241510 - PROPOSED INSTALLATION AND OPERATION OF A RENEWABLE ENERGY GENERATION STATION COMPRISING GROUND-MOUNTED PHOTOVOLTAIC, INVERTER/TRANSFORMER UNITS, CONTROL ROOM, SUBSTATIONS, ONSITE GRID CONNECTION EQUIPMENT, SITE ACCESS, ACCESS GATES, INTERNAL ACCESS TRACKS, SECURITY MEASURES AND OTHER ANCILLARY INFRASTRUCTURE AT LAND AT STOKE EDITH, HEREFORD, HEREFORDSHIRE,

For: Anesco Ltd c/o agent per Mr Nick Pleasant, Fourth Floor, 2 Whitehall Quay, Leeds, LS1 4HR

ADDITIONAL REPRESENTATIONS

One additional representation received from a member of the public seeking clarification on the following two points;

- The National Grid Connection for the site is currently shown at 16.3MWpeak capacity NOT 20MWpeak capacity. See <u>National Grid Electricity Distribution Embedded</u> <u>Capacity Register NGED ECR Dashboard June 2025 Excel download</u> The Stoke Edith project is at Line 1599 column AR (Accepted to Connect Registered Capacity) 16.3MW peak onto the 66kV Dormington - Bromyard line that crosses the proposed site.
- 2. As a consequence of the above the claimed "benefits" of the proposed scheme will be <u>significantly curtailed</u> especially in the summer months during the daily maximum UK insolation. It is therefore highly likely that the Developer will propose an additional Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) to ensure maximum electrical power output to the grid from the scheme.

OFFICER COMMENTS

The planning consultant for the scheme has confirmed that the peak export capacity of the project as connected to the grid is 16.3MW as identified in the representation. This is the maximum amount of power the solar system will be able to provide to the grid at any one moment. The size of the project which is being proposed however is designed at 20.6MW. This is to ensure during times of cloudier weather and in the morning and evenings, the system still generates a good amount of power to keep exporting 16.3MW for longer. There will be some curtailment, but it will not be above 5% and therefore is deemed to be insignificant. This is identified as standard practice across solar developments to make the most use of the grid connection available.

The application does not include a BESS system on the site. If in the future any system is proposed it will be considered through the planning process, with all material planning considerations assessed.

CHANGE TO RECOMMENDATION

In line with the advice from the River Lugg Internal Drainage Board and Environment Agency the following condition is included in the recommendation to ensure access for maintenance:

A 9-metre easement to be measured from the top of the riverbank shall be maintained along the northern boundary at all times and kept clear for maintenance access.

Reason: To ensure access for maintenance equipment and personnel and to prevent obstructions that could impede the flow of water or hinder maintenance activities and to comply with Policies SD1 and SD3 of the Herefordshire Local Plan Core Strategy and the National Planning Policy Framework.

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