



Sent to: maenhir@lightsourcebp.com

15 November 2024

Dear Planning Inspectorate

Re: SECTION 48 PLANNING ACT 2008 REGULATION 4 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (APPLICATIONS: PRESCRIBED FORMS AND PROCEDURE) REGULATIONS 2009 REGULATION 13 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) REGULATIONS 2017 NOTICE PUBLICISING A PROPOSED APPLICATION FOR A DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER FOR THE MAEN HIR SOLAR FARM AND ENERGY STORAGE PROJECT

Welsh Government Energy Policy notes the opportunity to respond to the consultation and thanks the applicant. This response is from the Energy Policy Division. Other divisions of Welsh Government have also provided responses from their specialised areas. It may be that Welsh Government may take the opportunity to combine response in the future.

Energy Policy Division would like to emphasise the point (although you refer to it in your application) that all new renewable energy projects should seek to include an element of local ownership. We urge Lightsourcebp to make every effort to ensure the Maen Hir project can meet this expectation, by engaging with local communities and grassroots organisations and maximising those opportunities. We would also expect the community benefits element of the project to be aligned as closely as possible with existing Welsh Government programmes with a view to ensuring maximum benefit. Engaging with Community Energy Wales may provide you with greater opportunities in terms of ownership and benefits.

The local ownership element shows our commitment to “keeping value” within Wales along with maximising the benefit for the Welsh economy. We would value clarification on whether any discussions have taken place in relation to the proposed community benefits to maximise the long-term legacy for Wales.

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
ChiefRegionalOfficerNorth@gov.wales
Sarn Mynach, Cyffordd Llandudno / Llandudno
Junction, Conwy LL31 9RZ

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

There are clearly opportunities in relation to supply chains and skills to maximise the opportunities further for the region.

Yours sincerely

Is-adran Ynni/ Energy Division
Llywodraeth Cymru / Welsh Government

