



National Infrastructure Planning
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All Interested Parties, Statutory
Parties and any other person
invited to the Preliminary Meeting

Our Ref: EN010122

Your Ref:

Date: 4 June 2024

Dear Sir/ Madam

Application by Oaklands Farm Solar Limited for an Order Granting Development Consent for Oaklands Farm Solar Park

Rule 6 letter - invitation to the Preliminary Meeting, other Procedural Decisions, and information about the Examination

[Planning Act 2008](#) – Section 88 and 89 and [The Infrastructure Planning \(Examination Procedure\) Rules 2010](#) – Rules 4, 6, 9 and 13.

My name is Stuart Cowperthwaite, and I have been appointed to carry out an examination of the above application. The appointment notice can be viewed [here](#).

Thank you if you submitted a Relevant Representation. This is helping me to consider how I will examine the application.

My examination of the application

The application includes the construction of an onshore generating station in England with a generating capacity of more than 50MW. It is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project under the Planning Act 2008 (PA2008) as it includes development falling within the categories in Sections 14(1) and 15 of the PA2008.

My examination will be in accordance with the PA2008, and I will consider:

- whether the application complies with relevant legislation, policy and guidance;
- the powers sought by the Applicant, including in relation to land rights;
- how the Proposed Development would be controlled;
- the balance of benefits and disbenefits of the Proposed Development; and
- whether development consent should be granted.

During the Examination I will gather the evidence needed to help me to consider these matters. I will then submit a report with my recommendations to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero, who will be the decision-maker on whether consent will be granted.

Throughout this process I will be supported by the Planning Inspectorate's Case Team. They will answer queries that you may have about the process and will assist with Examination events. Their email address is provided at the top of this letter.

The Preliminary Meeting

You are invited to the **Preliminary Meeting** on **Wednesday 10 July 2024**. Notification of the time and place of the meeting, the draft agenda, and instructions on how to observe the meeting or participate are set out in **Appendix A**.

The purpose of the Preliminary Meeting is to enable views to be put to me about **how the application should be examined**. This will include consideration of the Examination process set out in **Appendix B**, and the Examination timetable set out in **Appendix C**. More information is provided in [Advice Note 8.3](#).

The Preliminary Meeting is **not** an opportunity for you to give your views about what you like or don't like about the application. You can give your views at Open Floor Hearing 1, which is being held later the same day (see below).

You are not required to attend the Preliminary Meeting to take part in the Examination. Whether or not you attend, if you are an Interested Party then you can make written submissions during the Examination and participate in hearings.

My Examination Timetable will be published after the Preliminary Meeting.

Written submissions about how the application should be examined

I am now requesting written submissions about how the application should be examined. I particularly want to hear from you if you consider changes need to be made to the draft Examination Timetable set out in **Appendix C**. Your submission should be made using the 'Have your say' section of the [project webpage](#) by **Tuesday 25 June 2024**. More information about the 'Have your say' section is provided in **Appendix I**.

Open Floor Hearing 1

I have made a Procedural Decision to hold **Open Floor Hearing 1** on **Wednesday 10 July 2024**. The purpose of this hearing is to give you an opportunity to give your views about what you like or don't like about the application.

Notification of the time and place of the hearing, the draft agenda, and instructions on how to observe the meeting and make a request to speak are set out in **Appendix F**.

Format of the Preliminary Meeting and Hearings

My Examination will principally be a written process supplemented by hearings, as set out in **Appendix B**. More information is provided in [Advice Notes 8.4, 8.5 and 8.6](#).

The following formats are used for the Preliminary Meeting and Hearings:

- **virtual events** where participation is using Microsoft Teams; and

- **blended events** where some people attend at the venue in person, and some people attend using Microsoft Teams. Both means of attending are equally valid.

I have decided that **the Preliminary Meeting and Hearings will be blended events**. I will provide at least 21 days' notice if I later decide to use a different format.

First Written Questions

I have made a Procedural Decision to issue a draft set of First Written Questions. These will be published on the [project webpage](#) on **Tuesday 18 June 2024** to allow all parties an opportunity to start to prepare their responses to questions that are anticipated to be included in the final version of the First Written Questions. Please do not respond to these draft questions.

The final version of the First Written Questions will be published as soon as practicable after the Preliminary Meeting and will replace the draft set. The final version is expected to include additional questions and updates to a small proportion of the draft questions. It is this final version of the First Written Questions that you should respond to, please.

Examination Deadline 1

The draft Examination Timetable in **Appendix C** includes a request for several key submissions at Deadline 1, including responses to the First Written Questions, Local Impact Reports and Written Representations. To meet this deadline, it is likely that parties will need to make substantial progress on them before the Preliminary Meeting.

Statements of Common Ground

To assist with my Examination, I have decided to request the preparation of Statements of Common Ground between the Applicant and other parties, as set out in **Appendix G**.

Changes to land interests

When the Applicant becomes aware that there has been a change in ownership, or a new interest, in relevant land the Applicant is requested to make the relevant person aware that they can make a request to me to become an Interested Party under section 102A of the PA2008 by contacting the Case Team. The Applicant should provide confirmation that relevant persons have been informed of their rights in an update to the Book of Reference.

Your status in the Examination

You have received this letter because you fall within one of the groups described in the Planning Inspectorate's document [What is My Status in the Examination?](#) If your reference number begins with 200 you are in Group A. If your reference number begins with OKFS-SP you are in Group B. If it begins with OKFS-OP you are in Group C. The meaning and purpose of those groups are explained in the document. Please contact the Case Team if, having read that, you are still unsure about your status.

Awards of costs

Parties are normally expected to meet their own costs. Costs can be awarded against a party who has acted unreasonably and has caused the party applying for the award of costs to incur unnecessary or wasted expense during the Examination. Please refer to: [Awards of costs: examinations of applications for development consent orders](#).

Examination correspondence and management of information

Given the volume of letters that are to be sent, we aim to communicate by email as this is more environmentally friendly and cost effective for the taxpayer. Please tell the Case Team if you have received a letter by post but are able to receive information by email.

The Examination documents will be published on the [project webpage](#). Please look at the [project webpage](#) if you haven't already done so, because it will be used to communicate with you and to provide access to documents. Examination Documents can also be viewed electronically at the locations listed in **Appendix H**.

Please make your written submissions at relevant deadlines during the Examination using the 'Have your say' section of the [project webpage](#). More information is provided in **Appendix I**.

