

Kingsway Solar Farm NSIP Proposals

Overview

This appendix provides a summary of Kingsway Solar Farm Limited's ('the promoter') emerging proposals for the construction, operation and decommissioning of photovoltaic panels and associated infrastructure (including batteries), with a generating capacity of 500MW of electricity. A pylon route is also proposed to connect the scheme to a new substation in Burwell, with the substation itself not forming part of the project proposals.

The project is located within the administrative boundaries of South Cambridgeshire and East Cambridgeshire and is therefore cross-boundary. Both authorities, alongside Cambridgeshire County Council, are 'host authorities' for the purposes of The Planning Act 2008 (as amended).

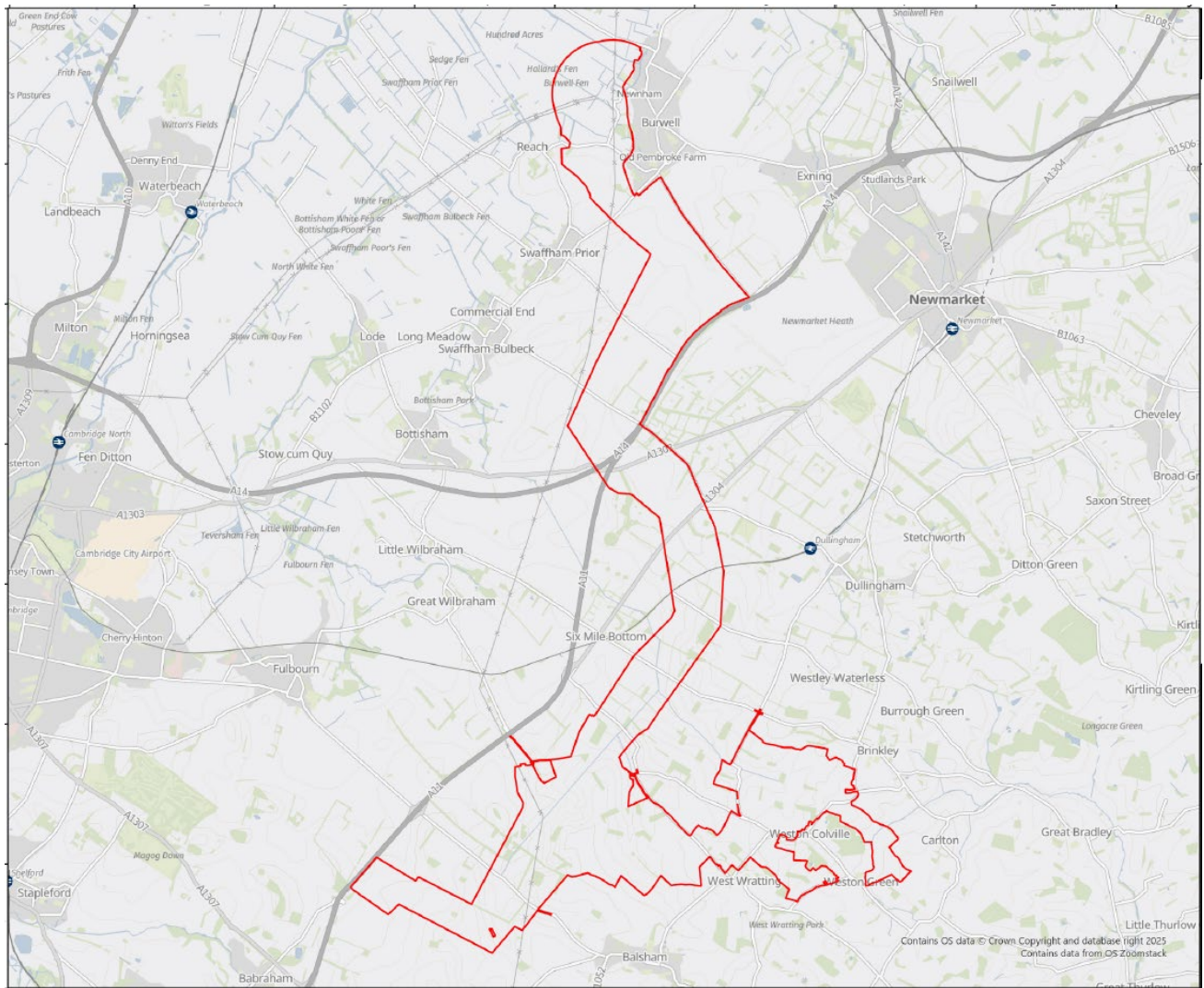
Based on the information currently available, it is only the proposed pylon route that would fall within the administrative boundary of East Cambridgeshire, with the photovoltaic panels and batteries falling within South Cambridgeshire. This report provides further information on the Kingsway proposal to date and its geography.

