

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Cleve Hill Solar Park](#)
Subject: Re: Notification of wish to speak at the Open Floor Hearing 1 on Tuesday 16 July 2019 (morning)
Date: 17 July 2019 09:53:33
Attachments: [REDACTED]

Dear Paige,

I'm writing to submit a written version of the testimony that I read at the CHSP Open Floor Hearing #1 in Faversham yesterday, which I note must be submitted in time for Deadline 3 on August 1. Please let me know if I need to do anything else at this time.

Thanks and kind regards,

Matthew Hatchwell

[REDACTED]
Faversham
Kent [REDACTED]
United Kingdom

Tel: +44-(0)1795-530465

Mob: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

*Faversham Society Environment Committee member
DICE Advisory Board chair
Kent Wildlife Network chair
Wildlife Conservation Consultant*

On 16 Jul 2019, at 09:02, Matthew Hatchwell <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Many thanks, Paige!

Kind regards,

Matthew Hatchwell

[REDACTED]
Faversham
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United Kingdom

Tel: +44-(0)1795-530465

Mob: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

On 15 Jul 2019, at 08:58, Cleve Hill Solar Park
<CleveHillSolarPark@planninginspectorate.gov.uk> wrote:

Dear Matthew,

Thank you for taking the time to contact the Planning Inspectorate.

The details of where the upcoming hearings are to be held can be found in the Rule 8, I have provided a link to this letter below:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/projects/EN010085/EN010085-000533-DRAFT%2020190606%20EN010085%20Cleve%20Hill%20Rule%208%20Letter.pdf>

I can confirm that Open Floor Hearing 1 on the 16 July will be held at:

**The Alexander Centre, 17 Preston Street,
Faversham, ME13 8NZ**

Seating will be available from 9:30am on the day and the hearing will begin at **10:00am**.

The Examining Authority (ExA) on the day will set out the time limit for each Interested Party along with the order of speakers. The ExA have also provided a deadline for written submissions of oral representations to be submitted. Your written transcript must be submitted on **the 1 August – Deadline 3**.

I hope this has been some assistance to you, please do not hesitate to get back in touch if you have any more queries or questions.

Kind Regards,

Paige Hall

Swyddog Achos / Case Officer

Cynllunio Seilwaith Cenedlaethol / National
Infrastructure Planning

Yr Arolygiaeth Gynllunio/The Planning Inspectorate,
Temple Quay House, Temple Quay, Bristol, BS1 6PN

Llinell Uniongyrchol/Direct Line: 0303 444 5200

Llinell Gymorth/Helpline: 0303 444 5000

E-Bost/Email: Paige.Hall@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Wê/Web: www.planningportal.gov.uk/planninginspectorate (Gwaith achos ac apeliadau/Casework and appeals)

Wê/Web: www.infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk (Cynllunio Seilwaith Cenedlaethol/National Infrastructure Planning)

Twitter: [@PINSgov](https://twitter.com/PINSgov)

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Nid yw'r cyfartherbiad hwn yn gyfystyr â chyngor cyfreithiol/This communication does not constitute legal advice

Edrychwch ar ein [Siarter Wybodaeth](#) cyn anfon gwybodaeth at yr Arolygiaeth Gynllunio/Please view our [Information Charter](#) before sending information to

the Planning Inspectorate

From: Matthew Hatchwell [REDACTED]
Sent: 12 July 2019 16:34
To: Cleve Hill Solar Park
<CleveHillSolarPark@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: Notification of wish to speak at the Open Floor Hearing 1 on Tuesday 16 July 2019 (morning)

Dear Paige,

I've been looking on the PI website to find the location for Open Floor Hearing 1 on July 16th but have been unable to find it. Apologies for the inconvenience but please could you let me know details of venue, exact times, arrangements for questions / speakers (in terms of time limits for interventions, arrangements for submission of written transcripts, etc.).

Thanks and kind regards,

Matthew Hatchwell
[REDACTED]
Faversham
Kent [REDACTED]
United Kingdom

Tel: +44-(0)1795-530465
Mob: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED] -

On 11 Jun 2019, at 16:06, Cleve Hill Solar Park
<CleveHillSolarPark@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>
wrote:

Dear Mr Hatchwell,

I apologise that you did not received any correspondence. I can confirm that I responded your query on the 3 June 2019.

I have attached my original response to this email confirming that you have been given the opportunity to speak at the Open Floor Hearing 1.

If you have anymore queries please do not

hesitate to get in touch.

Kind Regards,
Paige Hall
Swyddog Achos / Case Officer
Cynllunio Seilwaith Cenedlaethol / National
Infrastructure Planning
Yr Arolygiaeth Gynllunio/The Planning
Inspectorate, Temple Quay House, Temple
Quay, Bristol, BS1 6PN
Llinell Uniongyrchol/Direct Line: 0303 444
5200
Llinell Gymorth/Helpline: 0303 444 5000
E-
Bost/Email: Paige.Hall@planninginspectorate.gov.uk
Wê/Web: www.planningportal.gov.uk/planninginspectorate (Gwaith achos ac
apeliadau/Casework and appeals)
Wê/Web: www.infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk (Cynllunio Seilwaith
Cenedlaethol/National Infrastructure
Planning)
Twitter: [@PINSgov](https://twitter.com/PINSgov)

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Nid yw'r cyfartherbiad hwn yn gyfystyr â
chyngor cyfreithiol/This communication does
not constitute legal advice

Edrychwch ar ein [Siarter Wybodaeth](#) cyn
anfon gwybodaeth at yr Arolygiaeth
Gynllunio/Please view our [Information
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Planning Inspectorate

From: Matthew Hatchwell <[REDACTED]>

Sent: 11 June 2019 14:53

To: Cleve Hill Solar Park

<CleveHillSolarPark@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>

Subject: Re: Notification of wish to speak at the Open
Floor Hearing 1 on Tuesday 16 July 2019 (morning)

Dear Sir / Madam,

I sent the following message last week regarding my wish
to speak about managed realignment at the CHSPL Open
Floor Hearing 1 currently scheduled for Tuesday 16 July
2019 (morning) but have received no reply. I'd be very
grateful if you could confirm receipt and whether or not I

will have the opportunity to speak.

