gate is a dead zone at the minute. I'm looking forward to walking through it, especially on a nice day. I'll be able to sit and watch the world go by."

However, Ms Timmins said she

was concerned about whether the green space would stay clean. "I'm worried about how long it will stay like it before [we see] beer cans in the water," she added.

"Will people respect it? That's my concern. People don't respect things nowadays."

Jess Wallace, general manager at Cured, said she was "hopeful" it would bring more people to the area. "It's nice to have a scenic place. It's been a building site for years," she said.

Michael Meliou, owner of Carrington's Fish and Chips, said: "I'm a bit worried. There's a lot of homeless people around that area - you always see them."

"We need to bring more people into that area, we need to encourage something to happen there. The council needs to do something drastic. Sort out businesses and the rest will take care of itself."

Councillor Neghat Khan, leader of the city council and executive member for strategic regeneration, transport and communications, said: "I'm proud to officially open this beautiful new green space for the city. Following the collapse of the former Broadmarsh shopping centre, we asked people in Nottingham what they wanted to see in this space... they overwhelmingly asked for a new green park."

"I'm pleased that something amazing has bloomed, creating a wonderful new space for people and wildlife alike. Thank you to council colleagues and partners who have brought this to life."

"The Green Heart is just the latest step in regenerating the Broad Marsh area, following the new Central Library, pedestrianised streets, and the bus station and car park. New homes and offices will follow in the future - providing a complete revamp for this part of the city."

Winking Hill Energy Storage System
Online Public Exhibition

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The online public exhibition will be hosted at
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To book an appointment or to submit comments on the proposal please contact Milo Ambury-Savage at milo.amburysavage@res-group.com, by calling 01923 299 277 or by writing to RES, Beaufort Court, Egg Farm Lane, Kings Langley, Hertfordshire, WD4 8LR.

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Comments forms will be available on the website from the day of the exhibition and can be submitted via the website stated above. Hard copies can be sent by post to the address above.

Please note that comments submitted to RES at this time are not representations to the determining authority (Radcliffe Borough Council). There will be an opportunity to submit representations to the determining authority should an application be made.

For more information, please visit our website at
www.winkinghill-energy-storage.co.uk

Appendix B2 – Public exhibition newspaper advert in the Nottingham Post 9 September

facebook.com/nottinghamshirelive/

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2024 NOTTINGHAM POST 19

News

By JOSHUA HARTLEY

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A BUSINESSMAN who had been involved in running a number of Nottinghamshire pubs has been banned from running firms for 11 years after abusing Covid support loans.

Michael Gratton, 43, was barred from being a company director for more than a decade after taking out more publicly-backed loans than he was allowed to and leaving the taxpayer to foot the bill.

He had been part of One Union, which currently runs Beeston's Commercial Inn and The Manor in Toton, and had wrongly applied for three Government-guaranteed Bounce Back loans, worth £50,000 each, in 2020.

The scheme was devised to allow smaller businesses to access funding of up to £50,000 during the darkest days of the pandemic and was free and interest-free for a year.

Mr Gratton applied for separate loans for parent company Gratton &

Guest Holdings Limited, as well as two more for subsidiaries, The Commercial Inn Limited and Jervis Arms Limited - the latter entity related to a pub sharing the same name in Staffordshire.

Taking out multiple loans for different parts of the group was something the director "knew or ought to have known" was wrong, according to the Government's Insolvency Service, which recently made an order prohibiting him from being a company director until 2035.

While Mr Gratton declined to comment on the situation when contacted by the Post, he stated he now had no business connection with any of the pubs he had previously been involved with.

The Insolvency Service, which is an executive agency of the Department for Business and Trade, said Mr Gratton had first applied for a £50,000 loan on May 5, 2020.

A week later he applied for a second loan from another bank for holding company Gratton & Guest Holdings.

On June 26, 2020, Mr Gratton applied for a third £50,000 loan for the Commercial Inn, falsely stating it was the only active application.

Mr Gratton confirmed that he was solely responsible for all areas of all three companies and sought no advice before making the applications, the Insolvency Service added.

All three of the companies have now been placed into liquidation

and have only limited assets - meaning the Government will have to foot the bill for the loans they guaranteed.

Gratton & Guest Holdings Limited still owes £48,986 of the loan money, while Jervis Arms owes £48,991, and The Commercial Inn Limited owes £50,000, according to Insolvency Service records.

