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To Interested Parties, Statutory Parties  
and Other Persons invited to the  
Preliminary Meeting

Your Ref:

Our Ref: EN010101

Date: 27 April 2021

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Dear Sir/ Madam

## **The Planning Act 2008 – Section 89 and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 – Rule 8 etc**

### **Application by INRG Solar Park Limited for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Little Crow Solar Park**

#### **Examination Timetable and procedure**

This letter provides you with the Examination Timetable, details of the publication of the Examining Authority's (ExA) Written Questions and other important information about the Examination.

All documentation associated with this project, including a note of the Preliminary Meeting and the digital recording taken at that meeting, can be found using this link:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/yorkshire-and-the-humber/little-crow-solar-park/?ipcsection=docs>

#### **The Examination Timetable**

I have made a Procedural Decision about the way the application will be examined. The final Examination Timetable is attached at **Annex A**.

The Examination Timetable replaces the draft timetable that was included in the Rule 6 letter dated 23 March 2021. In finalising the Examination Timetable, I have sought to accommodate requests and suggestions made at the Preliminary Meeting and in representations submitted in advance of that meeting.

Please note that the Examination Timetable contains a number of deadlines for receipt of information by the Planning Inspectorate. All deadlines are at 23:59 on the date specified. Please ensure submissions arrive no later than the deadline. If you do not

make your submissions by the dates specified in the timetable, I may disregard them. While each deadline within the Timetable will be the latest time and date for the making of submissions, there is no reason why submissions relating to a particular deadline cannot be submitted in advance of the stated deadline.

I request that Interested Parties make their submissions through the electronic portal which will be made available on the [project webpage](#) ahead of the relevant deadlines. Electronic attachments should be clearly labelled with the subject title and not exceed 12MB. Providing links to websites where your submissions can be viewed is not acceptable. All submissions must be made in a format that can be viewed in full on the National Infrastructure Planning website. Any submissions that exceed 1500 words should be accompanied by a summary which should not exceed 10% of the original text.

If I consider it necessary to vary the Examination Timetable during the Examination, notification will only be sent to Interested Parties and Other Persons<sup>1</sup> invited to the Preliminary Meeting. The changes will be published on the Little Crow Solar Park project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website.

## **Other Procedural Decisions**

**Annex B** contains important details and clarifications about my other Procedural Decisions made at, or following, the Preliminary Meeting. These include:

- **Changes to the draft Examination Timetable**
- **Examining Authority's Written Questions**
- **Statements of Common Ground**
- **Local Impact Reports**

## **Written Representations**

Interested Parties are now invited to submit Written Representations and any comments on the Relevant Representations already submitted. These should be submitted by Deadline 1 in the Examination Timetable (**Annex A**).

Written Representations can cover any relevant matter and are not restricted to the matters set out in my Initial Assessment of Principal Issues discussed at the Preliminary Meeting and included in my Rule 6 letter<sup>2</sup>. Nor are they restricted to the content of my Written Questions (see next heading, below).

Any person, other than the Applicant, who submits a Written Representation must identify those parts of the application with which they agree and those parts with which they do not agree, explaining the reasons why<sup>3</sup>. Interested Parties should also

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<sup>1</sup> Other Persons are persons that I chose to invite to the Preliminary Meeting, in addition to the prescribed persons listed in section 88(3) of the Planning Act 2008 – see 'Your status in the Examination and future notifications' below

<sup>2</sup> <http://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/document/EN010101-000378>

<sup>3</sup> Required under Rule 10(4) of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010

provide with their Written Representations “the data, methodology and assumptions used to support their submissions”<sup>4</sup>.

Further written submissions will be requested by the ExA at various points in the Examination.

Any Written Representations, and any further written submissions requested by the ExA in the course of the Examination which exceed 1500 words should also be accompanied by a summary which should not exceed 10% of the original text. The summary should set out the key facts of the written submission and must be representative of the submission made.

## ExA’s Written Questions

I have compiled Written Questions (WQ) about the application and the representations received so far. These questions are published on the National Infrastructure Planning website and can be accessed through the following link:

<http://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/document/EN010101-000489>

Answers to my first written questions (ExQ1) must be provided by Deadline 2 (24 May 2021) in the Examination Timetable (**Annex A**).

If you require a hard copy of ExQ1, please contact the Case Team who will send you a copy.

