



Hearing Transcript

Project:	Oaklands Farm Solar Project
Hearing:	Preliminary Meeting
Date:	10 July 2024

Please note: This document is intended to assist Interested Parties.

It is not a verbatim text of what was said at the above hearing. The content was produced using artificial intelligence voice to text software. It may, therefore, include errors and should be assumed to be unedited.

The video recording published on the Planning Inspectorate project page is the primary record of the hearing.

00:00:05:24 - 00:00:06:26

Good morning everyone.

00:00:08:14 - 00:00:16:01

Time is 10 a.m., and this preliminary meeting for Oaklands Farm Solar Park is now open. Thank you all for joining us today.

00:00:17:16 - 00:00:47:13

This kid, a member of the case team, confirmed that I can be heard clearly and that the live streaming and recording of this event have started. Thank you. My name is Stuart Cowperthwaite, and I've been appointed by the Secretary of State as the examining authority to examine the application by Oaklands Farm Solar Limited for an order granting development consent for this project. I'm supported by the planning Inspectorate's case team. They are managed by Noel Markham, who was with us today.

00:00:49:03 - 00:01:05:23

Today's meeting is a hybrid event, meaning that some of you are present with us here in the room in person, and some are joining us using Microsoft Teams. I intend to make sure that you'll be given a fair opportunity to participate, however you decided to attend today.

00:01:07:26 - 00:01:10:15

To start with, I'll deal with some housekeeping matters.

00:01:12:07 - 00:01:15:22

Can everyone please set all devices and phones to silent

00:01:17:12 - 00:01:29:16

to avoid disrupting this meeting. Please keep microphones muted until I invite you to speak. You can tell that the microphones are active when the red light is showing at the top.

00:01:32:17 - 00:02:07:14

For those of you in the room, I understand that no fire alarm test is planned for today. Should an alarm sound, then please leave using one of the fire exits which are on the side in the middle. And um, go to the fire assembly point, which is between the main entrance where you came into the building, and the adventure golf on the edge of the car park. Thank you for the recording of today's meeting will be made available on the Oakland Farms Solar Park webpage of the National Infrastructure Planning website.

00:02:07:16 - 00:02:15:25

As soon as practicable after this meeting is finished. Please contact a member of the case team if you don't know how to find the project webpage.

00:02:18:00 - 00:02:44:13

A link to the funding Inspectorate's Privacy notice was provided in my rule six letter dated the 4th of June, 2024. I assume that everybody here today is familiarized themselves with this document, which establishes how the personal data of the Planning Inspectorate customers are handled in accordance with the principles set out in data protection laws. Please speak to now if you have any questions about this.

00:02:46:25 - 00:02:55:25

The purpose of this morning's meeting is to focus on how I propose to examine this application, and I will only be inviting discussions about

00:02:57:24 - 00:03:16:20

procedural aspect of this examination until this exempted. This meeting is not an opportunity for you to give your views about what you like or don't like about the application. Those can only be considered once the examination begins, which is after the close of this meeting.

00:03:19:01 - 00:03:53:24

The open floor meeting. This hearing, rather this afternoon, will provide an early opportunity for you to express your views. There will be several other opportunities for you to give your views about what you like or don't like about the application of the following months of the examination. Thank you. I will now ask certain parties to introduce themselves. When I invite you to speak, please ensure that you speak clearly into a microphone and please state your name and who you are representing if you are representing a body.

00:03:54:00 - 00:03:55:10

Each time you speak,

00:03:57:00 - 00:04:15:03

please remember to unmute your microphone when you speak and if you are taking part using Microsoft Teams and are comfortable to, please switch on your camera. When I invite you to speak, please switch the microphone and camera if that's used off again when I move to the next speaker.

00:04:16:29 - 00:04:28:16

If you're in the room but not at a table with the microphone, there is a roving microphone, so please wait for one of those to be taken to you before you speak.

00:04:31:29 - 00:04:45:02

If there are several people representing a party, please could just the lead speaker introduce themselves for now? Any other representatives that are invited to speak later should please introduce themselves at that time.

00:04:46:20 - 00:04:49:12

Who is the lead speaker for the applicant, please.

00:04:51:08 - 00:04:54:19

Good morning sir. Uh, my name is Patrick Robinson.

00:04:56:16 - 00:05:01:28

I'm a solicitor and, uh, consultant with the firm Burgess Salmon.