When contacted, the agency declined to say whether Mr Gratton would face any form of criminal investigation.

A spokesperson for the Crown Prosecution Service said it had no record of any criminal proceedings against Mr Gratton.

Nottinghamshire Police did not respond to a request for comment.



Michael Gratton, 43, now has no connection with the One Union group of pubs

Life & Lawrence

David Brock



How a Hopi snake and eagle experience preceded Lawrence's Plumed Serpent

DESPITE recently spitting blood (a terrible red omen), D.H. Lawrence (and Frieda) joined the Luhanis in their Cadillac for a tough two-week camping trip, down rough dusty roads, over rocky desert terrain, to Hotevilla, on the Hopi Indian Reservation in Arizona, for the annual Snake Dance.

A 3,000-strong sensation-seeking modern tourist-tribe, members of man's machine-age clan, came bumping up in motor-cars, eager to ogle the

spectacle. This voyeuristic crowd, instructed to be silently respectful of a sacred ceremony, were "good-humoured," regarding religious Indians as "a sort of public pet."

Snakes! Lawrence's lords of life! Rattlesnakes! Formidable dangerous phallic beasts ("hibido-symbolic," R.E. Pritchard says), having been captured, soothed, oiled, lustrated, placated, hang flaccid, held near their "bird-like" heads

in the teeth of intensely pacing, prancing, dancing chanting, stamping, singing Snake-Priests, whose backs are dusted by "feather-prayer-sticks," it resembles a "circus turn," "interesting but not beautiful" - "Just a show!" Lawrence initially wrote. Which maddened Mabel. She found his second essay "wonderful, deeply understanding."

It's "Lawrence's fullest and finest description of animistic vision," Keith Sagar attests. Lawrence's "struggle" to comprehend brought him maybe "as far as a white man can get" to fathoming Indian consciousness.

For Indians there's "no perfect god," originating all "from his knowledge." The "mythic sun" is "well-head of all things." Humans are the only gods, evolving through "beons of effort" from "the fire and smelting of life" - forged into being in the cosmic furnace.

The liberated snakes return as emissaries, messengers from man to the "dark sun," earth's hot hidden core, the secret

source of life. An underworld. Like our unconscious!

100 YEARS AGO, 6th Sept 1924, Lawrence tells editor Edith Isaacs he feels "rather deeply" about his Hopi Snake Dance essay and won't "cut it ... not for anybody."

10th, informs E.M. Forster he finds no "individuals," but "a great strange spirit of place, and a different race impulse." In New Mexico, "it seems much bigger ... England's tight to me like a box." He'd like Forster to read his Snake Dance essay.

12th, requests scholar Herbert Milne seeks suitable illustrations for Lawrence's OUP Movements in European History - "they don't hang on pine-trees at the foot of the Rocky Mountains". Their ranch being "far from Hampstead." "Would Milne 'care to stay for a summer?" Tells Nancy Pearn "no-vellette St Mawr is nearly typed out." Lawrence appraises Bobbie Gillette's poetry, advising Gillette employs "real experience" rather than "generalised feelings" or cheap sentiments.

13th, sends bibliographer Edward McDonald further info regarding his works, including Heinemann's White Peacock.

Winking Hill Energy Storage System

Online Public Exhibition



RES is exploring the potential for an energy storage project on land off West Leake Lane approximately 1.8km from Rufford-on-Soar and 2.5km from Gotham.

RES is now at the stage of consulting with the local community to get feedback on the proposal. All feedback will be considered, along with the results of site surveys and assessments, as we refine and finalise the design.

We are keen to engage with the local community and as part of our pre-application consultation we will be launching an Online Public Exhibition on **Monday 10th September 2024**. This will allow us to share more information and to enable members of the public to provide us with feedback.

As part of the online public exhibition, RES are offering telephone or video call appointments between 10am - 2pm and 4pm - 8pm on **Wednesday 10th September 2024**, for anyone wishing to discuss the proposal further or ask specific questions.

The online public exhibition will be hosted at
www.winkinghill-energystorage.co.uk

To book an appointment or to submit comments on the proposal please contact Milo Ambury-Savage at milo.ambury-savage@res-group.com, by calling 01922 299 277 or by writing to RES, Beaufort Court, Egg Farm Lane, Kings Langley, Hertfordshire, WD4 8LR.