## Hearings

The Examination Timetable at **Annex A** includes periods of time reserved for any hearings to be held, and I will notify Interested Parties of any hearings scheduled as part of the Examination at least 21 days in advance of them taking place. That notification will include an additional deadline for Interested Parties to inform the Planning Inspectorate if they wish to attend the notified hearing(s).

**Annex C** provides details about what Interested Parties should include in a request to be heard at a hearing, and the procedure that will be followed at hearings.

## Site Inspections

As I advised at the Preliminary Meeting (PM), I intend to undertake site inspection(s). However, at this time I cannot be definitive about what site inspection type or types will be used because of the uncertainty caused by COVID-19. Under normal circumstances an Accompanied Site Inspection (ASI) attended by the Applicant, other Interested Parties and myself would be incorporated into the Examination Timetable. However, that is something at this time I feel unable to do.

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<sup>4</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/planning-act-2008-examination-of-applications-for-development-consent>

However, in this instance, given the arable farmland nature of the Order Limits, it may be that my undertaking of a hybrid version of an ASI, ie an Access Required Site Inspection (ARSI), would be an appropriate substitute for an ASI. At the PM I outlined what my undertaking of an ARSI might involve. Under Deadline 1 of the Timetable (10 May 2021) the Applicant and other Interested Parties are requested to provide suggested locations that they would wish me to visit when I undertake site inspections during the Examination. The provision of that information will assist me to make future decisions about what site visit procedures are adopted, ie further Unaccompanied Site Inspections, with either an ASI or an ARSI.

### **Availability of application documents and representations submitted to the Examination**

All documentation and digital recordings associated with the examination of this application can be found using this link:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/yorkshire-and-the-humber/little-crow-solar-park/?ipcsection=docs>

**Annex D** provides details of locations in the vicinity of the Proposed Development at which all Examination documents can be viewed electronically, free of charge.

Advice to Interested Parties about how to access and navigate the Examination Library is also provided at **Annex D**.

### **Your status in the Examination**

You have received this letter because you fall within one of the groups described in this FAQ document: [What is my status in the Examination?](#)

If your reference number begins with 2002, LCSP-00, LCSP-AFP, LCSP-S57 or LCSP-APL you are in Group A. If your reference number begins with LCSP-SP you are in Group B.

If having read the FAQ document published at the link above you are still unsure about your status, please contact the Case Team using the details at the top of this letter.

### **Award of costs**

You should be aware of the possibility of the award of costs against parties who behave unreasonably.

To assist understanding of what 'unreasonable behaviour' means in the context of an Examination under the PA2008, you may find it helpful to read the government guidance 'Awards of costs: examinations of applications for development consent orders' (July 2013)<sup>5</sup>. It is in everyone's interest that information is brought forward as early as possible in the examination process so you are encouraged to do so.

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<sup>5</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/awards-of-costs-examinations-of-applications-for-development-consent-orders>

## Management of information

The Planning Inspectorate has a commitment to transparency. Therefore, all information submitted for this project (if accepted by the ExA) and a record of any advice which has been provided, is published at:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/Yorkshire%20and%20the%20Humber/Little-Crow-Solar-Park/>

All Examination documents can also be viewed electronically at the locations listed in **Annex D**.

Please note that in the interest of facilitating an effective and fair examination, we consider it necessary to publish some personal information. To find out how we handle your personal information, please view our Privacy Notice (link provided below).

I look forward to working with all parties in the examination of this application.

Yours faithfully

*Grahame Gould*

**Grahame Gould, Examining Inspector**

## Annexes

- A** Examination Timetable
- B** Procedural Decisions made by the Examining Authority
- C** Requests to appear and procedure to be followed at hearings
- D** Availability of representations and application documents

This communication does not constitute legal advice.  
Please view our [Privacy Notice](#) before sending information to the Planning Inspectorate.

## Examination Timetable

The Examining Authority (ExA) is under a duty to **complete** the examination of the application by the end of the period of six months beginning with the day after the close of the Preliminary Meeting.