The 'Get updates' section towards the bottom of the [project webpage](#) gives you the opportunity to receive email updates at key stages during the Examination.

To facilitate an effective and fair Examination, it is necessary to publish some personal information. Please view our [Privacy Notice](#) to find out how we handle this information.

I look forward to working with all parties during the Examination.

Yours faithfully

Stuart Cowperthwaite

The Examining Authority

Appendices

- A** The Preliminary Meeting
- B** The Examination process
- C** Draft Examination Timetable
- D** The Applicant's updates
- E** Initial Assessment of Principal Issues
- F** Open Floor Hearing 1
- G** Statements of Common Ground
- H** Availability of Examination Documents
- I** The 'Have your say' section of the [project webpage](#)

This communication does not constitute legal advice.

Please view our [Privacy Notice](#) before sending information to the Planning Inspectorate.

THE PRELIMINARY MEETING

Notification of the Preliminary Meeting	
Time and date	10:00am on Wednesday 10 July 2024 Please note that the meeting will start promptly, and access may not be possible for late arrivals.
Format	Blended event - some people will attend at the venue in person and others will attend using Microsoft Teams.
Venue	Branston Golf & Country Club, Burton Road, Branston, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire, DE14 3DP and using Microsoft Teams Full instructions on how to attend using Microsoft Teams will be provided to those that have completed the Event Participation Form (see below).
Seating available at venue for those attending in person	9:30am
Arrangements conference for those attending using Microsoft Teams	9:30am Please enter the virtual lobby promptly at 9:30am using the instructions that will be sent to you. From here you will be admitted to the Arrangements Conference by the Case Team and given further instructions.

If you would just like to **observe the Preliminary Meeting online**, then you can either:

1. watch a livestream of the event - a link to the livestream will be made available on the [project webpage](#) shortly before the event is scheduled to begin; and/ or
2. watch the recording of the event which will be published on the [project webpage](#) shortly after the event has finished.

If, however, you would like to **speak at the Preliminary Meeting and/ or attend at the venue in person** then you are required to complete the [Event Participation Form](#) by **Tuesday 25 June 2024**, providing the following information:

- your title, name and unique reference number (found at the top of the Rule 6 letter) and, if applicable, the name of the organisation or person that you are representing;
- your email address (if available) and contact telephone number;
- whether you will attend in person at the venue or using Microsoft Teams;
- the agenda item on which you wish to speak and the points you wish to make
- the [Examination Library](#) reference of any documents that you would like to refer to; and
- any special requirements, including disabled access or a hearing loop.

Please contact the Case Team using the contact details at the top of the Rule 6 letter if you require any support to observe, attend, or speak at the Preliminary Meeting.

Draft Agenda for the Preliminary Meeting	
Item 1	The Preliminary Meeting will formally open at 10.00am . The Examining Authority will welcome participants and lead introductions. The public livestream and recording will start.
Item 2	The Examining Authority's remarks about the Examination process (refer to Appendix B).
Item 3	Oral representations from Interested Parties on the Examination process.
Item 4	The Examining Authority's remarks about the draft Examination Timetable (refer to Appendix C).
Item 5	Oral representations from Interested Parties on the draft Examination timetable.
Item 6	The Examining Authority's request for updates from the Applicant during the Examination (refer to Appendix D and Appendix G).
Item 7	Any other matters.
Close of the Preliminary Meeting	

The agenda has been set following the ExA's Initial Assessment of Principal Issues arising from consideration of the application documents and Relevant Representations. The ExA's Initial Assessment of Principal Issues is set out in **Appendix E**.

The **agenda** will be published to the [project webpage](#) no later than **Tuesday 2 July 2024**, following the ExA's consideration of written submissions about how the application is to be examined.

The agenda is subject to change at the discretion of the ExA, who is mindful of the need to provide opportunities for fair involvement to all invited parties.

Participants may need to make allowances if there are technology issues during the meeting. The ExA is conscious of videoconferencing fatigue and will aim to take regular breaks.

The purpose of the Preliminary Meeting

The Preliminary Meeting is being held to discuss the arrangements for the Examination of the application for a Development Consent Order for Oaklands Farm Solar Park, which will generally be referred to as the 'Proposed Development'. The application has been made by Oaklands Farm Solar Limited, which will generally be referred to as 'the Applicant'.

You will find information about the application and documents produced for the Examination on the Planning Inspectorate's [project webpage](#). The [project webpage](#) has links to the Examination Timetable, Relevant Representations, Examination documents and procedural information.

The Preliminary Meeting will establish the procedures and timetable for the Examination of the Proposed Development. It will set a framework for the ExA to enable the Secretary of State to consider and decide the application. It will focus on the process only and will not be looking at the substance of the application. Questions, discussions and representations about what parties like or do not like about the Proposed Development are for the Examination itself which will begin after the close of the Preliminary Meeting.

The Preliminary Meeting will be your opportunity to influence the process that the ExA intends to follow. It is important to have the Rule 6 letter and appendices in front of you and to refer to them during the Preliminary Meeting.

Preliminary Meeting invitees

The Applicant is invited to the Preliminary Meeting and is generally given the opportunity to reply to any representations made.

Everyone who has made a valid Relevant Representation has been registered as an Interested Party and has been invited to the Preliminary Meeting. All Interested Parties are entitled to be involved in the Examination.

Each person or organisation with an interest in land or rights that are affected by a Compulsory Acquisition request in this application is an Affected Person and has been invited to the Preliminary Meeting. In addition to a general entitlement to involvement in the Examination, Affected Persons have a right to be heard in relation to any objection about the effects of Compulsory Acquisition on their interests in land, and a right to be notified of any Compulsory Acquisition Hearing. All Affected Persons are Interested Parties, whether they have made a valid Relevant Representation or not.

Certain bodies are Statutory Parties and they have been invited to the Preliminary Meeting. Statutory Parties can elect to become Interested Parties without having made a valid Relevant Representation by notifying the ExA in writing.

The ExA has the power to involve people who are not Interested Parties in the Examination as though they are Interested Parties, including by inviting them to the Preliminary Meeting. However, this is only done in exceptional circumstances, for example if it was clear that the application would materially affect a person, they are not automatically an Interested Party or eligible to elect to become an Interested Party and they had been unable to take the necessary action to register as an Interested Party.

Conduct of the Preliminary Meeting

The ExA estimates that the Preliminary Meeting will take up to two hours to complete.

