



Department for
Energy Security
& Net Zero

DIRECTION BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR ENERGY SECURITY AND NET ZERO (“THE SECRETARY OF STATE”) UNDER SECTION 35 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008 RELATING TO THE CALDERDALE ENERGY PARK

1. By letter to the Secretary of State on 1 April 2025 (“the Direction Request”), Calderdale Wind Farm Ltd (“the Applicant”) formally requested that the Secretary of State exercise the power vested in him under section 35(1) of the Planning Act 2008 (“PA 2008”) to direct that the Calderdale Energy Park, as set out in the Direction Request, be treated as development for which development consent under the PA 2008 is required.
2. The Secretary of State notes that the Direction Request relates to —
 - a. An onshore wind turbine generating station with gross electrical output capacity of over 100MW, including wind turbine generators, foundations, transformers and electrical cabling (the “Proposed Development”); and
 - b. Associated development, which may include energy storage, substation(s), access tracks, accesses, underground cables, grid connection infrastructure, services, drainage, landscaping, mitigation and enhancement measures and other temporary and permanent associated works.
3. The Secretary of State is satisfied that:
 - a. The Proposed Development is a project in the field of energy and development will be wholly within England;
 - b. The Proposed Development does not fall within the existing definition of a “nationally significant infrastructure project” and therefore it is appropriate to consider use of the power in section 35(1) of the PA 2008; and
 - c. The Applicant’s request constitutes a “qualifying request” in accordance with section 35ZA(11) of the PA 2008.
4. Having considered the details of the Applicant’s proposals as set out in the Direction Request, the Secretary of State is of the view that the Proposed Development is nationally significant, for the reasons set out in the Annex below.
5. The Secretary of State considers that if the details of the Proposed Development change, before submitting any application to the Planning Inspectorate, the Applicant may wish to seek confirmation from the Secretary of State that the development that is the subject of the proposed application is the same as that for which the Direction is hereby given.
6. The Secretary of State has taken the decision within the conditions as required by sections 35A(2) and (5) of the PA 2008 and issues this Direction accordingly under sections 35(1) and 35ZA of the PA 2008.
7. THE SECRETARY OF STATE DIRECTS that the Proposed Development is to be treated as development for which development consent is required.
8. This Direction is given without prejudice to the Secretary of State’s consideration of any application for development consent which is made in relation to the Proposed Development.

Signed by

Deputy Director - Energy Infrastructure Planning Delivery

For and on behalf of the Secretary of State for the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero

23 April 2025

ANNEX A

REASONS FOR THE DECISION TO ISSUE THE DIRECTION

The Secretary of State is of the opinion that the Direction should be issued because –

1. The Proposed Development is of national significance as it a large scale onshore wind farm with the capability of delivering over 100MW of renewable energy.
2. The Proposed Development will play an important role in enabling an energy system that meets the UK's commitment to reduce carbon emissions and the Government's objectives to create a secure, reliable and affordable energy supply for consumers.
3. By progressing the Proposed Development through the Planning Act 2008 development consent process, it would provide the certainty of a single, unified consenting process and fixed timescales.