Item	Matters	Due Dates
1	<b>Preliminary Meeting (PM)</b>	<b>Tuesday 20 April 2021</b>
2	<b>Issue Specific Hearing (ISH) 1 on the Environmental Statement, general matters and the draft Development Consent Order</b>	<b>Tuesday 20 and Wednesday 21 April 2021</b>
3	<b>Issue by the ExA of:</b> The Examination Timetable <b>Publication by the ExA of:</b> First round of written questions (ExQ1)	<b>Tuesday 27 April 2021</b>
4	<b>Deadline 1</b> For receipt by ExA of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Further information from the Applicant and North Lincolnshire Council as raised during the ISH1 and published in the <a href="#">Action Points from ISH1</a></li> <li>• Comments on any updates to Application documents submitted by the Applicant before the PM</li> <li>• Comments on Relevant Representations (RR)</li> <li>• Written Representations (WRs)</li> <li>• Summaries of any WRs exceeding 1500 words</li> <li>• Post ISH1 submissions, including written submissions of oral cases given during that hearing</li> <li>• Updated Statement of Commonality for Statements of Common Ground (SoCG)</li> <li>• An updated version of the draft Development Consent Order (dDCO), following its discussion at ISH1 and to be submitted in an editable format with any revisions to the preceding version shown using tracked changes</li> </ul>	<b>Not later than 23:59 on Monday 10 May 2021</b>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An updated Index to the Application documents to be submitted by the Applicant</li> <li>• Notification by Statutory Parties of wish to be considered as an Interested Person (IP) by the ExA</li> <li>• Submission by the Applicant and IPs of suggested locations for the ExA to include in Unaccompanied and/or Accompanied Site Inspections, including the reason for nomination and issues to be observed; information about whether the location can be accessed using public rights of way or what access arrangements would need to be made; and the likely time requirement for the visit to that location (if not covered within an Unaccompanied Site Inspection)</li> <li>• Notification of wish to speak at any future ISHs</li> <li>• Notification of wish to speak at an Open Floor Hearing (OFH)</li> <li>• Responses to any further information requested by the ExA</li> <li>• Any requests from the ExA for information under Rule 17 of the Examination Procedure Rules 2010 (if required)</li> </ul>	
<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>Deadline 2 (D2)</b> Deadline for receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comments on WRs and responses to comments on RRs</li> <li>• Responses to ExQ1</li> <li>• Local Impact Report(s) (LIR)</li> <li>• An updated Statement of Commonality for SoCGs</li> <li>• Update on the preparations of Statements of SoCG requested by the ExA</li> <li>• An updated Index to the Application documents submitted by the Applicant</li> <li>• Applicant’s revised dDCO to be submitted in an editable format with any revisions made to the preceding version shown using track changes (if required)</li> <li>• Comments on any amendments made to the dDCO by the Applicant at D1</li> <li>• Comments on any additional information/submissions received by D1</li> </ul>	<p><b>Not later than 23:59 on Monday 24 May 2021</b></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responses to any further information requested by the ExA</li> <li>• Any requests from the ExA for information under Rule 17 of the Examination Procedure Rules 2010 (if required)</li> </ul>	
<b>6</b>	<p><b>Issue by the ExA of:</b></p> <p>Notification of hearings to be held on 29 and 30 June 2021 (if required)</p>	<b>Friday 28 May 2021</b>
<b>7</b>	<p><b>Deadline 3 (D3)</b></p> <p>Deadline for receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comments on LIR(s)</li> <li>• Comments on responses to the ExQ1</li> <li>• Comments on any updated SoCG received at D2</li> <li>• Update on the preparation of SoCG</li> <li>• An updated Statement of Commonality for SoCG</li> <li>• An updated Index to the Application documents submitted by the Applicant</li> <li>• Applicant's revised dDCO to be submitted in an editable format with any revisions shown using tracked changes (if required)</li> <li>• Comments on any amendments made to the dDCO by the Applicant at D2</li> <li>• Comments on any additional information/submissions received by D2</li> <li>• Responses to any further information requested by the ExA</li> <li>• Any requests from the ExA for information under Rule 17 of the Examination Procedure Rules 2010 (if required)</li> </ul>	<b>Not later than 23:59 Friday 7 June 2021</b>
<b>8</b>	<p><b>Publication by the ExA of:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ExA's further written questions (ExQ2) (if required)</li> </ul>	<b>Friday 11 June 2021</b>
<b>9</b>	<p><b>Dates reserved for Hearings</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ISHs (if required)</li> <li>• OFH (if required)</li> </ul>	<b>Tuesday 29 and Wednesday 30 June 2021</b>
<b>10</b>	<p><b>Deadline 4 (D4)</b></p> <p>Deadline for receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responses to ExQ2 (if required)</li> </ul>	<b>Not later than 23:59 on</b>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Post-hearing submissions, including written summaries of oral cases made by the Applicant and IPs (if hearings on 29/30 June 2021 are required)</li> <li>• Applicant's revised dDCO to be submitted in an editable format with any revisions to the preceding version shown using tracked changes (if required)</li> <li>• Comments on any amendments made to the dDCO by the Applicant at D3 (if required)</li> <li>• Comments on any additional information/submissions received at D3</li> <li>• Comments on any updated SoCG received at D3</li> <li>• Update on the preparation of SoCG</li> <li>• Updated Statement of Commonality for SoCG</li> <li>• An updated Index to the Application documents submitted by the Applicant</li> <li>• Responses to any further information requested by the ExA</li> <li>• Any requests from the ExA for information under Rule 17 of the Examination Procedure Rules 2010 (if required)</li> </ul>	<b>Wednesday 7 July 2021</b>