00:05:05:00 - 00:05:19:08

Representing the applicant by this morning. Um, all the people to my right potentially might speak. I understand you don't want to introduce themselves now, so we won't do that, but they're ready to do so and will answer when they're needed. Thank you.

00:05:20:10 - 00:05:22:04

Derbyshire County Council, please.

00:05:23:29 - 00:05:29:25

Morning, sir. I'm Steve Barry, I'm strategic planning manager at Derbyshire county Council. Ah ah ah ah ah ah ah ah ah ah ah ah.

00:05:29:27 - 00:05:41:01

Ah ah ah ah ah ah ah ah. It's good to see you again, Mr. Buffet. We met on a previous case. Previous national infrastructure case. Thank you. Um, South Derbyshire District Council, please.

00:05:42:08 - 00:05:49:29

Morning, sir. My name is Bob Woollard. I'm from planning and design group and I'm representing South Derbyshire district. Thank you.

00:05:51:15 - 00:05:58:24

I Leicestershire County Council, present today. No. Any other local authorities present please.

00:06:01:11 - 00:06:14:11

Any statutory consultees present. And I believe that the Environment Agency are attending on Microsoft Teams this morning. From the environment. Thank you. Please go ahead.

00:06:14:14 - 00:06:16:29

The Environment Agency's national infrastructure team.

00:06:18:20 - 00:06:24:14

Thank you. Is there anybody else in the room who may wish to speak this morning, please?

00:06:28:06 - 00:06:28:25

Thank you.

00:06:29:03 - 00:06:38:10

Morning, sir. Um, so I, uh, Leicestershire County Council, Harry horsey, uh, don't anticipate needing to speak, but, um, present in case required.

00:06:39:05 - 00:06:40:07

Thank you very much.

00:06:45:19 - 00:06:55:18

So I'll just repeat the last question. Is there any anybody else from Microsoft Teams who wish to speak? We've had the Environment Agency and Leicestershire County Council. Anybody else please?

00:06:58:17 - 00:06:59:05

Thank you.

00:07:00:25 - 00:07:11:13

That's all the introductions for now. If you haven't yet introduced yourself, then there will be an opportunity to do so later if I invite you to speak. Thank you all for attending today.

00:07:13:06 - 00:07:20:27

There'll be opportunities to raise matters relevant to this meeting later when I invite you to speak at the relevant point on the agenda.

00:07:22:17 - 00:07:25:24

I will follow the agenda that was published on the 1st of July.

00:07:27:11 - 00:07:36:28

I will also refer to the appendices of my rule six letter of the 4th of June. I will invite the case team to share those on the screen at the appropriate time.

00:07:38:24 - 00:07:48:21

Please could the case team now share a copy of the agenda on the screen? Ah ah. So again this was the agenda published on the 1st of July.

00:07:54:07 - 00:08:19:07

So that's the agenda that we're going to follow this morning. I'm just which has just disappeared and is now back. I'm just about to complete agenda item one. One final point under this first agenda item, subject to progress, I intend to take short comfort breaks of intervals of around an hour or so. If the meeting takes that long, I may take a longer break for lunch if the meeting extends into the afternoon.

00:08:20:27 - 00:08:26:10

Does anybody in the room have a question about the agenda or the arrangements for this meeting?

00:08:29:12 - 00:08:36:12

No thank you. Does anybody taking part using Microsoft Teams have a question about the agenda or the arrangements for this meeting?

00:08:39:17 - 00:08:51:01

No thank you. That concludes you. Gender item one. I will now turn to agenda item two. So this is my remarks on the examination process

00:08:52:21 - 00:09:22:20

to streamline the running of this event. Appendices A and B of my rule six letter provide an introduction to this meeting and the examination process, explaining how this meeting and the examination will be conducted, and how you can participate. For expediency, I'm assuming that everyone has read this, and therefore I don't propose to spend time reading it out now, although I would just like to reinforce some key points about the examination process.

00:09:24:18 - 00:09:51:04

The Planning Act 2008 sets a statutory timescale for the examination and for the determination of the application. This includes six months in which the application must be completed, followed by three months in which I must complete my report with my findings, conclusions and recommendations to the Secretary of State. And then three months for the Secretary of State to reach a final decision on the application.

00:09:53:04 - 00:10:00:16

My examination will be in accordance with the Planning Act 2008, and I will consider the following.

00:10:02:04 - 00:10:07:28

Firstly, whether the application complies with relevant legislation, policy and guidance.

00:10:09:21 - 00:10:15:23

Secondly, the powers sought by the applicant, including in relation to land rights.