A recording of the Preliminary Meeting will be made available on the [project webpage](#) as soon as practicable following the close of the Preliminary Meeting. The recording

allows any member of the public who is interested in the application and the Examination to find out what has been discussed at the Preliminary Meeting. The making and publication of these recordings are a means by which the ExA meets the legal requirement to hold the Preliminary Meeting (and any other hearings) in public. In this regard, anyone speaking at the Preliminary Meeting will need to introduce themselves each time they speak, to ensure that someone listening to the recording after the event is clear who was speaking. A written note of the Preliminary Meeting will be published as soon as practicable following the close of the Preliminary Meeting.

As the recordings are retained and published, they form a public record that can contain personal information to which the UK General Data Protection Regulation applies. Participants must do their best to avoid providing any information which should otherwise be kept private and confidential. If there is a need to refer to such information, it should be in written form. Although this will also be published, personal and private content can be redacted or removed before it is made publicly available. Any person who is unclear on this point should ask the Case Team for guidance before they place personal and private information into the public domain.

The Planning Inspectorate's practice is to publish the recordings and retain them for a period of five years from the Secretary of State's decision on the Development Consent Order. If you actively participate in the Preliminary Meeting, it is important that you understand that you will be recorded and that the recording will be made available in the public domain. Please see our [Privacy Notice](#) for more information about how we handle your data.

Following the ExA's introductions, each participant who has been registered to speak will be asked to introduce themselves and any organisations or groups that they represent. The ExA will then conduct the meeting in accordance with the agenda. If you are taking part using Microsoft Teams, then you can switch off your camera at any point if you prefer not to have your image recorded.

THE EXAMINATION PROCESS

This appendix provides advance access to information relevant to the ExA's remarks about the Examination process under Item 2 of the Preliminary Meeting Agenda, as set out in **Appendix A**. Please read this carefully as during the Preliminary Meeting the ExA will only present some of the points set out here.

The examination of Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects follows different processes to those, for example, of a Public Inquiry into a planning appeal following the refusal of planning permission. The main differences are that the Examination of Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects are primarily a written process and hearings take on an inquisitorial approach as opposed to an adversarial one.

This means that the ExA will probe, test, and assess the evidence primarily using written questions. While some hearings are held to provide supplementary evidence, questions to the Applicant or to witnesses will come from the ExA. Questioning or cross-examination of witnesses by other parties will generally not be allowed.

In terms of opportunities to provide evidence in writing, the draft Examination Timetable makes provision for the following written processes:

- local authorities can submit Local Impact Reports, which must be considered by the Secretary of State in reaching a decision. Consequently, Local Impact Reports are a very important method for local authorities to communicate issues of concern to the ExA, the Secretary of State and their residents.
- Interested Parties can make Written Representations and comment on Written Representations made by other parties.
- Interested Parties can respond to the ExA's written questions and comment on responses to these written questions provided by others.
- Interested Parties may be asked to contribute to the making of Statements of Common Ground if it appears that there are matters on which they and the Applicant agrees, and if it would be useful for this to be clarified. Statements of Common Ground are also used to record matters that are not agreed or are outstanding.

The draft Examination Timetable includes a series of numbered Deadlines for receipt of written submissions. Timely submissions received by the relevant Deadline and that address its purpose will be accepted. **Documents received after the relevant Deadline are only accepted at the discretion of the ExA and may not be accepted to ensure fairness to all parties.** Circumstances where documents are submitted late without good reason, causing inconvenience or delay to other parties can amount to unreasonable behaviour.

These written processes will be the principal means used by the ExA to gather information, evidence, and views about the application. However, the Examination will only be effective if all parties resolve to give timely, full, frank, clear and evidenced answers to every question that is relevant to their interests and to engage fully with any other related processes such as the completion of Written Representations and Statements of Common Ground.

There is no merit in withholding or delaying information, or in failing to co-operate, and should it occur, any unreasonable behaviour that caused another party to incur wasted expenditure could lead to an award of costs against the offending party.

The ExA has discretion to make amendments to the Examination Timetable for the wider benefit of the Examination. If possible, events will be arranged for times when all relevant parties are available, but the ExA is under a duty to complete the Examination by the end of the six-month period beginning with the day after the close of the Preliminary Meeting. This requirement is set by legislation, and while the ExA will try to rearrange event dates to accommodate all relevant parties, in practice there will be limited scope to alter dates set out in the draft Examination Timetable.

The statutory time limit for the Examination means that where there are matters that still need to be discussed and agreed between the Applicant and Interested Parties, it will be very helpful to the ExA if these could be progressed as early as possible.

The ExA has published a [list of abbreviations and references](#) that it may use in addition to those set out in the [Examination Library](#). If parties wish to use abbreviations in their own submissions, then they are encouraged to use the same ones for consistency.

Hearings

The draft Examination Timetable in **Appendix C** includes provision for hearings at which the ExA takes oral representations from the various parties. It includes dates by which the date, time, and place of hearings will be notified, and when agendas will be published.

Any registered Interested Party may request an **Open Floor Hearing** to make oral representations about the application if they believe this to be preferable to relying on their written representation, though both carry equal weight. Oral representations should be based on representations previously made in writing, but they should not simply repeat matters previously covered in the written submission. Rather, they should focus on specific detail and explanation to help inform the ExA. There should be no new or unexpected material in oral representations. Speakers will often be requested to submit a written summary note of their oral representation with any supporting evidence or references to the next Deadline after the hearing.

As with all Examination events, **Open Floor Hearings** are subject to the powers of control of the ExA, as set out in the PA2008 and supporting legislation. Participants must request to participate in advance by the Deadline shown in the Examination Timetable and in accordance with the instructions. It is common practice for the ExA to set a time limit for each speaker and speakers with common points are asked to come together to nominate a spokesperson or representative speakers to cover specific topics, to avoid repetition. Speakers representing public authorities, community and membership organisations or multiple Interested Parties are normally provided with an additional time allowance, recognising their representative role.

The Applicant's draft Development Consent Order provides for the Compulsory Acquisition of land and rights, and the Temporary Possession of land. Affected Persons (i.e., those whose land or rights over land would be affected) have a right to request and be heard at a **Compulsory Acquisition Hearing**. If one or more Affected Persons

request to be heard, then a Compulsory Acquisition Hearing must be held. Dates for a Compulsory Acquisition Hearing are included in the draft Examination Timetable along with a Deadline by which requests to participate must be submitted.