<b>11</b>	<p><b>Deadline 5 (D5)</b></p> <p>Deadline for receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comments on responses to ExQ2</li> <li>• Applicant's revised dDCO to be submitted in an editable format with any revisions to the preceding version shown using tracked changes (if required)</li> <li>• Comments on any additional information/submissions received at D4</li> <li>• Comments on any amendments made to the dDCO by the Applicant at D4 (if required)</li> <li>• Comments on any updated SoCG received at D4</li> <li>• Update on the preparation of SoCG</li> <li>• Updated Statement of Commonality for SoCG</li> <li>• An updated Index to the Application documents submitted by the Applicant</li> <li>• Responses to any further information requested by the ExA</li> <li>• Any requests from the ExA for information under Rule 17 of the Examination Procedure Rules 2010 (if required)</li> </ul>	<b>Not later than 23:59 on Monday 9 August 2021</b>
<b>12</b>	<p><b>Issue by the ExA of:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Notification of Hearings to be held 9/10 September 2021 (if required)</li> </ul> <p><b>Publication of:</b></p>	<b>Monday 9 August 2021</b>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The ExA's Further Written Questions (ExQ3) (if required)</li> </ul>	
<b>13</b>	<p><b>Deadline 6 (D6)</b></p> <p><b>Deadline for receipt by the ExA of:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Responses to the ExA's ExQ3 (if required)</li> <li>Applicant's revised dDCO to be submitted in an editable format with any revisions to the preceding version shown using tracked changes (if required)</li> <li>Comments on any amendments made to the dDCO by the Applicant at D5 (if required)</li> <li>Comments on any additional information/submissions received at D5</li> <li>Comments on any updated SoCG received at D5</li> <li>Final and signed SoCGs</li> <li>Updated Statement of Commonality for SoCG</li> <li>Any executed s106 Agreement</li> <li>An updated Index to the Application documents submitted by the Applicant</li> <li>Responses to any further information requested by the ExA</li> <li>Any requests from the ExA for information under Rule 17 of the Examination Procedure Rules 2010 (if required)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Not later than 23:59 on Tuesday 31 August 2021</b></p>
<b>14</b>	<p><b>Issue by the ExA of:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any requests for information under Rule 17 of the Examination Procedure Rules 2010 (if required)</li> </ul> <p><b>Publication by the ExA of:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agenda for Hearings to be held 9 and 10 September 2021 (if required)</li> <li>The Report on the Implications for European Sites (RIES) (if required)</li> <li>The ExA's proposed Schedule of Changes to the dDCO (if required and if no DCO specific ISH is held on 9 or 10 September 2021)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Wednesday 1 September 2021</b></p>
<b>15</b>	<p>Dates reserved for Hearings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ISHs (if required)</li> <li>OFH (if required)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Thursday 9 and September 10 2021</b></p>
<b>16</b>	<p><b>Publication by the ExA of:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The ExA's Further Written Questions (ExQ4) (if required)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Friday 10 September 2021</b></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The ExA's draft Schedule of Changes to the dDCO (if required and if not issued on 1 September 2021)</li> </ul> <p><b>Issue by the ExA of:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any requests for information under Rule 17 of the Examination Procedure Rules 2010 (if required)</li> </ul>	<b>OR Monday 13 September 2021 if Hearings are held on 9 and 10 September 2021</b>
<b>17</b>	<p><b>Deadline 7 (D7)</b></p> <p>Deadline for receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Post-hearing submissions, including written summaries of oral cases made by the Applicant and IPs (if hearings on 9/10 June 2021 are required)</li> <li>Comments on responses to ExQ3 (if required)</li> <li>Responses to the ExA's ExQ4 (if required)</li> <li>Comments on any amendments made to the dDCO by the Applicant at D6 (if required)</li> <li>Comments on any additional information/submissions received at D6</li> <li>Final version of the dDCO to be submitted by the Applicant in both clean and tracked changed forms and in the SI template format, with an SI template validation report</li> <li>An updated Index to the Application documents submitted by the Applicant</li> <li>Comments on the ExA's Schedule of Changes to the dDCO published either on 1 or 13 September 2021 (if required)</li> <li>Responses to any further information requested by the ExA</li> <li>Any requests from the ExA for information under Rule 17 of the Examination Procedure Rules 2010 (if required)</li> </ul>	<b>Not later than 23:59 on Monday 20 September 2021</b>
<b>18</b>	<p><b>Deadline 8</b></p> <p>Deadline for receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comments on any additional information/submissions received at D7</li> <li>Responses to any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 (if required)</li> </ul>	<b>Not later than 23:59 on Friday 1 October 2021</b>
<b>19</b>	The ExA is under a duty to complete the Examination of the application by the end of the period of 6 months	<b>Wednesday 20 October 2021</b>