The online exhibition instates a consultation period being run by RES to gather comments on the proposal. The closing date for comments is **Wednesday 2nd October 2024**. Comments will still be accepted after this date but may not be considered in relation to the design development.

Comments forms will be available on the website from the day of the exhibition and can be submitted via the website stated above. Hard copies can be sent by post to the address above.

Please note that comments submitted to RES of this time are not representations to the determining authority (Rufford Borough Council). There will be an opportunity to submit representations to the determining authority should an application be made.

For more information, please visit our website at
www.winkinghill-energystorage.co.uk

Appendix C – Public Consultation Newsletter (September 2024)



Winking Hill Energy Storage System

September 2024

Proposal

RES is exploring the potential for an energy storage project on land off West Leake Lane approximately 1.8km from Ratcliffe-on-Soar and 2.5km from Gotham.

Environmental and technical surveys are being undertaken over the coming months to ensure any impact of the development upon the environment, landscape, heritage and local residents is appropriately assessed and mitigated and to inform a layout and design.

We are keen to engage with the local community and as part of our pre-application consultation we will be launching an Online Public Exhibition from **Monday 16th September**. This will allow us to share more information and to enable members of the public to provide us with feedback. The feedback will be taken into account, along with the results of site surveys and assessments, as we refine the design.

The Online Public Exhibition will be hosted at
www.winkinghill-energystorage.co.uk

Online Public Exhibition

As part of the Online Public Exhibition, RES are offering individual telephone or video call appointments between **10am - 2pm** and **4pm - 8pm on Wednesday 18 September 2024**. For anyone wishing to discuss the proposal further or ask specific questions.

To book an appointment or to submit comments on the proposal please contact Milo Amsbury-Savage at milo.amsburysavage@res-group.com, by calling 01923 299 277 or by writing to RES, Beaufort Court, Egg Farm Lane, Kings Langley, Hertfordshire, WD4 8LR.

The online exhibition initiates a consultation period being run by RES to gather comments on the proposal. The closing date for comments is **Wednesday 2nd October 2024**. Comments will still be accepted after this date but may not be considered in relation to the design development.

Comments forms will be available on the website from the day of the exhibition and can be submitted via the website stated above. Hard copies can be sent by post to the address above.

Please note that comments submitted to RES at this time are not representations to the determining authority (Rushcliffe Borough Council). There will be an opportunity to submit representations to the determining authority should an application be made.

What is an Energy Storage System?

Increasing the installed capacity of energy storage is essential to enabling and accelerating the rollout of zero carbon energy to support the UK's net zero emissions target.

Renewable energy technologies are needed to replace electricity generation from fossil fuels, however, they generate electricity intermittently depending on weather conditions. This causes problems for the national grid network which must be finely balanced; electrical demand must match electrical generation at all times. If this balance is not achieved, it can lead to blackouts and the failure of grid circuits.



Our electricity system is in a transitional period to manage these increasingly complex supply and demand needs of the 21st Century, and energy storage systems will play a key part by maintaining this balance.

Energy storage helps support National Grid by storing energy at times when generation exceeds demand and releasing electricity back to the national grid network when demand exceeds generation. Energy storage is also considered the fastest technology for responding to a sudden spike in demand or an abrupt loss of supply.

Electricity is not physically generated on site.

About RES

RES is the world's largest independent renewable energy company, working across 24 countries. An industry innovator for over 40 years, RES has delivered more than 26GW of renewable energy projects across the globe.

RES is the power behind a clean energy future where everyone has access to affordable zero carbon energy bringing together global experience, passion, and the innovation of its 4,500 people to transform the way energy is generated, storage and supplied.



RES has developed over 700MW of energy storage capacity across the UK and Ireland including the 99.9MW Lakeside Energy Storage project in Yorkshire and the 99.9MW Spennymoor Energy Storage project in County Durham. RES also currently provides full scope asset management services for over 600MW of energy storage projects across the UK and Ireland.

For more information on the proposal please visit www.winkinghill-energystorage.co.uk or contact us by using the details above.



Milo Amsbury-Savage

Development Project Manager

milo.amsburysavage@res-group.com | 01923 299 277

RES, Beaufort Court, Egg Farm Lane, Kings Langley, Hertfordshire, WD4 8LR

If you require information in Braille, large text or audio, please let us know.

Appendix D – Online Exhibition Information

Welcome to our online consultation

Thank you for taking the time to attend this online exhibition.

