

Planning Act 2008 – Section 91

Application by INGR Solar (Little Crow) for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Little Crow Solar Park project

Agenda for Issue Specific Hearing 1 dealing with matters relating to the Environmental Statement, general matters, and the draft Development Consent Order

Hearing	Date/Time	Location
Issue Specific Hearing 1	Tuesday, 20 April 2021 at not before 2.00pm	Virtual meeting via Microsoft Teams
Environmental Statement, general matters and the draft Development Consent Order	(arrangements conference from 1.30pm) Continuing on Wednesday 21 April 2021 at 10am if required, with an arrangements conference from 9.30am	Full instructions on how to join online or by telephone will be provided in advance of this hearing.

Agenda

1. Welcome, introductions, arrangements for the Hearing

2. Purpose of the Issue Specific Hearing 1 (ISH1)

3. Environment Statement - general matters, including:

- a) The generating capacity for the proposed solar park.
- b) The Applicant’s consideration of alternatives to the Proposed Development, including location and scale.

- c) Landscape and visual effects:
 - i. Suitability of the study area and the viewpoints used in the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
 - ii. Consideration of glint and glare effects
 - iii. Effects on views from footpaths to which the public have access, including the status of the 'Opencast Way'
 - iv. Effectiveness of the proposed visual mitigation measures
- d) The identification of any other proposed nearby major developments and the consideration of cumulative and in-combination effects.
- e) Effects on legally protected species, including those subject to European site designations and the age and validity of the ecological surveys.
- f) The extent to which the Proposed Development would deliver a biodiversity net gain and how that should be calculated.
- g) The approach to the assessment of climate change.
- h) Duration of the construction phase for the Proposed Development.
- i) Effects during the decommissioning phase for the Proposed Development, including the disposal of decommissioned equipment and the retention of visual mitigation for the operational phase of the solar park.

4. Draft Development Consent Order (dDCO)

- a) Definition of the generating capacity for the Proposed Development in the dDCO.
- b) The flexibility with respect to the location of the proposed battery storage facility.
- c) The proposed Articles in the dDCO.
- d) The proposed Requirements contained in Schedule 2 of the dDCO, including:
 - i. Whether any consented development should be time limited.
 - ii. Whether each Requirement requiring approval of details from the local planning authority should refer to 'written approval' as opposed to there being reliance on proposed Requirement 16.
 - iii. The appropriateness of Requirement 17 (Amendments to approved details).

e) Any other general drafting matters, including typographical errors.

5. Any other business

6. Review of issues and actions arising

The ExA will review how and by when any actions placed on the Applicant or other Interested Parties (IPs) are to be met.

7. Close of Hearing

Purpose of Issue Specific Hearing 1 (ISH1)

This early hearing on the Environmental Statement (ES) and the dDCO is being held to enquire into aspects of the ES and the drafting of the dDCO. The Examining Authority (ExA) considers that it would be expedient to examine some matters orally at the start of the Examination in order to ensure that technical and/or legal matters concerning the ES and the dDCO are identified and considered as early as possible in the examination.

The agenda is for guidance only. It is not designed to be exclusive or exhaustive. The ExA may add other issues for consideration, may alter the order in which issues are considered and will seek to allocate sufficient time to each issue to allow proper consideration of them. Any lack of discussion of a particular issue at ISH1 does not preclude further examination of this issue, including the asking of Written Questions.

Invited attendees for ISH1

All IPs are welcome to attend the hearing. Each IP is entitled to make oral representations at the hearing. However, this is subject to the ExA's power to control hearings.

Government restrictions relating to Coronavirus (COVID-19) are in force, requiring people to work from home if possible. The Examining Authority will therefore conduct this Hearing using digital and telephone technology. Invited participants can join using a computer, laptop, tablet, mobile phone or landline telephone. It is the Applicant's intention to livestream the Hearing, and a recording will be made available on the Planning Inspectorate's National Infrastructure website as soon as possible following the hearing.

Prior to the start of ISH1 there will be an Arrangements Conference, which will take place 30 minutes prior to the start, ie 1.30pm on Tuesday 20 April 2021 and 9.30am on Wednesday 21 April (if a second sitting day is required) to enable a prompt start for the hearing. The hearing will finish as soon as the ExA deems that all those present have had their say and that all matters have been covered.

Invitees will receive a joining link or telephone number through which you can join the Arrangements Conference in a separate email, shortly before the Hearing. This is solely for your use. Please join the Arrangements Conference at the appointed time shown above and wait until the Case Manager registers you, and then admits you to the Hearing. The Arrangements Conference allows procedures to be explained and enables the Hearing to start promptly.

The ExA would find it helpful if the following parties would attend ISH1 as there are matters it wishes to explore with them at the hearing:

- The Applicant, including representatives who can respond to the matters detailed in the agenda, and in particular questions concerning:
 - solar park technology.
 - the consideration of alternatives.
 - the consideration of cumulative and in-combination effects; and
 - the drafting of the dDCO.
- North Lincolnshire Council

However, this does not mean that other parties will not be able to contribute. All IPs are invited to attend and make oral representations on the matters set out in the agenda, subject to the ExA's discretion, if they wish.

If you have not yet notified the Case Team (LittleCrowSolarPark@planninginspectorate.gov.uk) that you wish to participate please do so by no later than noon on **Monday 19 April 2021**. Participants may be legally represented if they wish, but the hearing will be conducted to ensure that legal representation is not required.

Procedure at ISH

Guidance under the Planning Act 2008 and the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 provide that it is for the ExA to probe, test and assess the evidence through direct questions of persons making oral representations at hearings. Questioning at the hearing will be led by the ExA.

Cross questioning of a person giving evidence by another person will only be permitted if the ExA decides it is necessary to ensure representations are adequately tested or that an IP has had a fair chance to put its case.