## **Procedural Decisions made by the Examining Authority**

I have made a number of Procedural Decisions following the Preliminary Meeting<sup>1</sup>:

### **1. Examination Timetable**

Further to the timetabling matters discussed at Preliminary Meeting, I have made the decision to incorporate the following amendments to the Examination Timetable as set out in our Rule 6 Letter:

- 1) In respect of the Open Floor Hearing (OFH) (if requested) and any Issue Specific Hearings (ISH) (if required) timetabled for 29 and 30 June 2021, changing the ExA's notification date for any such hearings from 1 June to 28 May 2021. This change to the draft timetable has been made to accommodate the notice periods placed upon the Applicant by the Scunthorpe Telegraph for the placing of advertisements in that newspaper.
- 2) In relation to the dates reserved for the holding of either an OFH (if requested) and an ISH (if required), moving those hearings from 7 and 8 to 9 and 10 September 2021), which would allow for:
  - any submissions made by the Applicant and other Interested Parties at Deadline 5 (9 August) to be taken account of by the ExA in deciding whether there would be a need to hold any ISH in September 2021; and
  - the ExA to give notification on 16 August 2021 for any ISH to be held in September and to enable the Applicant to meet the notice period for placing advertisements in the local newspaper.
- 3) Incorporating the ability for the Applicant to submit Statements of Commonality at Deadlines 1 and 2, so that there is consistency between the ExA's Procedural Decision 2 in Annex F of the Rule 6 letter [PD-004] and what is stated in the Examination Timetable.
- 4) The inclusion at Deadlines 4 to 8 of the opportunity for comments to be made on submissions that may have been made at the preceding deadline.
- 5) If it is necessary for the ExA to publish either a fourth round of written questions or a Schedule of Changes to the draft Development Consent Order (Schedule of Changes) following the holding of an ISH held on either 9 or 10 September, then the publication of the fourth written questions and/or a Schedule of Changes would be on 13 rather 10 September to accommodate the holding of an ISH on either 9 or 10 September. For the avoidance of

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<sup>1</sup> Section 89(1) of the Planning Act 2008

doubt, should holding of an ISH not be required on either 9 or 10 September then a Schedule of Changes, if required, would be issued by the ExA on 1 September.

- 6) Further to the ExA's publication of its Schedule of Changes to the draft Development Consent Order (if required), the inclusion at Deadline 7 (20 September 2021) of the opportunity for the Applicant to respond to the Schedule of Changes.

I have had regard to the suggested timetabling changes put forward by the owners and occupiers of Heron Lodge. Those changes would have meant that Issue Specific Hearing 1 (ISH1) scheduled for 20 and 21 April 2021 in the draft Timetable [Annex D of PD-004] would have been postponed until no earlier than 12 May 2021. Additionally, it was proposed that three additional Procedural Deadlines should be incorporated into the Timetable in advance of a rescheduled ISH1. However, I decided not to postpone and reschedule the holding of ISH1 as there were a number of matters that I wished to examine at a very early stage in the Examination, to assist my understanding of some parts of the case being made by the Applicant and inform the approach to their examination as the Examination progresses. Accordingly, the timetabling changes suggested by the owners and occupiers of Heron Lodge have not been incorporated into the Examination Timetable set out in Annex A to this letter.

