

PROPOSED BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM (BESS)

Catsfield Farm,

Battle,

East Sussex,

TN33 9BB



ELGIN
ENERGY

Introduction

Elgin Energy EsCo Ltd is seeking to develop a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) at Catsfield Farm, the Stream, Battle, East Sussex, TN33 9BB. We are seeking your views on this proposal ahead of submitting a planning application to Rother District Council.

What is a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)?

A Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) is a type of battery that stores electricity for later use, just like a rechargeable battery in your phone. A BESS does not produce electricity, it only stores electricity that has already been made.

A BESS collects electricity when there is a surplus, such as at night-time, or on sunny or windy days when renewable energy sources like solar panels and wind turbines generate more electricity than is needed. The BESS stores this electricity so that it can be released back into the grid when demand for electricity is high or when there is a shortage.

A BESS helps to ensure a stable and reliable electricity supply. A BESS also helps to reduce your electricity bill as it stores cheaper electricity for use where there is a high demand.

A BESS plays a crucial role in fighting climate change and supporting our transition away from fossil fuels to green energy. It allows electricity produced by solar or wind to be used when it is not windy or sunny, which means that we don't need to burn coal or gas at these times. A BESS reduces our reliance on fossil fuels and contributes to a cleaner, greener future.

A BESS is not like a solar farm or a wind farm. It is much smaller and does not generate electricity. We expect the BESS to last around 50-years, and after that the land would go back to agriculture or forestry.

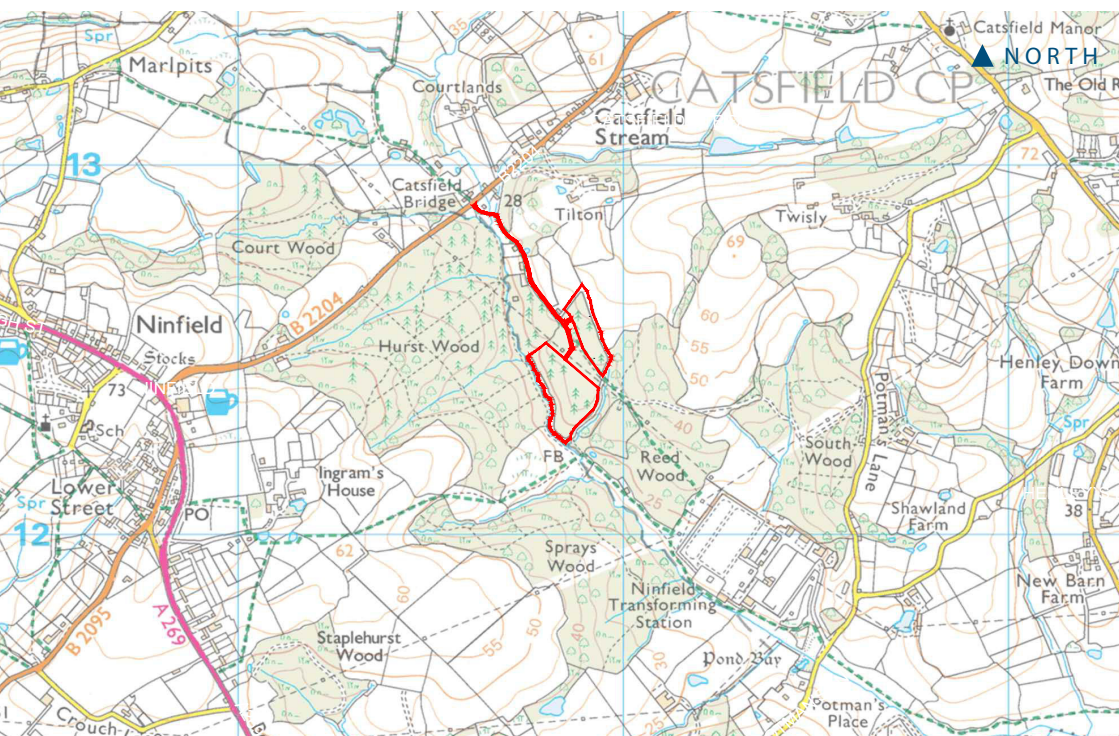
The Application Site

A BESS must be located where it can connect to the National Grid. The proposed site for our BESS is at Catsfield Farm, approximately 400 metres (440 yards) north-west of the Ninfield electrical sub-station, and 1.3km southwest of Catsfield. The red line on the map below shows an indicative site boundary, but the actual boundary is likely to be smaller than this.