We are seeking your views on the design for a battery energy storage proposal that we are exploring on land off West Leake Lane, near Ratcliffe-on-Soar.

We consider pre-application consultation a crucial part of the energy storage development process and we aim to engage early with the local community and key stakeholders in order to facilitate constructive consultation. This helps to identify issues and concerns, as well as benefits and opportunities, which we will consider when developing and refining the design and delivery of the proposal.

A range of information is shared, including details of the site location, design layout, proposed infrastructure, likely delivery route and environmental considerations.

The online exhibition forms part of our pre-application consultation and is designed to give you the opportunity to:

- learn more about the proposal
- discuss any questions or views with our project team
- provide written feedback to RES on the proposal.

Please take time to read the information provided and reach out to our project team about any questions that you may have, you can find all contact information on the 'contact us' page on the website.

All consultation feedback submitted to RES will be reviewed by the project team over the coming weeks as we develop the proposal.



Image for illustrative purposes only



Winking Hill Energy Storage Proposal
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The need for battery energy storage

Our energy system is in a transitional period.

Ageing infrastructure is being replaced and greater flexibility introduced into our networks via technological advances, such as battery energy storage, to manage the increasingly complex supply and demand needs of the 21st Century.

Battery energy storage is crucial in enabling the rollout of zero carbon energy and supporting England's net-zero emissions target.

Renewable energy technologies are needed to replace electricity generation from fossil fuels, however, they can generate electricity intermittently depending on weather conditions, which can cause imbalances in the electricity network.

Battery energy storage works by storing energy at times when generation exceeds demand and then releases electricity back to the electricity network when demand exceeds generation.

Battery energy storage is also considered the fastest technology for responding to a sudden spike in demand or an abrupt loss of supply, helping support grid stability and avoiding power cuts.



Image for illustrative purposes only

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res
power for good

Project Overview

The proposed Winking Hill Energy Storage site is located on land off West Leake Lane, approximately 1.8km from Ratcliffe-on-Soar and 2.5km from Gotham.

The site is not expected to exceed 5 hectares including the site tracks, landscaping and surface water management measures.

The site has been chosen due to its proximity to the Ratcliffe-on-Soar substation and industrial landscape of the power station.

If consented, the project would connect directly into the Ratcliffe-on-Soar substation.

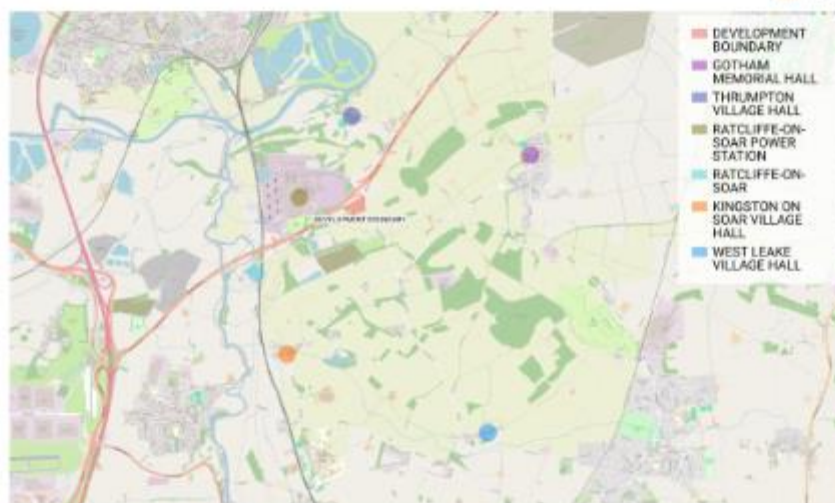
The Winking Hill proposal will provide up to 99.9MW of storage capacity. That's the equivalent of fully charging around 4,000 electric vehicles.

The planning application will be submitted to Rushcliffe Borough Council, and we currently expect to submit the application later this year.

Having undertaken initial site feasibility work, we are completing more detailed environmental and technical site survey work which will be carried out to help refine and finalise the design.