The ExA has the discretion to hold **Issue Specific Hearings** if it would aid in the Examination and there is a specific reason this would be more helpful than reliance on written evidence only. The lack of an Issue Specific Hearings on one or more topics does not suggest that that topic is less important than others which are subject to a hearing. Rather, it is an indication that the ExA is satisfied that the issues can be fully considered through written submissions and responses to its written questions and that each party has had a fair opportunity to put its case.

The draft Examination Timetable includes dates reserved for Issue Specific Hearings and Interested Parties may make suggestions for topics to be discussed at an Issue Specific Hearing in their written or oral representations to the Preliminary Meeting.

It is likely to be necessary for the ExA to hold more than one Issue Specific Hearing on the draft Development Consent Order. This is normal practice, and they are held on a without prejudice basis. Parties can suggest modifications and amendments to the draft Development Consent Order provided by the Applicant with the application, without prejudicing their overall position on the application.

Holding such hearings does not imply that the ExA has reached any judgements on the merits of the application. Whatever the ultimate recommendation is, the ExA must make sure that the draft Development Consent Order is fit for purpose if the Secretary of State decides to grant consent, as any consent will be subject to Requirements (i.e., conditions) set out in the Development Consent Order.

At hearings it will not normally be necessary for parties to make long and detailed submissions that require (for example) PowerPoint presentations. The ExA may ask for any supporting detail/ information to be provided in writing after the hearing.

The draft Examination Timetable includes a Deadline for parties to notify the ExA that they wish to speak at an Open Floor Hearing or a Compulsory Acquisition Hearing.

Site inspections

The ExA may undertake site inspections. These can be either unaccompanied or accompanied. They would be subject to any public health restrictions at the time. The purpose of these is for the ExA to see features of the proposals within the context of the evidence put forward. Notes of Unaccompanied Site Inspections are published on the [project webpage](#).

Accompanied Site Inspections will typically only be necessary to view land to which there is no public right of access, or with no clear view from nearby locations with open public access. The purpose of Accompanied Site Inspections is familiarisation only and no discussion of the merits of the Proposed Development will be entertained during an Accompanied Site Inspection.

The draft Examination Timetable includes a Deadline for submissions suggesting locations that the ExA should visit. These will be used to inform further site inspections.

The ExA may decide to hold Unaccompanied Site Inspections to relevant nominated locations, supported by the submission of additional written, photographic, video or even drone material if this would be preferable to not visiting sites or holding Accompanied Site Inspections in circumstances which could make them difficult and unduly time-consuming to conduct. The ExA may also consider if it would be appropriate to arrange for access only to be provided to specific sites such that they could be inspected as part of an Unaccompanied Site Inspection.

Report on the Implications for European Sites (RIES)

Where an Applicant has provided a No Significant Effects Report or a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Report with the application, the ExA may decide to issue a RIES during the Examination. The RIES is a factual account of the information and evidence provided to the ExA on HRA matters during the Examination up to the date of the publication of the RIES, for the purposes of enabling the Secretary of State, as competent authority, to undertake its HRA. It is not the ExA's opinion on HRA matters. Comments on the RIES will be invited by the ExA and any received will be considered as part of the ExA's Recommendation to the Secretary of State. The ExA may also raise questions in the RIES to confirm or clarify matters that remain outstanding.

The Secretary of State may rely on the consultation on the RIES to meet its obligations under Regulation 63(3) of The Habitats Regulations 2017 and/ or Regulation 28 of The Offshore Marine Regulations.

DRAFT EXAMINATION TIMETABLE

Submissions for each Deadline must be made by 11:59pm on the relevant date and will be published on the [project webpage](#) as soon as practicable after the Deadline.

Item	Event(s)	Date(s)
1.	<p>Procedural Deadline A</p> <p>Deadline for receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • written submissions about how the application should be examined, including the draft Examination Timetable • requests to speak at the Preliminary Meeting and/ or attend at the venue in person • requests to speak at Open Floor Hearing 1 and/ or attend at the venue in person • suggested locations for site inspections, including the reason for nomination, issues to be observed there and whether the location(s) require access to private land 	Tuesday 25 June 2024
2.	<p>Issue by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the agenda for the Preliminary Meeting • the agenda for Open Floor Hearing 1 	No later than Tuesday 2 July 2024
3.	Preliminary Meeting	Wednesday 10 July 2024
4.	Open Floor Hearing 1	Wednesday 10 July 2024
5.	<p>Issue by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Examination Timetable (the Rule 8 letter) • the ExA's First Written Questions 	As soon as practicable after the Preliminary Meeting
6.	<p>Deadline 1</p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • comments on Relevant Representations and Additional Submissions • responses to the ExA's First Written Questions • Local Impact Reports from local authorities • Written Representations from Interested Parties and summaries of any that exceed 1500 words. • any other information requested by the ExA for Deadline 1 	Tuesday 6 August 2024

Appendix C

Item	Event(s)	Date(s)
7.	<p>Deadline 2</p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • requests to be heard at a further Open Floor Hearing • requests by Affected Persons (defined in s59(4) of the PA2008) to be heard at a Compulsory Acquisition Hearing • the Applicant's updates – refer to Appendix D • comments on the Deadline 1 submissions and any other information requested by the ExA for Deadline 2 	Tuesday 20 August 2024
8.	<p>Issue by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the ExA's Second Written Questions • notification of the date, time, and place of hearing(s) in October 2024 • notification of an Accompanied Site Inspection (if required) 	No later than Tuesday 10 September 2024
9.	<p>Deadline 3</p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • responses to the ExA's Second Written Questions • requests to be heard at hearing(s) in October 2024 • the Applicant's proposed itinerary for an Accompanied Site Inspection (if required) • the Applicant's updates – refer to Appendix D • comments on the Deadline 2 submissions and any other information requested by the ExA for Deadline 3 	Tuesday 1 October 2024
10.	<p>Issue by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • agenda(s) for hearing(s) in October 2024 • arrangements for an Accompanied Site Inspection (if required) 	No later than Tuesday 15 October 2024
11.	<p>Time reserved for hearing(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue Specific Hearing • Compulsory Acquisition Hearing (if required) • Open Floor Hearing (if required) 	Tuesday 22 October 2024 Wednesday 23 October 2024
12.	<p>Time reserved for an Accompanied Site Inspection (if required):</p>	Thursday 24 October 2024