The development will occupy around 1.21 hectares (3 acres) in total. Currently, the land is used for growing Christmas trees for Catsfield Farm. There are already overhead high-voltage powerlines running south-east/north-west across the site.

Access to the site is from the B2204, located to the north-west. A public footpath runs close to the south-western boundary of the eastern section of the site, but we would ensure that we plant vegetation so that the BESS and the fencing cannot be clearly seen.

You may have heard about a nearby planning application for a 240MW BESS at Eastlands Farm. Our proposal is completely separate from that application and is significantly smaller.



Public Consultation

We believe that this project can bring significant benefits to your community, including supporting your energy needs, contributing to environmental sustainability, and creating job opportunities during both the construction and operation phases.

We understand that new developments can raise questions and concerns, and we want to give you the opportunity to express these. Before submitting the planning application, we are engaging with local residents and stakeholders to gather feedback and address any concerns.

We have set up a website to share information about the project: www.CatsfieldFarmBESS.co.uk

On the website, you can share your thoughts, raise any concerns you have, tell us your views on renewable energy, and suggest how the development can best benefit the community.

The online consultation will run until the 9th March. Following this, we will review all comments and make any amendments deemed necessary.

We are excited to invite you to our public consultation exhibition. This is an opportunity for you to learn more about the project, ask questions, and share your thoughts.

- When: Thursday, 27th February, 4pm to 7pm
- Where: Catsfield Village Hall, 11 Church Road, Catsfield, TN33 9DP
- Website: www.catsfieldvillagehall.org

Team members and project specialists will be on hand to listen to your views and answer your questions

Physical elements of the development

The following components are proposed for this development:

- o 5-metre wide permeable access track to the compound.
- o Electrical transformer switching equipment
- o Palisade security fencing
- o Landscape and Ecology enhancements
- o Underground cabling
- o A compound containing up to;
 - TBC Battery storage containers
 - TBC Battery Management/ Power Control System
 - CCTV monitoring system.

Once operational, the BESS would be visited around twice a month for maintenance and safety inspections.



Pre-Planning Process

The BESS will be designed to protect the local environment and surrounding area. We have assessed the site to ensure the protection of wildlife and local heritage. We have evaluated construction traffic, planned the scheme to minimise noise, and implemented measures to prevent and manage fire risks.

A Landscape and Visual Assessment has been undertaken to ensure the BESS is designed to protect the landscape and nearby viewpoints. Existing field boundaries, trees, and hedgerows would be retained, and we plan to enhance biodiversity on the site by planting hedgerows, trees, wildflower meadows, and installing bat and bird boxes, as well as insect “hotels”.

Planning Application

Once we have considered your feedback and have all of the reports and assessments ready, we will submit a planning application to Rother Council. You will then have the opportunity to submit comments directly to Rother District Council.

Please note that taking part in our consultation process does not affect your statutory rights to make representations to directly to Rother Council.

Local Engagement

Elgin Energy EsCo Ltd is committed to the local communities in which we operate. We aim to use local contractors and local businesses as far as possible during the construction phase.

Construction typically takes around six months. During the operational phase, we plan to engage local contractors and service providers to maintain the BESS. If you have proposals for a potential community benefit fund that we could contribute to or would like to inquire about providing services for this project, please respond to our survey on the project website or at the in-person consultation.



About Elgin Energy

Elgin is a leading international solar company, bringing projects from origination through development to energisation. The company has a portfolio of projects in late-stage development totalling 15GW+ across five key markets: the UK, Australia, Ireland, Germany and Italy, with an unparalleled 98% success rate in gaining planning permission across all its markets.

Since being founded in 2009, Elgin has expanded internationally and has a team of over 115 professionals in its London, Dublin, Munich, Madrid and Sydney offices.

To learn more about Elgin Energy and the work we do, please visit our website below: <https://www.elgin.com/>

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