Thank you and kind regards,

Matthew Hatchwell

[REDACTED]

Faversham

Kent [REDACTED]

United Kingdom

Tel: +44-(0)1795-530465

Mob: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

On 3 Jun 2019, at 16:58, Matthew Hatchwell <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Dear Mr Hefin Jones,

I'm writing to notify you of my wish to speak at the CHSPL Open Floor Hearing 1 currently scheduled for Tuesday 16 July 2019 (morning).

I wish to speak about the Environment Agency's long-term plan for managed realignment (MR) at the Cleve Hill site, the ecosystem service benefits that are delivered by tidal marshes, and the economic value to society of those benefits as an alternative land use either to agriculture or the proposed solar power station. I also wish to request more information on the EA's plan to bring forward MR at Chetney Marshes as an earlier alternative to MR at Nagden Marshes and specifically to ask a) about the relative costs between the two sites and b) how certain the EA is about the feasibility of MR at Chetney Marshes within the Epoch 1 (2019-39) timeframe.

Thank you and kind regards,

Matthew Hatchwell

[REDACTED]
Faversham
Kent [REDACTED]
United Kingdom

Tel: +44-(0)1795-530465
Mob: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

<Mail Attachment.eml>

**Cleve Hill Solar Park
CHSPL Open Floor Hearing 1
July 16, 2019**

Matthew Hatchwell questions / comments

Ecosystem Services and Managed Realignment

I wish to raise the matter of the Environment Agency's long-term plan for managed realignment (MR) at the Cleve Hill site, the ecosystem service benefits that are delivered by tidal marshes, and the economic value to society of those benefits as an alternative land use to agriculture or the proposed solar power station.

The context for my comments is the Environment Agency's original plan for the marshes at the Cleve Hill site which involved allowing the land to revert to tidal marsh, via a managed realignment (MR) process, within the Epoch 1 (2019-39) timeframe. I question the EA's readiness to change that plan as a response to the CHSPL proposal, bringing forward MR at Chetney Marsh and deferring it at Nagden Marsh until Epoch 2 (2039-69).

Ecosystem services are the benefits that humans derive, directly or indirectly, from ecosystem functions. In the case of tidal marshes, those services include carbon storage¹, erosion control, nutrient cycling, waste treatment, wildlife habitat provision, cultural values, and recreation. The environmental economist Robert Costanza, in a peer-reviewed publication in 2014², estimated that the economic value of those ecosystem services provided by tidal marshes generally is just under US\$194,000 per hectare per year. In the case of Nagden Marsh, with a potential area after MR estimated by the EA at 200 hectares³, that amounts to a total value to society of \$38.8m *every year* if MR goes ahead. Tidal marshes are the second most valuable ecosystem in the world after coral reefs. It makes no sense economically to install a solar power station as an alternative to respecting the Environment Agency's original plan and allowing that Grade 3 agricultural land to revert to tidal marsh within the next 20 years.

I also wish to request more information on the EA's plan to bring forward MR at Chetney Marsh as an earlier alternative to MR at Nagden Marsh and specifically to ask a) about the relative costs between the two sites and b) how certain the EA is about the feasibility of MR at Chetney Marsh within the Epoch 1 (2019-39) timeframe. There is Nationally Significant Infrastructure located within the Chetney Marsh site that it may be very costly to replace or circumvent for the purposes of MR, and I wish to ask whether the Environment Agency has taken that into consideration in its willingness to delay MR at Nagden Marsh.

European Eel

I want to flag the presence of the European eel (*Anguilla anguilla*) at the Cleve Hill site, which is a Critically Endangered species according to the Red List of the International Union for the

¹ Natural England Research Report NERR043 estimates carbon sequestration into saltmarsh at a rate of 210g per m² per year. For Nagden Marsh, that is the equivalent of 420 tonnes of carbon every year.

² http://www.robertcostanza.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/2014_J_Costanza_GlobalValueUpdate.pdf

³ https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/EN010085/EN010085-000531-Cleve%20Hill%20LTD%20-%20SoCG%20between%20App%20and%20EA_Redacted.pdf

Conservation of Nature (IUCN)⁴. According to IUCN, the number of eels reaching Europe – where they were once ubiquitous in coastal zones and deeply engrained in the popular culture of the Thames estuary in particular – has declined by as much as 98% since the 1970s. Everything possible must be done to safeguard existing European eel populations on Nagden Marshes, in particular protecting the drainage channels and freshwater courses within the site where eels grow to adulthood and ensuring that the outfalls from the marshes onto Faversham Creek and the Swale comply with the latest EU and UK legal requirements to facilitate the inward and outward passage of elvers and eels.⁵ *Anguilla anguilla* is a UK Biodiversity Action Plan Priority Species, is on the list of threatened and/or declining species and habitats under the OSPAR Convention⁶, and is a species of **principal importance** for the purpose of biodiversity conservation under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006⁷.

⁴ See <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/60344/45833138> for details.

⁵ See EC Council Regulation No 1100/2007 of 18 September 2007 establishing measures for the recovery of the stock of European eel.

⁶ <https://www.ospar.org/work-areas/bdc/species-habitats/list-of-threatened-declining-species-habitats>

⁷ <https://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20140605093420/http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/conservation/biodiversity/protectandmanage/habsandspeciesimportance.aspx>