

Ms Rebecca Sport

County Hall

Maidstone

Kent

**ME14 1XQ** 

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07 November 2017

Dear Ms Rebecca Sport.

## R.e. Proposals for the Cleve Hill Solar Park on the north Kent coast.

I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of Cleve Hill Solar Park Ltd to write to you to introduce our early stage proposals for a solar park on the north Kent coast. The development is proposed to be sited on approximately 360 ha (890 acres) of land approximately 2km northeast of Faversham and 5km west of Whitstable at Cleve Hill, Graveney.

Due to its proposed generation capacity being over 50MW, the solar park will be classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP). This means that Cleve Hill Solar Park Ltd are preparing a Development Consent Order (DCO), which will be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) and finally determined by the Secretary of State for Business Energy Innovation and Skills (BEIS).

The project has the potential to generate clean, renewable energy for approximately 110,000 homes a year, which is approximately the number of households in the Swale and Canterbury Districts combined. Furthermore, as subsidies no longer play any role in solar development, the Cleve Hill Solar Park will not receive any government funding.

Proposals for the project are currently at an early stage. To date we have engaged with Swale Borough Council, Kent County Council and Canterbury City Council on our Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC), which will be available to view in the local area from 9 November. As part of this engagement we have sought their opinion on how best to consult and engage with local communities. From 9th November, the SoCC will be available to view on our website; www.clevehillsolar.com.

For members of the local community, there will be the opportunity to view plans and ask questions about the proposals at a public exhibition. These will be held on:

- 5 December from 5pm to 8pm, at Sheppey Evangelical Church, Warden Bay Road, Leysdown ME12 4NA
- 6 December from 11.30am to 7.30pm, at Faversham Assembly Rooms, 66 Preston St, Faversham ME13 8PG
- 7 December from 1.30pm to 8pm, at Graveney Village Hall, Graveney, Faversham ME13 9DN
- 8 December from 12.30pm to 4.30pm, at Seasalter Christian Centre, Faversham Road, Whitstable, Kent, CT5 4AX











A further round of consultation events will be held in Spring 2018.

I have enclosed a stakeholder briefing pack with this letter for your information. We understand how important it is to be informed of project and consultation updates should you also receive enquiries from local residents and community members. Throughout the development of the Cleve Hill Solar Park we will ensure you receive copies of our consultee information and notices of our events.

Our project team would be happy to meet with you at any stage throughout the consultation for the project.

In the meantime, if you have any questions or queries about our proposals, please do not hesitate to contact me or a member of the team by using the details provided below.

Yours sincerely,

**Hugh Brennan** 

Managing Director Hive Energy For and on behalf of Cleve Hill Solar Park Ltd.