Item	Event(s)	Date(s)
13.	<p>Deadline 4</p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Applicant’s updates – refer to Appendix D • comments on the Deadline 3 submissions and any other information requested by the ExA for Deadline 4 	Thursday 31 October 2024
14.	<p>Issue by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the ExA’s Third Written Questions (if required) • the Report on Implications for European Sites (if required) 	No later than Tuesday 12 November 2024
15.	<p>Deadline 5</p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • responses to the ExA’s Third Written Questions (if required) • the Applicant’s updates – refer to Appendix D • comments on the Deadline 4 submissions and any other information requested by the ExA for Deadline 5 	Tuesday 26 November 2024
16.	<p>Publication of the ExA’s schedule of changes to the draft Development Consent Order (if required)</p>	No later than Tuesday 3 December 2024
17.	<p>Deadline 6</p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • comments on the Report on Implications for European Sites (if required) • comments on the ExA’s schedule of changes to the draft Development Consent Order (if required) • comments on the Deadline 5 submissions and any other information requested by the ExA for Deadline 6 	Tuesday 10 December 2024

Appendix C

Item	Event(s)	Date(s)
18.	<p>Deadline 7</p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • summary statements from parties regarding matters that they have previously raised during the Examination and that have not been resolved to their satisfaction • the Applicant’s closing summary statement • the Applicant’s final updates – refer to Appendix D • comments on the Deadline 6 submissions and any other information requested by the ExA for Deadline 7 	Tuesday 17 December 2024
19.	<p>The ExA is under a duty to complete the Examination no later than the end of the period of six months beginning with the day after the close of the Preliminary Meeting. The ExA will provide reasonable notification if it decides to close the Examination before Friday 10 January 2025.</p>	Friday 10 January 2025

THE APPLICANT'S UPDATES

The draft Examination Timetable in **Appendix C** includes Deadlines for the Applicant to provide updates to the Examination. The Deadlines are set at points in the timetable where it will help with the smooth running of the Examination for the ExA to have the up-to-date information at that time. This appendix sets out the ExA's request for the matters to be included in those updates.

Statements of Common Ground

Appendix G sets out the Statements of Common Ground between the Applicant and various Interested Parties that are requested by the ExA, and the matters to be covered.

The Statements of Common Ground are to be accompanied by a document summarising:

- The status of each Statement of Common Ground.
- The matters agreed between the Applicant and each Interested Party.
- The main outstanding concerns held by each Interested Party, the reasons for those concerns, the next steps to be taken to address them and the progress anticipated by the next Deadline and by the close of the Examination.
- When it is anticipated that any draft Statements of Common Ground will be finalised and when the finalised signed and dated copies will be submitted to the Examination.

Updates to the Book of Reference, Statement of Reasons and Land Plans

To include:

- The latest, fully up-to-date versions of Book of Reference, Statement of Reasons, Land Plans, Special Category Land Plans, and any related updates to the draft Development Consent Order.
- Clean copies and copies showing tracked changes to the previous versions.
- Each version supplied with unique revision numbers that are updated consecutively from the application versions, clearly indicated within the body of each document, and included within the electronic filename.
- A "Schedule of Land Rights Changes" report, or equivalent, setting out the reasons for the changes included in each update.

Schedule of progress regarding any outstanding matters, objections, and agreements in relation to land rights

To include:

- Identification of all Affected Persons objecting to powers sought by the Applicant and each Affected Person with whom discussions have been held. In each case identifying the Affected Parties' interests in each plot, the powers sought by Applicant; the purpose(s) for which they are sought; and the anticipated duration of any Temporary Possession. To include Compulsory Acquisition, Temporary Possession, Restrictive Covenants, and any other powers in relation to the

creation, suspension or extinguishment of, or interference with, interests in or rights over land.

- A summary of any objections by an Affected Person to the powers being sought by the Applicant, and the Applicant's responses. The [Examination Library](#) references of all submissions made by Affected Persons in relation to land rights, including any objections that they have made to the Proposed Development, and the Applicant's responses.
- Identification of whether voluntary agreement has been reached.
- Identification of any plots where the Applicant has not yet been able to identify persons having an interest in land, including any rights over unregistered land, and where it has been able to identify interests since the Application was made.
- A summary of the progress made since the last update, any outstanding matters, the next steps to be taken, and the progress anticipated by the next Deadline and by the close of the Examination.

The above information will be published on the [project webpage](#), so commercial and/ or confidential details need not be given.

Updates to the draft Development Consent Order and Explanatory Memorandum

To include:

- The latest, fully up-to-date versions of the draft Development Consent Order and Explanatory Memorandum.
- Clean copies and copies showing tracked changes to the previous versions.
- A copy of the draft Development Consent Order, showing tracked changes to the Application version.
- A clean copy of the draft Development Order in Microsoft Word.
- Each version supplied with unique revision numbers that are updated consecutively from the application versions, clearly indicated within the body of each document, and included within the electronic filename.
- A report validating that the draft Development Consent Order is in the Statutory Instrument template (obtained from the publishing section of the [legislation.gov.uk](#) website).
- A "Schedule of Draft Development Order Changes" report, or equivalent, setting out the reasons for the changes included in each update.

Schedule of progress regarding Protective Provisions and Statutory Undertakers

To include:

- A schedule of progress in relation to each Statutory Undertaker where s127 and/ or s138 of the PA2008 applies and that sets out:
 - An up-to-date list of Statutory Undertakers.
 - The nature of their undertakings.
 - The Statutory Undertaker's land, rights or apparatus that would be affected and how it would be affected.

- The progress made in discussions with Statutory Undertakers since the last update in relation to the tests set out in s127(3)(a) or (b), s127(6)(a) or (b) and s138(4) of the PA2008.
- Any agreement or differences between the Applicant and the Statutory Undertaker about whether the tests have been met.
- A summary of the progress made since the last update, any outstanding matters, the next steps to be taken, and the progress anticipated by the close of the Examination.
- A schedule of progress in relation to the Protective Provisions included in the draft Development Consent Order, and any related side agreements, setting out:
 - The name of each organisation that each Protective Provision applies to where this is not identified in the draft Development Consent Order.
 - The scope and purpose of any relevant side agreements with each organisation.
 - Whether the Protective Provisions and any side agreements have been agreed with each organisation, providing written evidence from each party of any agreement. If written confirmation is not received by all relevant parties before the close of the examination, then the ExA may be minded to recommend to the Secretary of State that it does not make a decision until it has satisfied itself that the protective provisions and any relevant side agreements have been agreed.
 - A summary of the progress made since the last update, any outstanding matters, the next steps to be taken, and the progress anticipated by the close of the Examination.

The above information will be published on the [project webpage](#), so commercial and/ or confidential details need not be given.

