

**Zenab Hearn**  
Principal Planner  
Buckinghamshire Council  
The Gateway  
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By Email

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5<sup>th</sup> November 2024

Dear Zenab,

**STATERA ENERGY, EAST CLAYDON BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM  
23/03875/APP**

I am writing to address comments raised in relation to the application by Statera (the Applicant) for a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) nearby to the East Claydon National Grid substation in Buckinghamshire (application ref: 23/03875/APP). The principal matters include those raised by Buckingham and River Ouzel Internal Drainage Board, the Buckinghamshire Council Right of Way Officer, Buckinghamshire Council Arboricultural Officer and other matters.

**1) Buckingham and River Ouzel Internal Drainage Board (IDB)**

The applicant has met with the IDB to discuss their comments provided on the application. These comments relate to the need to secure permissions, consents and licences which sit outside of the planning process and which are considered by the IDB separately as the relevant authority, including land drainage consents. Following these discussions the applicant can confirm that such relevant permissions, consents and licences will be sought from the IDB once any future planning consent has been granted.

**2) Buckinghamshire Council Right of Way (RoW) Officer**

The RoW officer queried within their comments whether there is a method by which the permissive routes could be secured for the future lifetime of the development. In response, the applicant can suggest that a suitably worded section 106 agreement would be an appropriate means to secure these routes.

On level transitions from the footpath network across the emergency access track, and location and type of kissing gates to be used, the applicant suggests that a planning condition be attached to any future grant of planning consent which would require such detail to be provided and approved by Buckinghamshire Council in advance of development commencing.

The RoW officer identifies a "short-cut, desire line" for walkers at the northern boundary of the site onto the footpath network. Unfortunately, the hedged boundary in this location is not on land within the application redline and belongs to a neighbouring landowner. The applicant is therefore not able to provide such a short cut as this would be across land over which the applicant has no control.

### 3) Buckinghamshire Council Arboricultural Officer

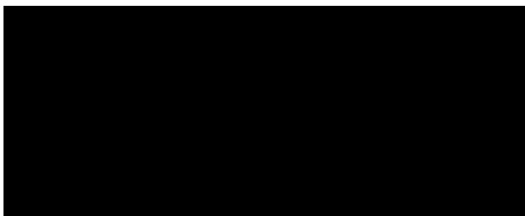
The arboricultural officer requests detail on the extent of horizontal directional drilling (HDD) proposed, including the location of launch and receiver pits and a schedule of when arboricultural monitoring will be undertaken. The applicant suggests that a planning condition be attached to any future grant of planning consent, which would require such HDD detail to be provided to the satisfaction of Buckinghamshire Council, alongside a full schedule of arboricultural monitoring, before development can commence.

### 4) Other Matters

Statera has a contracted connection date with National Grid to connect into the East Claydon substation in 2026 and has submitted a planning application on this basis. Following submission of our planning application, National Grid is now proposing a new substation at East Claydon. Statera is in ongoing discussion with National Grid about necessary changes to the contracted connection date. This could include a temporary connection into the current substation pending the construction of a new substation later in the decade. Any future connection into the new substation that may or may not be required is separate to the current application and, if necessary, will be subject to separate planning consent.

Members of the public identified that one of the water tanks shown within the original submission was omitted from the updated scheme design (July 2024). This was a drafting error and the site layout has been updated to rectify this minor omission. I would be grateful if you would please accept the enclosed site layout plan (SL261\_L\_X\_GA\_1\_Rev C) as part of our application package, the only change is the addition of a fourth water tank.

Yours Sincerely



**Chris Palmer** BSc(Hons) MSc MRTPI

Planning Lead

Statera Energy Ltd