WINKING HILL

LOCATION PLAN



Produced in April 2018
© Crown copyright and database rights (2018) Ordnance Survey 100000000

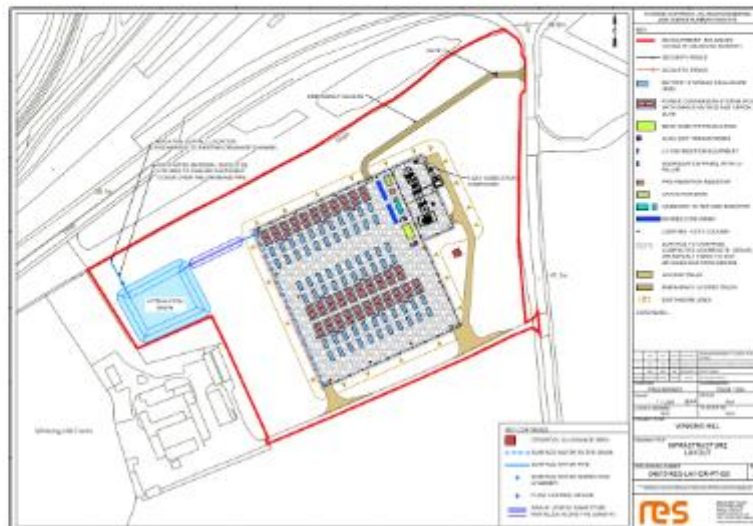
We are still consulting on the development boundary and as such, it is subject to change

Winking Hill Energy Storage Proposal
winkinghill-energystorage.co.uk



Infrastructure and layout

The plan below shows the current layout for the Winking Hill Energy Storage project.



We are still consulting on the development boundary and as such, it is subject to change

The proposed system is a containerised scheme, involving proven Lithium iron phosphate (LFP) battery technology which RES has deployed at multiple projects around the world.

The site would comprise of approximately 64 storage containers. The typical overall size for both types of containers are approximately 6.1 metres long by 2.9 metres high.

The tallest infrastructure is expected to be the grid connection infrastructure equipment which would have a maximum height of around 8 metres.

The infrastructure would include:

- Battery enclosures
- Power Conversion Systems and Transformers
- DNO Substation & grid infrastructure
- BESS Substation
- Auxiliary Transformer
- Grid Compliance Equipment
- Grid Connection Infrastructure
- Security System
- Landscaping
- Drainage Scheme

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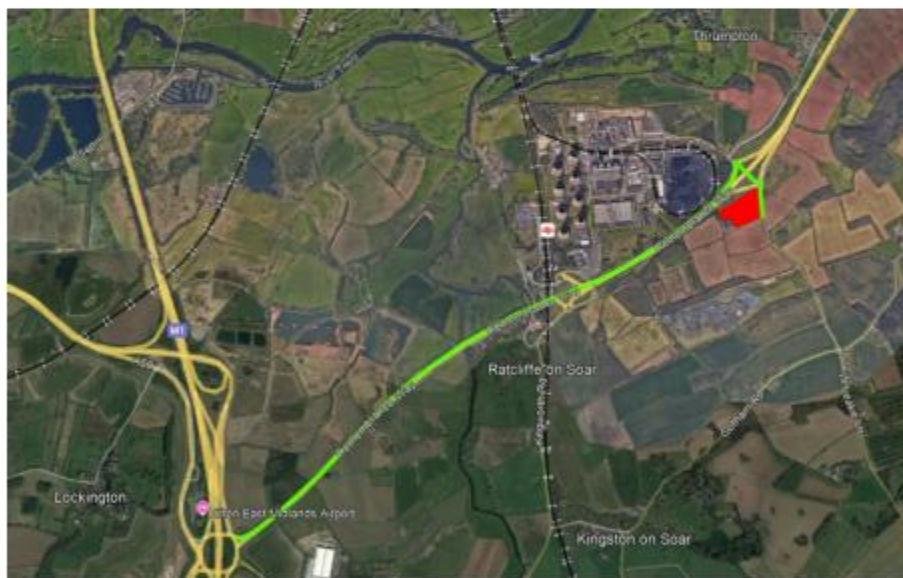
Traffic and access

Component and material deliveries are a key phase in the construction of any battery energy storage project.

Safety is the key consideration and we will be undertaking a detailed analysis of the delivery route, as well as careful assessment of the site access points. The preferred access points and delivery route are shown on the map below.

Throughout the construction phase there will be a combination of HGVs (for the component and material deliveries) and cars/vans (for construction staff), on site. Typically, peak HGV movements occur during the first weeks of construction whilst car/van movements are expected to be constant throughout.