Schedule of the latest versions of the Applicant's submission documents and documents to be certified

To include:

- A schedule identifying the latest version of each individual document and plan submitted by the Applicant and identifying those documents that are to be certified under the draft Development Consent Order.
- Clean copies of any new documents or plans.
- For any updated documents or plans, clean copies and copies showing tracked changes to the previous versions.
- Additionally, for any updated documents or plans that are to be certified, copies showing tracked changes to the Application version.
- Updates supplied with unique revision numbers that are updated consecutively from the application versions, clearly indicated within the body of each document, within the electronic filename, and (for the certified documents or plans) in the draft Development Consent Order.

- A “Schedule of New and Updated Document and Plan Updates” report, or equivalent, setting out the purpose of all new documents and plans and the reasons for the changes to any document or plan included in each update.

Schedule of progress in securing other consents

To include:

- A schedule of other consents (including any licences or agreements) required for the delivery of the Proposed Development, including the name of the consent, the relevant legislation (or policy or guidance), the consenting authority, the scope of the consent, why it is required, and when it is expected to be obtained.
- A summary of the up-to-date position in respect of obtaining the necessary consents and whether there any reason to believe that any consent will not be granted.
- Where the Environment Agency or Natural England are the consenting authority, and without prejudice to their subsequent decision, written confirmation of whether they have any reason to believe that any consent will not be granted. As well as being required for the ExA to assess the adequacy of the Applicant’s mitigation proposals, this is required for the ExA to report any known impediments to the Secretary of State.
- A summary of the progress made since the last update, any outstanding matters, the next steps to be taken, and the progress anticipated by the next Deadline and by the close of the Examination.

INITIAL ASSESSMENT OF PRINCIPAL ISSUES

This is the Initial Assessment of Principal Issues prepared as required under s88(1) of the PA2008. It has been prepared by the ExA following its reading of:

- the application documents;
- the Relevant Representations received in respect of the application; and
- its consideration of any other important and relevant matters.

This initial assessment has guided the ExA in forming a provisional view as to how the application is to be examined. It is based on information available to the ExA at the time of writing and, as such, will not be updated. It is not a comprehensive or exclusive list of the issues that will be subject to examination and inevitably some issues will overlap or interrelate. The ExA will have regard to all important and relevant matters during the Examination and when it submits a report with its' recommendations to the Secretary of State after the Examination has concluded.

The order of the issues does not imply any order of prioritisation or importance.

Links are provided to some documents for convenience. These documents may be updated periodically, in which case the links may not always be to the most up to date version. Parties should ensure that they refer to the most up to date version.

The requirements associated with the PA2008 are an integral part of the Examination and are not listed. The ExA will conduct the Examination with the effects of the proposal in relation to human rights and equalities duties in mind.

1. General matters – to include:

- a) Whether all relevant legislation and policy has been complied with and the regard given to guidance and advice.
- b) Matters to be given regard to in deciding the application, with reference to s104 or s105 of the PA2008, as applicable.
- c) The relevance of National Policy Statements. Consideration of any changes to legislation or policy since the application was made.
- d) Matters arising in any Local Impact Reports. Relevant local policy.
- e) The implications of any relevant planning decisions or case law.
- f) Whether observations made at the Acceptance stage [[PD-002](#), [PD-003](#), [PD-004](#)] have been adequately addressed by the Applicant.

2. The draft Development Order (dDCO) and other consents – to include:

- a) The regard given to the Planning Inspectorate's Advice Notes, including:
 - [Advice Note 13: Preparation of a draft order granting development consent and explanatory memorandum](#)
 - [Advice Note 15: Drafting Development Consent Orders](#)

- b) The identification of other consents, obligations, or agreements required before the Proposed Development can become operational, progress in obtaining them, and comfort/ impediments and timescales for them being granted.

3. Planning matters – to include:

- a) Whether the assessment methodology including scoping, is consistent with the [Infrastructure Planning \(Environmental Impact Assessment\) Regulations 2017](#). Whether it reflects best practice, has been applied consistently, and is evidenced and reasoned. The use of professional judgement and assumptions.
- b) The flexibility sought for the detailed design, construction, and operational phases. Whether the extent of flexibility adopted in the Rochdale Envelope is reasonable and consistent. Whether a reasonable worst-case scenario has been assessed. The regard given to [Advice Note 9: Rochdale Envelope](#) and [Advice Note 17: Cumulative effects assessment relevant to nationally significant infrastructure projects](#).
- c) The adequacy of the assessment and mitigation for each environmental topic. Consideration of scope, methodology, study area, receptors, and their sensitivity. Baseline conditions and how they were identified.
- d) The magnitude and duration of construction, operational and decommissioning phase adverse and beneficial effects, mitigation, residual effects after mitigation and their significance. The control of site preparation works. The consideration given to any potential for large scale replacement of the solar panels and any other works for up to 40 years following the date of final commissioning.
- e) Opportunities for environmental net gain, environmental enhancements and any long-term or wider benefits.
- f) The effectiveness of the measures to mitigate adverse effects and deliver benefits. The need for and adequacy of outline/ draft mitigation and management plans. Whether the measures are likely to result in the residual impacts identified in the Environmental Statement. Whether the delivery and maintenance of the measures is adequately secured.
- g) The consideration given to topics including:
- Accidents, disasters, fire risk, human health and wellbeing, safety, and security.
 - Aviation and defence.
 - Biodiversity, habitats, and species. The regard given to [Advice Note 10: Habitats Regulations Assessment relevant to nationally significant infrastructure projects](#). Protected species surveys and measures to protect any protected species. The need to agree and secure an Ecological Protection and Mitigation Strategy and a Biodiversity Net Gain Strategy during the Examination. The need for tree and hedgerow removal plans. The identification of ancient and veteran trees; impacts and mitigation. Amount of tree planting. Consistency with the National Forest Strategy and related local policy, woodland planting, and barriers to habitat connectivity. Removal of woodland bordering the former Drakelow Power Station site and consideration of its priority status under the Natural Environment & Rural Communities Act 2006. The relationship between biodiversity and soils management during the operational phase.

