

Public

Ref: FOI/24/0046

National Energy System Operator

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31 March 2025

Dear requester

Request for Information

Thank you for your request for information which we received on 2 March 2025.

We have determined that the information you have requested meets the definition of 'environmental information' at Regulation 2(1) of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR) and your request has therefore been considered under that legislation.

Request

You asked us:

Could you please tell me the Grid Connection Date for Wood Lodge Solar Farm, (developer is Stark Energy) in Huntingdon Road, Thrapston, North Northants?

Could you also confirm maximum size in MW for Wood Lodge Solar Farm?

The site is connecting directly into the 132kV transmission line, are there any constraints on this line that will delay connection?

When was Grid Connection date was confirmed/ last modified for this Solar Application?

How will the recent pause in grid connections affect this application which still hasn't received planning and is going to appeal? Will it lose its place in the queue, retain its place in the queue or it doesn't yet have a place in the queue.

Our response

We confirm that we do not hold recorded information in scope of your request. NESO does not hold any record of a connection agreement relating to this project.

Advice and assistance

Information on NESO's role in Connections is available here: [NESO's role in Connections | National Energy System Operator](#).

NESO's responsibility is to lead the connections application and offer process for direct connections to the National Electricity Transmission System (NETS).

If a customer is not connecting directly to the transmission system, the connection will be to one of the Distribution Network Operators (DNO) and the connection contract will be held with the relevant DNO, not NESO. Please note that the [Stark Energy website](#) states, in relation to the Wood Lodge Solar Farm project: *'The project benefits from an on-site 132kV connection into the local distribution network ...'*

You can search for a DNO using a postcode search on this website: [Who's my electricity network operator? – Energy Networks Association \(ENA\)](#) It appears that the DNO for the relevant region is National Grid Electricity Distribution (NGED).

NGED is in scope of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR) and their contact details are available here: [Environmental Information Regulations \("EIR"\) 2004 | National Grid ET](#).

Next steps

You can ask us to review our response. If you want us to carry out a review, please let us know within 40 working days and quote the reference number at the top of this letter.

If you are still dissatisfied after our internal review, you can complain to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). You should make complaints to the ICO within six weeks of receiving the outcome of an internal review. The easiest way to lodge a complaint is through their website: www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints. Alternatively, they can be contacted at: Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, SK9 5AF.

Thank you for your interest in the work of the National Energy System Operator (NESO).

Regards,

The Information Rights Team, National Energy System Operator (NESO)