



HELIOS RENEWABLE
ENERGY
PROJECT

Preliminary Environmental Information Report

Volume 3: Technical Appendices

Appendix 11.2: Correspondence
with Selby District Council Senior
Environmental Health Officer

APPENDIX 11.2 – Correspondence with Selby District Council

Senior Environmental Health Officer

From: [REDACTED]@inacoustic.co.uk
Subject: Re: Drax Solar Farm Noise Assessment Methodology
Date: 7 March 2022 at 10:54
To: [REDACTED]@selby.gov.uk
Cc: [REDACTED]@inacoustic.co.uk, [REDACTED]@inacoustic.co.uk, [REDACTED]@bartonwillmore.co.uk

Good Morning [REDACTED]

Thank you for speaking to me on the phone just now. As discussed, we will be collecting our equipment from site tomorrow slightly earlier than expected. We are satisfied the data set will be sufficient to conduct a robust assessment as weather conditions over the weekend were clear, including Sunday, which we expect to be the quietest period.

Kind Regards,



[REDACTED] Senior Acoustic Consultant

[REDACTED]
Caswell Park, Caswell Lane, Clapton-in-Gordano, Bristol, BS20 7RT
www.inacoustic.co.uk

On 3 Mar 2022, at 17:24, [REDACTED]@inacoustic.co.uk wrote:

Hi [REDACTED]

Many thanks for taking the time to respond. Our survey work has now commenced, but please see our respective responses below:

- Re the siting of MP9; due to the confidential nature of the scheme at present, we are only able to access land under the Applicant's control for the purposes of installing survey equipment. The need for discretion does mean that we have to be extremely careful about provoking local interest; however, MP9 does cover an area of the site that is currently proposed for the grid connection point, which is not anticipated to be significantly noise generating. Furthermore, the scale, distribution and relative separation distance of noise sources within the existing Drax site would mean that the localised reductions/changes in noise level between MP9 and the nearby NSRs would be negligible, particularly with regard to the L90 index.

Notwithstanding, the above, an on-site qualitative audibility check will be conducted by the survey consultant, who, if deeming it necessary, has been asked to undertake several short-duration, time-synced validation measurements to check whether significant variations in the L90 occur locally.

- Our aim is to always try to achieve no exceedance of the background sound level; however, given the necessary balance between national interest and amenity for such a scheme, we may need to push for more lenient criteria where background sound levels becoming prohibitively low.

- Despite the scale of development, construction activity for such a scheme is typically not particularly intense or intrusive. We will, however, be using the relevant ABC criteria set out within BS5228, which will be informed by the robust on-site noise measurement that we have now commenced recording.

I hope this answers any outstanding concerns and we'll look forward to liaising with you throughout the process of the scheme.

Kind Regards,



[REDACTED] / Senior Acoustic Consultant
[REDACTED]@inacoustic.co.uk / [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Caswell Park, Caswell Lane, Clapton-in-Gordano, Bristol, BS20 7RT
www.inacoustic.co.uk

On 3 Mar 2022, at 09:30, [REDACTED]@selby.gov.uk wrote:

Hi [REDACTED]

Thanks for your email setting out the proposed acoustic monitoring procedure. Overall, the monitoring regime is sufficient in terms of duration and monitoring stations, and reference is made to the relevant BS4142:2014+A1:2019

methodology.

My observations are as follows:

- In terms of monitoring locations, I have some early reservations about the siting of MP9 and whether it will be a true representation of NSRs 2 & 3 due to its proximity to Drax power station. Consequently, there is a risk of elevated noise levels when establishing the representative background levels for the purpose of BS4142 methodology. In general terms, whilst acknowledging occasional difficulties in doing so, it would be preferred if arrangements were made with the occupant(s) of the NSRs with a view to carrying out long term monitoring at the receptor
- With regards assessment criteria, I note the proposed +3dB tolerance when absolute levels do not exceed 30dBA. Whilst acknowledging the scope for context to be considered in due course, the aim should always be not to exceed existing background levels to avoid introducing new noise exposure at NSRs. This should be achieved through good acoustic design in the first instance.
- Depending on the nature of the construction phase I would recommend that consideration is given to BS5228-1&2:2009+A1:2014 assessment methodology to avoid further monitoring at a later stage, although I note the intention to record $L_{Aeq,15mins}$ noise levels.

I hope this helps and please do not hesitate to contact me should you wish to discuss further.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Senior Environmental Health Officer

t: [REDACTED]
e: [REDACTED].gov.uk
w: www.selby.gov.uk

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Selby District Council, Civic Centre, Doncaster Road, Selby, YO8 9FT.



From: [REDACTED]@inacoustic.co.uk>
Sent: 25 February 2022 16:10
To: [REDACTED]@selby.gov.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED]@inacoustic.co.uk>
Subject: Drax Solar Farm Noise Assessment Methodology

Good Afternoon [REDACTED]

I have been passed on your contact details by Barton Willmore, I understand you are the lead EHO at Selby and will be overseeing this application.

Inacoustic are undertaking the noise assessment for the project, led by myself and our technical director [REDACTED]. Attached is the method statement outlining the approach we intend to take with regards to on site noise measurements. Our aim is to be on site towards the end of next week, to install the equipment and measure for 7 days. The stormy weather has meant we've had several delays so fingers crossed the weeks to follow will be calmer.

I would be grateful for any comments you have regarding our method, if you would like to discuss anything in the document please feel free to contact myself or my colleague [REDACTED]

Kind Regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Senior Acoustic Consultant
[REDACTED]@inacoustic.co.uk / [REDACTED]

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