- Climate change. Embedded carbon, including from the energy used to manufacture the solar panels, transportation, and panel replacement. Carbon emissions arising from any loss of food production.
- Decommissioning, end state, works that would remain in place, securing funding for decommissioning.
- Good design.
- Historic environment. The need to agree and secure a Written Scheme of Investigation during the Examination.
- Landscape and visual, glint and glare. The need to remove hedgerows and related mitigation. The need to secure low reflective material for the solar panels. Mitigating the impacts of security fencing, lighting, and cameras.
- Need case, site selection, alternatives, technology, generation capacity, and grid connection.
- Noise, vibration, air quality, dust, and nuisance.
- Socio-economics, tourism, recreation, land use, human equality issues, and public rights of way. Impacts of any loss of agriculture. The need to secure local employment opportunities during the construction phase. Securing the provision and maintenance of any new public right of way.
- Soils, agriculture, ground contamination, ground conditions, mineral resources, and geological conservation. The case for the use of Best Most Valuable agricultural land. Impact on soil quality, food production and food security. Soil management options during the operational stage.
- Traffic, transport, and access. Increase in traffic on local roads, safety, and road maintenance. The condition of local roads.
- Waste disposal and management. The application of the waste hierarchy, including for the solar panels.
- Water environment and water contamination, including the regard given to [Advice Note 18: The Water Framework Directive](#). The Flood Risk Assessment, changes to land drainage including any impact on existing land drains. The potential for increased runoff.

4. Land rights and related matters – to include:

- a) The regard given to guidance, including:
 - [Planning Act 2008: guidance related to procedures for the compulsory acquisition of land](#)
 - [Planning Act 2008: associated development applications for major infrastructure projects](#)
- b) Accuracy of the Book of Reference, Statements of Reasons and Land Plans.
- c) The demonstration of ongoing diligent enquiry to identify any unknown rights and updates during the Examination.
- d) Whether the land rights powers sought including Compulsory Acquisition, Temporary Possession, Restrictive Covenants, and any other powers in relation to the creation,

suspension, or extinguishment of, or interference with, interests in or rights over land are necessary to facilitate or are incidental to the Proposed Development.

- e) The Statement of Reasons and whether the powers sought are required for the development to which the order relates, whether they are legitimate, necessary, and proportionate and whether it is clear how the Applicant intends to use the land.
- f) Whether there is a compelling case in the public interest for the powers sought that justifies interference with the human rights of those affected.
- g) The temporary possession powers sought are needed to enable the construction, operation, or decommissioning of the Proposed Development; the total period for which the land may be subject to temporary possession; and whether the powers sought are compatible with human rights tests.
- h) Minimisation of the need for acquisition of land and rights, consideration of acquisition by agreement and the exercise of any existing land option agreements.
- i) Whether all reasonable alternatives to compulsory acquisition have been explored.
- j) Potential impediments to development.
- k) The acquisition of any statutory undertakers' land or rights over such land and the detriment that may be caused to the carrying on of the undertaking in question. The adequacy and agreement of Protective Provisions in the dDCO; any necessary side agreements; and compliance with s127 and s136 of the PA2008.
- l) The adequacy of the Protective Provisions set out in the dDCO and the need for any other Protective Provisions to safeguard relevant interests.
- m) Any objections, the Applicant's responses, and related evidence; updates on negotiations, voluntary agreements, and blight during the Examination.
- n) Whether there are suitable dDCO provisions for compensation.
- o) The adequacy and security of project funding and guarantees for compensation. Whether adequate funding would be available to enable the Applicant to carry out the compulsory acquisition within the statutory period. The robustness of costings set out in the Funding Statement.

OPEN FLOOR HEARING 1

Notification of Open Floor Hearing 1	
Time and date	3:00pm on Wednesday 10 July 2024 Please note that the meeting will start promptly, and access may not be possible for late arrivals.
Format	Blended event - some people will attend at the venue in person and others will take part using Microsoft Teams.
Venue	Branston Golf & Country Club, Burton Road, Branston, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire, DE14 3DP and using Microsoft Teams Full instructions on how to attend using Microsoft Teams will be provided to those that have completed the Event Participation Form (see below).
Seating available at venue for those attending in person	2:30pm
Arrangements conference for those attending using Microsoft Teams	2:30pm Please enter the virtual lobby promptly at 2:30pm using the instructions that will be sent to you. From here you will be admitted to the Arrangements Conference by the Case Team and given further instructions.

If you would just like to **observe the hearing online**, then you can either:

1. watch a livestream of the event - a link to the livestream will be made available on the [project webpage](#) shortly before the event is scheduled to begin; and/ or
2. watch the recording of the event which will be published on the [project webpage](#) shortly after the event has finished.

If, however, you would like to **speak at the hearing and/ or attend at the venue in person** then you are required to complete the [Event Participation Form](#) by **Tuesday 25 June 2024**, providing the following information:

- your title, name and unique reference number (found at the top of the Rule 6 letter) and, if applicable, the name of the organisation or person that you are representing;
- your email address (if available) and contact telephone number;
- whether you will attend in person at the venue or using Microsoft Teams;
- the agenda item on which you wish to speak and the points you wish to make
- the [Examination Library](#) reference of any documents that you would like to refer to; and
- any special requirements, including disabled access or a hearing loop.

Please contact the Case Team using the contact details at the top of the Rule 6 letter if you require any support to observe, attend, or speak at the hearing.

Draft Agenda for Open Floor Hearing 1	
Item 1	<p>Welcome, opening remarks and introductions</p> <p>The ExA will welcome participants and lead introductions and the public livestream and recording will start.</p>
Item 2	<p>The purpose of the hearing and how it will be conducted</p> <p>The ExA will introduce the hearing, including that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The purpose of the hearing is to give Interested Parties an opportunity to make oral representations about the application. • The hearing is subject to the powers of control of the ExA, as set out in the PA2008 and supporting legislation. • The ExA will invite parties to speak and will ask questions as it considers necessary and all comments, questions and answers are to be directed to the ExA and not directly to any other party.
Item 3	<p>Parties who have had a request to participate accepted by the ExA and who have indicated that they wish to make an oral representation</p>
Item 4	<p>Oral representations</p> <p>The ExA will invite Interested Parties to make oral representations, in turn.</p> <p>Oral representations should be up to 10 minutes long. If many people wish to speak, the ExA may restrict the time available to each speaker.</p> <p>Representations should provide further detail, explanation and corroborative evidence on the matters raised in the speaker's Relevant Representation.</p> <p>The ExA will, as it considers necessary, ask questions of the speaker, and provide the Applicant with an opportunity to respond.</p>
Item 5	<p>Any other matters</p>
Close of Open Floor Hearing 1	

The **agenda** will be published to the [project webpage](#) no later than **Tuesday 2 July 2024**, following the ExA's consideration of requests to participate. The agenda is subject to change at the ExA's discretion.

