

PRE-APPLICATION STAGE ONE

CONSULTATION FEEDBACK

January 2026

UK Industrial Fusion Solutions Ltd (UKIFS) is pleased to launch this first round of consultation for STEP (Spherical Tokamak for Energy Production) Fusion.

STEP Fusion is a UK-led, world-leading programme, bringing government and industry together to develop fusion energy, scale it, and then deliver it at pace. Our mission is to generate net energy from fusion and to stimulate an industry that will help prove its commercial viability. We'll achieve this by building and operating a prototype fusion power plant, at West Burton in Nottinghamshire. This consultation is an important step in developing our proposals for the Site, as we want to gain views from the community and other stakeholders.

This consultation is part of the process towards applying for a Development Consent Order (DCO) from the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ), that seeks the consenting powers to construct and operate the prototype fusion power plant and its associated development.

We intend to hold further rounds of consultation as our plans progress.

How to respond to this consultation

We are inviting comments from everyone, particularly those who live and work near to the Site. Your feedback is important and will enable us to take account of your views whilst the proposals are still at an early stage of development and inform the next stage of our design work. We will collate and analyse feedback from this Stage One consultation and identify common themes and specific matters that we will consider further as we develop our proposals.

The consultation runs from 14 of January to the 11 of March 2026. It is an opportunity for you to be informed on our initial proposals and provide us with feedback on what we have done so far.

You can respond in the following ways:

- Attending an event and completing and submitting a feedback form while there
- Completing the online form, which can be accessed via the project website at stepfusion.com/consultation
- Completing and posting a printed feedback form to **FREEPOST STEP FUSION** (no postage required)
- Emailing communications.step@ukifs.uk with your feedback

Comments must be received by 23:59 on 11 March 2026.



ABOUT YOU

Name

Postcode

Email

Have you attended any of our previous community events? Yes No

Would you like to be kept informed of future news? Yes No

(If yes, your data will be used as per our privacy note below)

Thank you for taking the time to give your views.
By submitting this feedback form you give us permission to analyse and include your response in our reports.

PRIVACY

Why are we collecting this data?

- To support us developing and planning the STEP Fusion project and associated infrastructure.
- To allow us to keep you up to date as the Project progresses.
- To inform you of any future consultations to meet our statutory obligations under the Planning Act 2008 and any other relevant legislation or guidance.

Who are we sharing this information with?

- Our multi-disciplinary team, including our suppliers, who are developing the project proposals and preparing the Project's DCO application

How long we will keep that information?

- We will keep the information for the time required to deliver the Project.

How do I update my data or find out more?

- If you wish to update your information or make any requests, please contact: communications.step@ukifs.uk

1

STEP Fusion at West Burton

UKIFS is proposing to build the UK's first prototype fusion energy plant and its associated development at West Burton.

What are your overall views on UKIFS' proposals?

2

Fusion Energy Plant at West Burton

We intend to focus the prototype fusion energy plant and associated development within the southern part of the Site, with the construction compound in the northern part of the Site and maintaining, where feasible, the ecological areas within the central area.

What are your views on the illustrative plan for the site?

3

Being a good neighbour

We are committed to being a good and responsible neighbour throughout the construction phase, with due consideration to both the local community and the environment.

To do this, we will undertake an Environmental Impact Assessment, which will be a key part of our Development Consent Order application.

Are there any particular measures or activities you would like us to consider when managing the potential construction impacts?

4

Transport: Freight Strategy

We envisage both rail and river will play an important role in the delivery of construction materials to the Site, in addition to deliveries by road.

What are your views on UKIFS' emerging freight transport strategy?

5

Transport: Freight Management Facility

For freight transported by road, UKIFS considers that a Freight Management Facility could play an important role. This facility would manage the flow of freight traffic to the West Burton Site during the construction phase.

What are your views on the principle of a Freight Management Facility to manage freight traffic; and are there any sites in the local area that you think UKIFS should be considering for its location?

6

Transport: Park and Ride

UKIFS is exploring opportunities to maximise the use of rail for construction workers. However, for those construction workers travelling to Site by road, UKIFS considers that Park and Ride facilities could play an important role significantly reducing the amount of construction worker traffic. We are proposing facilities in the vicinities of Gainsborough, Bawtry and Retford.

What are your views on these broad locations for Park and Ride facilities?

7

Transport: Local Road Network

UKIFS will direct vehicles to use designated routes to the Site but recognises that there may be impacts on the local road network.

Are there any particular areas of the local road network that you think need greater consideration?

8

Active Travel

Promoting active travel (e.g. walking and cycling) to Site and in the local area is something we are exploring as a project.

Do you have any suggestions for active travel improvements to connect the Site with the local area?

9

Jobs, Skills and Supply Chain

UKIFS is keen to ensure that people living in the vicinity of West Burton can make the most of the opportunities arising from the development.

A

Do you have any ideas on the approach to education, training and local supply chain initiatives?

B

Do you have any suggestions on how STEP Fusion can improve the social and economic conditions and opportunities in the local area and region?

10

Environmental Strategy

UKIFS is committed to minimising and mitigating its effects on the environment and achieving an overall net gain in biodiversity terms.

Do you have any ideas on the measures UKIFS could take in terms of its environmental strategy?

11

Approach to consultation

UKIFS has prepared consultation materials and is holding several consultation events through the early months of 2026. We will continue to engage through further stages of consultation, in addition to our regular community engagement work.

A

Do you have any comments about the consultation process so far?

B

Do you have any comments on how you would like us to communicate at later stages of the process?