A Transport Statement will accompany the planning application, which outlines the overall framework for managing the safe movement of construction and delivery traffic. The Transport Statement will also itemise the estimated number of deliveries over the construction period, if the project is consented, as well as timing restrictions.



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Environmental considerations

RES will design the battery energy storage system so that it will fit sensitively in the surrounding landscape.

Winking Hill proposal is located within the designated greenbelt near to the power station and adjacent to the A453. If consented, there will be no permanent impact on the land, which will be reinstated to its original use after the life time of the project. The project is also being designed to deliver a significant BNG to the local area and further information can be found on the Landscaping and Biodiversity exhibition board.

A number of surveys and assessments are being carried out to ensure any potential impact upon the environment, landscape, heritage and local residents is appropriately assessed and mitigated.

The assessments to be carried out will include:

Ecology

A Preliminary Ecological Appraisal will present the main findings of a desk study and walkover survey, categorising baseline habitats and conditions and their nature conservation value and predicting any potential ecological impacts from the project.

Acoustics

Noise is an important consideration, and the battery energy storage system will be designed to comply with strict noise limits set by the determining authority should the project be granted consent. The scope of the acoustic assessment includes determining the baseline background sound levels and predicting sound levels from the project in order to assess the level of potential impact, in accordance with relevant planning guidance.

Flood risk & surface water management

Detailed design and flood modelling is being undertaken to minimise increased flood risk anywhere on or off site. A Flood Risk and Drainage Impact Assessment will accompany the planning application which will also set out any proposed surface water drainage solution.

Landscape

A Landscape and Visual Appraisal (LVA) considers the site and its surrounding context in both landscape and visual terms, to assess the potential effects of the proposed battery energy storage system upon landscape features, landscape character and visual amenity.

Heritage & Archaeology

This assessment sets out the cultural heritage baseline of the site as well as assessing the site's archaeological potential. It will assess the potential effects of the project on the cultural heritage resource, within the context of relevant legislation and planning policy, and determine, should any predicted adverse effects be identified, how these effects can be mitigated.



image for illustration purposes only

Winking Hill Energy Storage Proposal
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Landscaping and biodiversity enhancement

The Winking Hill project is being specifically designed to include comprehensive landscaping measures to reduce potential visibility of the scheme.

A landscaping plan will form part of the planning application and will set out new planting measures to provide visual screening of the project.

The landscaping plan will also provide information on the timings and aftercare regime for all planting.

In addition, for the Winking Hill proposal, as with all RES developments, our goal is to deliver a meaningful biodiversity net gain over and above the 10% statutory requirement in England.

We aim to retain as much of the existing vegetation as possible, whilst improving the ecological value of the site by planting native hedgerow, trees, grassland mixes and scrub. This planting will be informed by the Landscape and Visual Assessment to ensure potential visibility is minimised.

Where possible we look to plant a seed mix which can provide nectar-rich areas for pollinators. Riparian woodland planted around any surface water and drainage systems could deliver further biodiversity enhancements, providing good habitat for invertebrates that ultimately provide food for aquatic life.

Where appropriate, we would also introduce measures such as bird, bat and reptile housing.



Winking Hill Energy Storage Proposal
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Our approach to safety

At RES, safety is of the utmost importance.

Our ambition is to continue to lead the market in delivering best-in-class health and safety performance, as we simultaneously look to the future in developing a zero-harm culture.

Health and safety is woven into every aspect of RES' battery energy storage systems. The Winking Hill project will be developed to address and mitigate against the risk of fire ignition and propagation in a number of ways.

Monitoring and Remote Access

Unlike electric cars and scooters, for example, RES-managed battery energy storage systems are constantly monitored from our 24/7/365 control centre in Glasgow. Some controls can also be safely operated remotely from our control centre, such as the shutting down of an individual battery rack or the entire battery energy storage system, if required.

Battery Selection

The proposed battery technology for the development is anticipated to be lithium iron phosphate (LFP). LFP has better stability against thermal runaway at higher temperatures compared to some other battery chemistries. All batteries must be tested and certified to an industry standard (UL9540A), demonstrating resistance to thermal runaway, and which ensures there is no likelihood of explosion, with any fire contained within the affected battery rack.

Equipment Spacing

The site will be developed to include adequate spacing between the battery storage enclosures (BSE) to mitigate against the risk of fire spread in the unlikely event of a fire within one BSE.