Participants may need to make allowances if there are technology issues during the hearing. The ExA is conscious of videoconferencing fatigue and will aim to take regular breaks.

STATEMENTS OF COMMON GROUND

To assist the Examination, the ExA has made a Procedural Decision to request the preparation of Statements of Common Ground between the Applicant and certain Interested Parties.

The aim of a Statement of Common Ground is to agree factual information and to inform the ExA and all other parties by identifying where there is agreement and where there are outstanding concerns, starting at an early stage and continuing to the end of the Examination. It should provide a focus and save time by identifying matters which are not in dispute or need not be the subject of further evidence. It is also a means for parties to provide regular updates to the Examination to demonstrate that progress is being made, and how the Applicant is addressing the concerns that have been raised.

Statements of Common Ground allow matters that are agreed or not agreed between the Applicant and relevant parties to be reported to the Examination. They will help to inform the ExA about the need to ask written questions or hold Issue Specific Hearings.

The ExA will only be able to rely on the Statements of Common Ground when making its recommendations to the Secretary of State if the final versions submitted to the Examination have been signed and dated by both parties, or if both parties otherwise provide written confirmation to the Examination that they are agreed.

Unless otherwise stated or agreed, the SoCG should be agreed between the Applicant and the other relevant Interested Party or parties and submitted **by the Applicant**.

Statements of Common Ground are requested between the Applicant and:

A. **Derbyshire County Council and South Derbyshire District Council**, to include the following, as relevant to their areas of responsibility:

- Compliance with local policy and the development plans, impacts on land use and the acceptability of proposed changes to land use.
- Any comments from the consenting authority on the 'Schedule of progress in securing other consents' (see **Appendix D**) submitted by the Applicant.
- Any other comments in relation to other consents, licences, and agreements.
- The matters set out in the Initial Assessment of Principal Issues in **Appendix E**.
- The principal concerns expressed in the Local Impact Reports or in other submissions made by the local authorities to the Examination.
- Any other matters on which agreement might aid the smooth running of the Examination and assist the ExA's recommendation to the Secretary of State.

B. **The Environment Agency, Natural England, Historic England, and the Health and Safety Executive**, to include the following, as relevant to their areas of responsibility:

- Any comments from the consenting authority on the 'Schedule of progress in securing other consents' (see **Appendix D**) submitted by the Applicant.
- Any other comments in relation to other consents, licences, and agreements.

- The matters set out in the Initial Assessment of Principal Issues in **Appendix E**.
- The principal concerns expressed in other submissions made by the organisations to the Examination.
- Any other matters on which agreement might aid the smooth running of the Examination and assist the ExA's recommendation to the Secretary of State.

All Statements of Common Ground should identify and address the relevant Articles and Requirements in the draft Development Consent Order. Any Interested Party seeking a change to the draft Development Consent order should provide the form of words which are being sought.

AVAILABILITY OF EXAMINATION DOCUMENTS

The application documents and Relevant Representations are available on the [project webpage](#).

All documents submitted during the Examination will be published under the [Documents tab](#) of the [project webpage](#).

The Examination Library

For ease of navigation, please refer to the [Examination Library](#) which is accessible under the [Documents tab](#). The [Examination Library](#) is updated regularly throughout the Examination.

The [Examination Library](#) records and provides a hyperlink to:

- each application document;
- each submission made to the Examination; and
- each Procedural Decision made by the Examining Authority.

Each document is given a unique reference which will be fixed for the duration of the Examination. Please quote the unique reference number from the [Examination Library](#) when referring to any Examination Documents in any future submissions that you make.

Electronic deposit locations

Documents can be viewed electronically, free of charge, at the electronic deposit locations listed in the table below. Please note that you will need to bring a form of identification and register as a library member to use a computer at these locations.

The opening hours and availability of information technology set out in the table below may be subject to change. Please check the current circumstances with the relevant locations before you attend.

Venue/ address	Opening hours	Printing costs
Swadlincote Library and Information Centre Civic Way Swadlincote Derbyshire DE11 0AD	Monday: 9:30am – 5:00pm Tuesday: 9:30am – 5:00pm Wednesday: 9:30am – 5:00pm Thursday: 9:30am – 7:00pm Friday: 9:30am – 5:00pm Saturday: 9:30am – 4:00pm Sunday: Closed	A4 and A3 - 10p per sheet

Venue/ address	Opening hours	Printing costs
Burton Library Riverside Burton upon Trent Staffordshire DE14 1AH	Monday: 9:00am – 6:00pm Tuesday: 9:00am – 5:00pm Wednesday: 9:00am – 5:00pm Thursday: 9:00am – 7:00pm Friday: 9:00am – 5:00pm Saturday: 8:30am – 4:30pm Sunday: Closed	A4 black and white - 15p per sheet A4 colour - 50p per sheet A3 black and white - 30p per sheet A3 colour - £1 per sheet

THE 'HAVE YOUR SAY' SECTION OF THE PROJECT WEBPAGE

The 'Have your say' section is available on the [project webpage](#).

You will need to enter your unique reference number ('Your ref' found at the top your postcard or email from the Planning Inspectorate) beginning either 200 or OKFS. If you are making a submission on behalf of another person or organisation, and do not have your own unique reference number, then you should enter the unique reference number of the person or organisation you are representing. If you are not a registered Interested Party, then it is at the discretion of the Examining Authority whether your submission is accepted.

Submissions will be published on the [project webpage](#) as soon as practicable following the close of the relevant Deadline. For further information about publishing submissions please view our [Privacy Notice](#).

You will be able to submit a document (upload file), make a text representation or both. It is possible to upload multiple files for each individual submission item. Electronic attachments should be clearly labelled with the subject title and not exceed 50MB.

Submissions **must not include hyperlinks** to documents/evidence hosted on a third-party website e.g., technical reports, media articles etc. See the Planning Inspectorate's [Advice Note 8.4: The Examination](#) for further information about making written submissions. 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 also be accompanied by a summary; this summary should not exceed 10% of the original text.

You should select the relevant Deadline for your submission and then, on the next webpage, select the appropriate Submission item as described in the Examination Timetable at **Appendix D** to this letter. Please ensure you make a separate submission for each Submission item and **do not duplicate your submission**. If you consider that your submission does not fit the description of any of the Submission items, then please select the Submission item 'Other' and ensure that it is titled appropriately.

If you experience any issues when using the 'Have your say' section of the [project webpage](#), please contact the Case Team using the contact details at the top of this letter and they will assist.