The Kingsway Solar Farm is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) and the promoter will apply to the Secretary of State for a Development Consent Order (DCO). East Cambridgeshire District Council is not therefore a determining body and acts solely in the capacity of a statutory consultee alongside the other two host authorities.

Project Proposals

The project is proposed to be located to the south of the Six Mile Bottom, with the bulk of the proposed infrastructure (panels and batteries) falling within the South Cambridgeshire District. The project is currently expected to cover approximately 1,246 hectares (3,079 acres) of land, of which 35% is proposed for the solar photovoltaic panels, battery energy storage systems and associated infrastructure. The proposed 15km (c.9.3 mile) overhead pylon route connecting the scheme to a new substation in Burwell would fall predominantly within the East Cambridgeshire District within the Burwell, Bottisham and Woodditton wards. This forms the 'grid connection corridor'.

The proposed grid connection (pylon) route is currently shown on an eastern alignment, arcing around the eastern side of Six Mile Bottom and spanning the A1304 and the A14, where it then follows an almost-parallel alignment to the A14 before heading north-west towards Burwell. The following plan shows the currently proposed site boundary:



Scheme boundary submitted as part of statutory consultation – 17th September 2025

The emerging proposals for a solar farm and associated infrastructure fall within the NSIP regime as the generating capacity of the project exceeds 50 megawatts of electricity¹. The government has announced under the Planning and Infrastructure Bill, currently making its way through Parliament, that this threshold is to be increased to 100 megawatts as of November 2025, but the Kingsway proposals are progressing under the current regime.

The Secretary of State for the Department of Energy Security (DEZNZ) is the decision-making body for the DCO application, with the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) serving as the 'Examining Authority' (ExA) and performing planning functions on behalf of the Secretary of State. The Examining Authority will assess the DCO proposals and make a final recommendation to the Secretary of State, who then makes the final decision on the DCO outcome. The Secretary of State can depart from the recommendation of the ExA, as was the case with the Sunnica NSIP granted in the summer of 2024.

Key Milestones and Engagement

Pre-application and Acceptance Stages (current project stage)

- scoping response (28 days) – Completed January 2025

¹ Section 15 of the Planning Act 2008

- statement of community consultation response (28 days) – Completed August 2025
- principal areas of disagreement summary statement
- non-statutory and statutory consultation response (deadline for response provided by the applicant) – commenced 17th September 2025, response due 29th October
- adequacy of consultation representation (14 days)

Pre-Examination and Examination Stages (anticipated 2026 onwards)

- relevant representation (minimum 30 days)
- local impact report (early in the examination stage)
- written representation (early in the examination stage)
- responses to the Examining Authority's written questions and requests for information (timeframe variable – usually a matter of weeks)
- comments on the applicant/promoter's draft DCO
- statement of common ground (to be agreed, where possible, by the close of examination – a maximum of 6 months, or 4 months for fast-track consent applications)
- DCO obligation (if appropriate)

In terms of Kingsway's engagement with the council and its communities to date, non-statutory consultation with the public was held in November 2024. The council was also consulted by the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) on an Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report in January 2025.

Statutory consultation also commenced on the 17th September 2025. Details and documents can be found here: [Consultation – kingswaysolarfarm.co.uk](https://www.kingswaysolarfarm.co.uk/consultation).

It is anticipated that a formal submission of the application to the Inspectorate will take place in the first quarter of 2026, although a fixed date has not been agreed.