Protection Systems

Each BSE will have a dedicated fire protection system, comprising flammable gas detection and venting, fire detection and alarm, and an automatic fire suppression system.

Access to Battery Enclosure and for Emergency Services

All battery enclosures will be accessed via external doors only. The fenced compound will have wide access routes across the site through corridors to the north and south, allowing the fire service to access the site in the unlikely event of an incident. In addition, two site access points will be proposed to the energy storage compound.

A Fire Risk Statement will accompany any planning application.



Winking Hill Energy Storage Proposal
winkinghill-energystorage.co.uk



Have your say

We believe in meaningful and effective consultation.

The aims of our consultation process are to:

- Engage with the local community to facilitate a constructive consultation process to help identify and understand concerns.
- Assist the local community in understanding the benefits and potential impacts of the proposed energy storage system.
- Add value and improve the quality of our proposal through meaningful and productive consultation.

Before we submit a planning application, we will create a Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) report, that documents the community engagement process and any steps we have taken to adapt our proposal.

At this stage we are inviting the local community to submit comments directly to RES. If an application is submitted there will be the opportunity to submit representations to the determining Planning Authority at that time.

We are keen to understand your views on the proposal and the information available at this online exhibition.

Please take a few minutes to fill out the feedback form on this website with your comments. This can be found on the 'consultation page' or get in touch with the team for a hard copy.



Winking Hill Energy Storage Proposal
winkinghill-energystorage.co.uk



The world's largest independent renewable energy company

RES is the world's largest independent renewable energy company, working at the forefront of renewable energy development for over 40 years and delivered more than 27GW of renewable energy projects worldwide and plans to bring more than 22 GW of new capacity online in the next five years.

We employ more than 4,500 passionate people across the globe and are active in 24 countries, working across onshore and offshore wind, solar, energy storage, green hydrogen, transmission and distribution.

By listening, discussing and working together, we can build clean energy project proposals that power positive change for everyone.

RES is the power behind a clean energy future where everyone has access to affordable zero carbon energy bringing together global experience, passion, and the innovation of its people to transform the way energy is generated, stored and supplied. Find out more at res-group.com

RES has been working in the battery energy storage market for a decade and design safe storage projects using proven Lithium iron phosphate technology. Across the UK and Ireland, RES has developed over 700MW of battery energy storage projects, and we currently manage over 600MW of operational storage projects with 24/7/365 monitoring provided from our control centre in Glasgow.

RES in England

RES is a privately-owned company with a proud history across the UK and Ireland, with our global headquarters being located in Hertfordshire, England. To date we have developed over 700MW of wind, solar and energy storage projects across England.

RES also provides asset management and/or operations and maintenance services on over 1GW of energy assets across England including the 99.9MW Spennymoor energy storage project in County Durham and the 99.9MW Lakeside energy storage project in North Yorkshire.



Winking Hill Energy Storage Proposal
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Appendix E – Public Consultation Comment Form



Winking Hill Energy Storage Proposal
Comment Form

RES believes in meaningful and productive consultation, and we aim to engage early with the local community and key stakeholders in order to facilitate constructive consultation. This helps to identify issues and concerns, as well as benefits and opportunities, which we can then consider when developing the design of the proposal.

At the Online Public Exhibition we have presented preliminary design drawings. Feedback from the local community is important at this stage of our pre-application consultation when it can have a direct influence on the final design of the project and we would be grateful if you could take the time to fill out this comment form with your feedback.

Please provide feedback by **Wednesday 2nd October 2024**. Comments will still be accepted after this date but may not be considered in relation to the design development.

Please note that comments submitted to RES at this time are not representations to the determining authority (Rushcliffe Borough Council). There will be an opportunity to submit representations to the determining authority should an application be made.

1 Winking Hill Energy Storage Online Public Exhibition

1.1 How did you find out about our online public exhibition?

- ☐ Newsletter through the door
- ☐ Advert in local newspaper
- ☐ Project website – www.winkinghill-energystorage.co.uk
- ☐ Word of mouth
- ☐ Other (please specify)

1.2 Before the Online Public Exhibition how would you describe your knowledge of the proposed Winking Hill energy storage proposal?

- ☐ Knew a lot
- ☐ Knew quite a lot
- ☐ Knew a little
- ☐ Knew very little
- ☐ Knew nothing at all



Winking Hill Energy Storage Proposal

Comment Form

- 1.3 Having visited the online public exhibition, and/or booked a session with the project team, to what extent do you feel you have increased your understanding of the proposed Winking Hill energy storage proposal?

