



BALANCEPOWER

Decommissioning Statement

Sandy Brow BESS, Knowsley

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Document Control

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1. Introduction

Balance Power Projects (BPP) have prepared this Decommissioning Statement to support the planning application for Battery Storage Facility at Land east of Perimeter Road, Kirkby, Knowsley, L33 7UF (known as Sandy Brow).

The proposed development will comprise an energy storage and substation compound which will be laid out in a single rectangular platform. The platform will comprise battery units, inverter and transformer units, storage room, security fence, CCTV, 132kV substation area, DNO room, control and welfare room, transformer, private substation, access track and security fencing.

This document outlines the proposed approach to decommissioning the BESS at the end of its operational life. It demonstrates the commitment to restoring the land in a manner that is safe, sustainable, and compliant with all relevant legislation.

2. Decommissioning

After the end of a 40-year project life period, all the Operator's equipment will be removed from site and responsibly disposed of or reused/recycled. The proposed equipment is modular therefore project decommissioning will typically involve dismantling and removing the equipment from the site.

Site Preparation

- Notification of decommissioning to be given to the LPA at least 12 months in advance.
- Development of a detailed Decommissioning Plan and Environmental Management Plan.
- Coordination with the Distribution Network Operator (DNO) and statutory bodies.

Disconnection from the Grid

- Safe disconnection of the BESS from the electricity grid by qualified personnel.
- Removal of all high-voltage electrical infrastructure in accordance with the UK Grid Code.

Removal of Infrastructure

- Removal of battery units, inverters, transformers, switchgear, containers, fencing, and lighting. Equipment will be disconnected and removed from foundations and transported off site.
- Dismantling of substations, control rooms, access roads, and foundations where applicable. The concrete foundations will be broken up and loaded onto trucks for transport off site.
- All cables will be disconnected from equipment on site and at the point of connection. Underground cables will be removed from trenching to a depth of 1.2 metres. The trenches will be backfilled, compressed, and reinstated to the current condition.
- Perimeter paladin fencing and other security features will be dismantled and transported off-site. Depending on the condition, it will either be reused, sold as scrap, or recycled. Any holes left by the removal of fencing posts will be backfilled to reinstate the site to its current condition.

Disposal and Recycling

- Removal of all materials off-site by licensed waste carriers. Any uneven ground will be levelled and reinstated to the current condition.
- Batteries and electrical equipment to be recycled or disposed of in line with:
 - The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Regulations 2013
 - The Hazardous Waste Regulations 2005
 - Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016

Site Restoration

- The application site will be restored to its pre BESS development condition as of the date of this report, which is an agricultural use.
- Topsoil will be reinstated and compacted if previously removed.
- Ecological enhancements will be preserved or expanded where practical.

Environmental Management

Decommissioning will be managed through a site-specific Environmental Management Plan (EMP), including:

- Dust and noise mitigation measures
- Traffic and transport plan for removal of materials
- Protection of local wildlife and habitats
- Emergency spill response procedures

Regulatory Compliance and Best Practice

All decommissioning activities will comply with:

- Planning conditions
- UK Health & Safety regulations
- Environmental Protection Act 1990
- Local authority waste and transport regulations

Decommissioning Plan Submission

A detailed Decommissioning Plan will be submitted to the Local Planning Authority no later than 12 months prior to commencement of decommissioning. It will include:

- Full risk assessment
- Method statements
- Programme of works
- Contractor details and qualifications
- Stakeholder notification strategy

Programme

Decommissioning is expected to take 6-12 months.

3. Conclusion

This Decommissioning Statement provides a framework to ensure that the BESS site will be dismantled and returned to an appropriate condition in accordance with planning policy and environmental good practice.