Brymbo Heritage Trust

Stori Brymbo

Planning Conditions Reference P/2024/1578

15. A Decommissioning Plan shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority prior to the first use of the development for the generation of electricity. The Decommissioning Plan shall include details of the works necessary to revert the site to its original condition, including the method for the removal of all of the solar panels, sub-stations, inverter stations, structures, hardstanding, enclosures, equipment and all other apparatus above and below ground level from the site. The Decommissioning Plan shall also include a timeframe for such works which will address both time limits set out in Condition 18 of this permission.

In the unlikely event that there is a need to Decommission the site in 40 years or before the process is very simple.

1 The system will be isolated from the national grid using the installed isolators required to meet all DNO and National grid requirements.
2 The panel strings will be unplugged from each other and all connecting wiring carefully removed for reuse.
3 The panels will be unbolted from the supporting steel work structure, loaded on to pickup trucks and transported to their new home ready for reassembly and continued use. If any of the panels have reached their end-of-life status they will be sent for recycling.
4 The existing support structure will be unbolted from the concrete base plates. These components will again be loaded on to pickup trucks and transported for reassembly and re use.
5 The concrete plinths on which the whole structure is built will be individually lifted by a 13t tracked excavator or similar, load for transport and there re use elsewhere.
6 The battery towers that are built like Lego blocks will be decommissioned and then load and taken away again for reuse. Again, if any of the battery packs have reached end of life status they will be sent for recycling
7 The two inverters mounted on support blocks would also be removed and sent for reuse.
8 As there are no foundations or piling work associated with the scheme. All of the concrete plinths supporting the structure will be removed for reuse so there is no remedial works required on the cap surface as the solar farm is removed.
9 The cap will continue to be maintained in a similar manner to the remainder of the area that has been unaffected by the solar array
10 The supply cable that is buried in a trench from the top of the wonder bank (outside the cap area) will be left in situ as it will be overgrown and vegetated and it would be unnecessary to disturb the established flora and fawner unless another use could be found for the supply cable.
11 The vehicles used in the removal would be similar to those used during construction and all in compliance with Condition 18.
12 The Heritage Centre and Stori Brymbo would have to find a new renewable electrical supply to replace that being lost by the removal of this facility. As telling the story of Iron and Steel production stems back to the adjacent fossil forest and the creation of the ingredients required along with sunlight to produce the energy required.