- ☐ A lot
- ☐ Quite a lot
- ☐ A little
- ☐ Very little
- ☐ Not at all

- 1.4 What part of the online public exhibition did you find most useful?

- ☐ Exhibition information documents
- ☐ Visualisations
- ☐ Ability to ask RES questions
- ☐ Other (please specify)

- 1.5 Do you have any suggestions for ways in which we could have improved our online exhibition?



Winking Hill Energy Storage Proposal

Comment Form

2 Winking Hill Energy Storage Proposal

Your views on the Winking Hill energy storage proposal - specifically the preliminary layout of the project where people's comments can have a direct influence - will be considered in relation to the design development of the project.

2.1 How do you feel in general about the Winking Hill energy storage proposal?

☐ I am supportive

☐ I am neutral

☐ I am opposed

Further comments:

2.2 What do you think about the proposed preliminary layout of the Winking Hill energy storage proposal.

☐ I am happy with the proposed layout

☐ I am neutral towards the proposed layout

☐ I have concerns about the proposed layout

☐ I don't like energy storage systems in general

Further comments:

2.3 Please provide us with any further suggestions or comments regarding the proposed Winking Hill energy storage system.



Winking Hill Energy Storage Proposal

Comment Form

3 Local Benefits

- 3.1 We firmly believe that energy schemes should provide meaningful benefits locally. RES will work with the local community to gain feedback on their priorities so that Winking Hill energy storage proposal will help to secure long-term economic, social and environmental benefits. This approach will help to deliver a tailored package of benefits that are aligned with the local communities' priorities.

Some examples from communities that we've worked with include improvements to village halls, sports team sponsorship, funding for schools and local community groups, community defibrillators and improvements to local footpaths and/or signage.

If you have any suggestions for such benefits the energy storage system may be able to support, please let us know in the box below.

4 Climate Change, Energy Security and Renewables

The below section is optional and designed to help us understand people's thoughts on how renewables can help to tackle climate change and improve energy security.

- 4.1 Do you agree or disagree that we are facing a global climate change emergency?

- ☐ I strongly agree
- ☐ I agree
- ☐ I don't know
- ☐ I disagree
- ☐ I strongly disagree

Further comments:

- 4.2 Do you agree or disagree that generating electricity from renewable sources, and reducing our reliance on fossil fuels, can help towards tackling the issue of climate change?

- ☐ I strongly agree
- ☐



Winking Hill Energy Storage Proposal

Comment Form

- ☐ I agree
- ☐ I don't know
- ☐ I disagree
- ☐ I strongly disagree

Further comments:

- 4.3 Do you agree or disagree that generating electricity from renewable sources will provide greater energy independence and security for England?

- ☐ I strongly agree
- ☐ I agree
- ☐ I don't know
- ☐ I disagree
- ☐ I strongly disagree

Further comments:

- 4.4 Do you agree or disagree that we need to develop energy storage projects to create a more stable and secure electricity system, supporting the rollout of zero carbon energy?

- ☐ I strongly agree
- ☐ I agree
- ☐ I don't know
- ☐ I disagree
- ☐ I strongly disagree

Further comments:

5 Your details



Winking Hill Energy Storage Proposal

Comment Form

Please provide your name and contact details below in order to authenticate this comments form. Providing this information gives context to your feedback, facilitates a better understanding of community views and priorities, and enables us to respond to any questions raised. However, if you are not comfortable providing us with your full contact details, please include your postcode as a minimum.

Your contact details will be treated by RES with the strictest of confidence, in line with the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) 2018. We may at times share your contact details, in confidence, with third parties who we employ to help process your comments or update you on the project and by providing your details below you consent to this. You may write to RES at any time to ask that your contact details be removed from our records and from any third parties we work with.

Name	
Email	
Address	
Postcode	

If you would like to be kept up to date with the project, please tick this box

☐

When you have completed the comment form, please put it in the box provided. Comment forms are also available to complete and submit online at www.winkinghill-energystorage.co.uk. Forms may also be sent by post to: Winking Hill Energy Storage, Beauford Court, Egg Farm Lane, Kings Langley, Hertfordshire, WD4 8LD

Thank you for taking the time to complete this comment form, your feedback is important to us.