## **2. Examining Authority's Written Questions**

<http://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/document/EN010101-000489>

Some of my Written Questions (WQ) are directed to specific Statutory Parties which have not, at the time of writing, confirmed that they wish to become Interested Parties for the purposes of the examination of the application.

All relevant Statutory Parties will receive this correspondence and I request for each to check my WQs carefully in order that they may identify and respond to any questions posed to them. No party should feel inhibited or restricted in responding to any question I ask, even if it is directed elsewhere.

For the avoidance of doubt, Statutory Parties are defined as the parties listed in Schedule 1 to The Infrastructure Planning (Interested Parties and Miscellaneous Prescribed Provisions) Regulations 2015<sup>2</sup>.

## **3. Statements of Common Ground (SoCG)**

The Applicant is taking the lead in the preparation of SoCGs and it will aid the smooth running of the Examination if Interested Parties who are participating in the preparation of SoCGs liaise and co-operate with the Applicant in respect of their

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<sup>2</sup> <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/legislation-and-advice/legislation/>

production. Final signed versions of the SoCGs listed below are requested to be submitted by **Tuesday 31 August 2021** (Deadline 6, **Annex A**).

1. Anglian Water Services
2. Environment Agency
3. Historic England
4. Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust
5. Natural England
6. North Lincolnshire Council
7. Northern Powergrid
8. Public Health England

**All of the SoCGs listed above should cover the Articles and Requirements in the draft DCO.** Any Interested Party seeking for an Article or Requirement to be reworded should provide in the SoCG the form of words which are being sought. Where there is disagreement about the wording for any Articles or Requirements being promoted by an Interested Party, then the SoCG must explain why there is a disagreement.

#### **4. Local Impact Reports (LIRs)**

A LIR is a report in writing giving details of the likely impact of a Proposed Development on a local authority's area (or any part of that area). For more information about the importance and content of LIRs see our Advice Note One: Local Impact Reports<sup>3</sup>.

Local authorities are invited to submit their LIRs by Monday 24 May 2021 (Deadline 2, **Annex A**). As mentioned during the Preliminary Meeting, the ExA requests that North Lincolnshire Council and any other local authorities in submitting their LIRs include copies of the policy wording and explanatory text for all of the Development Plan policies that the local authorities consider are important and relevant to the consideration of the Proposed Development.

#### **5. Habitats Regulations Assessment**

Under the Habitats Regulations<sup>4</sup>, in order to inform the Secretary of State as the competent authority, certain information needs to be provided and consultation undertaken during the course of the Examination. The Applicant is requested to complete screening and/or integrity matrices.

These must be provided by **Monday 10 May 2021** (Deadline 1 **Annex A**), following which the Examination Timetable provides opportunities and deadlines for comments to be submitted.

#### **6. Site Inspections**

For the reasons explained in the Site Inspection's section of the Rule 8 letter I have not specified a time and date within the Examination Timetable for an Accompanied Site Inspection (ASI). Notwithstanding that I now invite comments from the

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<sup>3</sup> <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/legislation-and-advice/advice-notes/>

<sup>4</sup> The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017

Applicant and other Interested Parties about the suggested locations for inclusion in the site inspections that I will be undertaking during the Examination, irrespective of the inspection type used. The suggestions for locations to be inspected should be submitted by **Monday 10 May 2021** (Deadline 1, **Annex A**).

With respect to the potential for an Access Required Site Inspection (ARSI) needing to be used as an alternative to an ASI, the Applicant and other Interested Parties are requested to explain what arrangements would need to be put in place to facilitate the ExA undertaking of an ARSI at suggested location(s) that would require an ARSI to be conducted as an alternative to an ASI.

Interested Parties should be aware that **ASIs are not an opportunity to make any oral representations to the ExA about the Proposed Development.**

## **Requests to appear and procedure to be followed at hearings**

The Examination Timetable reserves two periods of time for two series of hearings to be held, between 29 and 30 June 2021 and between 9 and 10 September 2021.

### **Requests to appear at hearings**

Interested Parties are required to notify the Examining Authority (ExA) in writing of their wish to take part in an Open Floor Hearing (OFH). I remind Interested Parties of the Procedural Decision issued with the Rule 6 letter requesting notification from Interested Parties in this regard on or before 10 May 2021 (Deadline 1, **Annex A**).

