GREEN GEN CYMRU VYRNWY FRANKTON

TARGETED STATUTORY COMMUNITY CONSULTATION STRATEGY:

PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE PROJECT

GREEN GEN CYMRU

www.greengenvyrnwyfrankton.com

INTRODUCTION

This Targeted Statutory Community Consultation Strategy is about proposed changes to the Green Generation Energy Networks Cymru's (Green GEN Cymru) Vyrnwy Frankton Project (the Project).

It explains the targeted statutory consultation Green GEN Cymru will undertake with communities in Powys and Shropshire located near to the changes to our proposals for the Project.

We conducted the first stage of non-statutory consultation from 6 September to 18 October 2023. We then held a statutory consultation between 19 February 2025 and 16 April 2025.

We set out how we intended to consult in a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) published in January 2025, and we carried out the statutory consultation in accordance with the SoCC.

Following the statutory consultation in April 2025, we reviewed all consultation feedback received and carried out further assessments and survey work to help inform the proposals. In light of feedback and additional technical information, we are now considering making some changes to our proposals at a number of locations, including a refined alignment of the switching station near to National Grid's proposed Lower Frankton substation, and changes to the location of the Cors y Garreg Collector Substation.

We therefore are proposing to hold a targeted statutory consultation to inform consultees on these proposed changes and updates. We have planned the targeted statutory consultation in the line with guidance (Planning Act 2008: Pre-application stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects, paragraph 020) issued in April 2024 by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (now Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government):

"In understanding whether there has been a material and substantial change, applicants should take into account the following guiding factors:

- *the degree of change as compared to the proposals previously consulted upon as a whole;*
- *the number of materially worse environmental effects as compared to what has been the subject of previous consultations; and*
- *the level of public interest, and the likelihood that such interest would merit further consideration in the context of that change".*

"For any material change to a part of the proposed application where the Project as a whole is not fundamentally changed, for example in the case of linear aspects where new information leads to a new alignment for a particular section of the proposal, a bespoke and targeted approach to further consultation can be adopted, which can address the specific consultation obligations arising proportionately."

"Targeted consultation can be statutory or non-statutory or a combination of the two depending on whether new persons needing to be consulted under section 42 of the Planning Act have been identified, but such targeted consultation will not require the production of PEI provided proportionate and appropriate information on environmental implications of any changes, where necessary, is provided."

We will be holding a targeted statutory consultation as the proposed changes to the existing overhead line and amendments to both the collector substation and switching station may affect new landowners that have yet to be consulted. This strategy sets out how we will undertake this consultation with the principles and methods set out in the SoCC and in accordance with Planning Act 2008 and relevant guidance.

Targeted statutory consultation

We are consulting with residents in areas where we are considering changes to the Project which was presented to the public at our statutory consultation between 19 February – 16 April 2025. The areas of change that are proposed are:

- **Area of Change 1:** Change of location for the collector substation to the north west of Cors y Garreg
- **Area of Change 2:** North-east of Cefn Coch changes to towers 6 to 17, 22 to 28 and 30 to 39
- **Area of Change 3:** Southeast of Allt y Main changes to towers 65 to 69 and 76 to 80
- **Area of Change 4:** South of Llansantffraid-ym-Mechain changes to towers 87 to 94, towers 92 to 98 and towers 103 to 109
- **Area of Change 5:** South of Llanymynech changes to towers 116 to 122 and towers 122 to 130
- **Area of Change 6:** Between Pant and Crickheath changes to towers 134 to 138 and tower 141
- **Area of Change 7:** Lower Frankton Switching Station and changes to towers 168 to 172

The proposed changes are in response to feedback and further assessments along with further information provided for the proposed National Grid Substation near Lower Frankton.

There are a series of other minor changes along the route which have been made in response to landowner and stakeholder requests or other design refinements, but those changes are not being consulted on as part of this community consultation exercise.

Consulting with the community

We are consulting with local owners and occupiers in each area where we're considering changes to our Project. For each of the proposed areas of change we've developed a 1km consultation zone. We will write to residents within each of these consultation zones informing them of the proposed changes for their specific area.

We will notify stakeholders of the detailed timings. Dates and how to take part in the consultation will also be published on the Project website.

Targeted Statutory Consultation Engagement

We are consulting using a variety of methods to help explain our proposals and encourage people to provide their comments.

A letter will be sent to each property and business within the consultation zones explaining the targeted statutory consultation and how to provide feedback.

We will also publicise the consultation through:

- the project website
- correspondence with nearby residents
- e-bulletin to web subscribers
- contact with Seldom Heard organisations

Briefings

We will offer a briefing, to provide information about the targeted statutory consultation and respond to any questions, to the following stakeholders:

- Members of Parliament
- Members of the Senedd
- Ward councillors
- Community/parish councils

Consultation Events

The events will be in the form of drop-in sessions, and will take place at a suitable, publicly accessible venues near the consultation area.

Here are the proposed date and times for the events:

Friday 13 February 10:00 – 13:00 Llanfair Caereinion Public Hall and Institute

Friday 13 February 15:00 – 18:00 Llansantffraid Community Hall

Saturday 14 February 9:00 – 12:00 Welsh Frankton Village Hall

Should the events need to be altered or cancelled for any reason, the most appropriate mitigation would be identified on a case-by-case basis in consultation with the relevant Local Planning Authority.

Consultation materials

Each proposed change will have its own set of materials. All documents relevant to Powys will be provided in both English and Welsh.

- Consultation Leaflet (for each area of change)
- Environmental Implications of Change Reports
- FAQs (online only)
- Updated Website
- Printed Maps
- Statement of Community Consultation – Statutory Consultation 2025
- Preliminary Environmental Information Report – Statutory Consultation 2025
- Preliminary Environmental Information Report – Appendices – Statutory Consultation 2025
- Preliminary Environmental Information Report – Figures – Statutory Consultation 2025
- Preliminary Environmental Information Report – Non-Technical Summary – Statutory Consultation 2025
- Location Plan
- Consultation Plans
- Typical Layouts Construction
- Typical Tower and Foundation Drawings
- Site Layouts Drawings
- Grid Connection Strategy Phase 3 – Statutory Consultation 2025
- Route Alignment Document – Statutory Consultation 2025
- Guide to the Plans
- Section 42 Notice
- Section 46 Notice
- Section 48 Notice

Accessibility – If people would like consultation materials presented in different formats, we will consider this on request.

Responding to the consultation

People can submit feedback in the following ways:

- By email to: **info@greengenvyrnwyfrankton.com**
- In writing to: **FREEPOST Green GEN Cymru V2F**

Feedback for each proposed area of change will be reviewed separately, and only feedback relevant to those changes will be analysed.

We will reply to queries received about the logistics of the consultation itself, details of the events being held, availability of consultation materials or advice on how to submit a response. Green GEN Cymru takes data privacy seriously and all data will be held in line with GDPR best practice.