If no written requests to take part in an OFH are received by the above deadline, I am not required to hold such a hearing; although I may choose to do so nonetheless.

I may also choose to hold Issue Specific Hearings (ISH) about topics that I think need to be explored orally.

The time, date and place of any confirmed hearing will be notified in writing to all Interested Parties, providing at least 21 days' notice.

If an Interested Party wishes to attend an OFH or ISH they should indicate which topics in their Relevant Representation or Written Representations they wish to address at the hearing.

Notifications from Interested Parties in respect of the above should be sent separately from any other written submission, and appropriately titled to allow us to quickly identify which event the notification relates to.

### **Procedure at hearings**

The procedure to be followed at hearings is set out in The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010<sup>1</sup>. Any oral representations must be based on either the Relevant Representation or Written Representation made by the person by whom, or on whose behalf, the oral representations are made.

The ExA is responsible for the oral questioning of a person giving evidence and the process affords very limited scope to allow cross-questioning between parties<sup>2</sup>. My examination will be principally undertaken through the exchange of written submissions, and we will decide whether a hearing on a particular issue or topic is necessary. This decision is not connected to how relevant or important I consider an issue or topic to be.

### **Hearing agendas**

I will aim to publish a draft agenda for each hearing on the project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website at least five working days in advance of

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<sup>1</sup> Rule 14

<sup>2</sup> Rule 14(5)



the hearing date. The actual agenda on the day of each hearing may be subject to change at the discretion of the ExA.

## Availability of representations and application documents

All application documents and representations submitted to the Examination are available to view on the project page on the National Infrastructure Planning website:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/yorkshire-and-the-humber/little-crow-solar-park/?ipcsection=overview>

For ease of navigation, we recommend that you use the Examination Library (EL) which is accessible via a blue button under the 'Documents' tab. The EL is updated regularly throughout the Examination.

The EL records:

- each application document;
- each representation accepted to be read in conjunction with the Examination; and
- each Procedural Decision made by the Examining Authority.

Each document is provided with a unique reference which will be fixed for the duration of the Examination. A hyperlink to each document on the National Infrastructure Planning website is provided. **Please use the unique reference numbers applied in the EL when referring to any Examination documents in representations that you make.**

Documents can also be viewed electronically at the following locations close to the application site, free of charge. If you have difficulty accessing any documentation, please contact the Case Team using the details provided at the top of this letter.

**Please Note:** Opening hours and the availability of information technology set out in the table below may be subject to local changes or additional limitations to address COVID-19 pandemic public health requirements. Bearing in mind the effect of public health restrictions, please consider your need to attend these locations with care. Please check the current circumstances with the relevant locations before you attend.

Inspection Location	Address and contact details	By appointment only during the hours set out below	Notes
Scunthorpe Central Library	Carlton St, Scunthorpe DN15 6TX  01724 860161	Monday: 9.30am to 12.30pm  Tuesday: 9.30am to 12.30pm	Should you wish to use these facilities, we advise you to contact them in advance to check their current operating policies

**Annex D**

Inspection Location	Address and contact details	By appointment only during the hours set out below	Notes
		<p>Wednesday: 1pm to 4pm</p> <p>Thursday: 1pm to 4pm</p> <p>Friday: 9.30am to 12.30pm</p>	<p>in view of the COVID-19 pandemic</p>
<p>Bottesford Library</p>	<p>Cambridge Ave, Scunthorpe DN16 3LG</p> <p>01724 848484</p>	<p>Bottesford Library will reopen at a later date. Services are available at other local sites including Ashby Community Hub and Riddings Community Hub:</p> <p>Ashby Community Hub Ashby High Street Scunthorpe North Lincolnshire DN16 2RY</p> <p>Monday: 1pm to 4pm Tuesday: 1pm to 4pm Wednesday: 9.30am to 12.20pm Thursday: 9.30am to 12.30pm Friday: 9.30am to 12.20pm</p> <p>Riddings Community Hub West St, Riddings, Alfreton DE55 4EW</p>	<p>Should you wish to use these facilities, we advise you to contact them in advance to check their current operating policies in view of the COVID-19 pandemic</p>

**Annex D**

<b>Inspection Location</b>	<b>Address and contact details</b>	<b>By appointment only during the hours set out below</b>	<b>Notes</b>
		Tuesdays 9.30am – 12.30pm	