00:10:17:14 - 00:10:21:08

Thirdly, how the proposed development would be controlled.

00:10:23:12 - 00:10:33:03

Fourthly, the balance of benefits and dis benefits of the proposed development and then whether development consent should be granted.

00:10:35:27 - 00:10:49:22

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 relevant Secretary of State, who will be the decision maker on whether consent will be granted.

00:10:52:09 - 00:11:13:06

The examination is an inquisitorial process in which I, as examining authority, take the lead in establishing what is important and relevant to the decision that the Secretary of State needs to take. I'm looking for evidence that is relevant and important to the decision, and will test that evidence to see how robust it is.

00:11:15:05 - 00:11:28:13

My recommendation to the Secretary of State will be based on facts and sound evidence, rather than speculation or opinion. It will not be based on a public vote for or against the application.

00:11:30:13 - 00:11:40:09

I want to hear from you during the examination, please, including if you have local or specialist knowledge that may be important and relevant to my recommendation.

00:11:41:24 - 00:11:57:05

I will read and consider every submission when I might make my recommendation to the Secretary of State. Therefore, there is no need to repeat anything from your previous submissions, and there is no need to repeat anything from any submissions made by others.

00:11:59:13 - 00:12:14:22

The primary method of examining the application is through the written process. While there is provision for holding certain types of hearing, it is the written process that I will concentrate on to gather information about the application.

00:12:16:25 - 00:12:32:19

You have already had the opportunity to set out your case and the evidence to support it in your relevant representation, and there will be opportunities to add to that during the examination. You will also have the opportunity to comment on the submissions made by others.

00:12:35:10 - 00:12:50:12

Any document that you would like to be considered must be formally lodged as part of the examination process. Material that is accepted into the examination will be published on the project webpage, so that it is available for everyone to see.

00:12:52:15 - 00:12:54:21

That completes. Agenda item two.

00:12:56:07 - 00:13:05:11

So we now move on to agenda item three, in which I'll invite oral representations on the examination process should anybody wish to make one.

00:13:08:03 - 00:13:22:15

So I'm shortly going to invite submissions about the way in which I propose to examine this application. If you have anything to say about the draft timetable, then please raise this later under Agenda item five. So this is about the process.

00:13:24:03 - 00:13:30:12

These identify yourself when you speak and please direct your comments, questions and answers to me rather than anybody else.

00:13:32:00 - 00:13:38:00

Does anybody in the room have a comment or question about the examination process?

00:13:42:14 - 00:13:49:28

No thank you. Does anybody taking part using Microsoft Teams? Have a comment or question about the examination process?

00:13:52:24 - 00:13:57:07

No thank you. That completes agenda item three.

00:13:59:15 - 00:14:16:26

Now on to agenda item four and my remarks on the timetable for the examination. The draft timetable is set out in appendix C of my rule six letter. Please could the case team now share appendix C on the screen?

00:14:20:11 - 00:14:21:20

Just wait for that to come up.

00:14:37:11 - 00:14:41:00

No problem. I'll just wait for that to come up. Sorry for the delay.

00:14:58:25 - 00:15:31:14

Just while that comes up, I'm going to ask some procedural questions of different parties as I go through the examination timetable. Um, there will be about the procedure rather than the merits of the case. Um, otherwise, I will consider your submissions on the timetable later when we go through agenda item five. But I'm going to ask some questions during this agenda item. So the draft timetable is now on the screen. I'm going to take items of the draft timetable in turn

00:15:33:00 - 00:15:41:24

items one and two. These dates have passed. Strictly speaking, these are not part of the examination but are included in the timetable for completeness.

00:15:43:09 - 00:16:23:13

I now have a procedural question for the South Derbyshire District Council, please in their submission at procedural deadline. A South Derbyshire District Council suggested locations for site inspections. Six locations are suggested where private access is required to view the site and see the impact of the development on the landscape. Please could South Derbyshire District Council provide a written submission at deadline? One of the examination to explain whether and if so, why it considered it necessary.

00:16:23:15 - 00:16:37:24

It considers it necessary to visit those locations, in addition to the site inspections to nearby locations that do not require access to private land. Is that question clear?

00:16:39:10 - 00:16:43:28

Would South Derbyshire District Council be able to provide that submission at deadline one, please?

00:16:44:15 - 00:16:46:07

Yes, sir. No problem. Thank you.

00:16:48:07 - 00:16:50:08

Item three is this meeting.

00:16:52:02 - 00:16:55:17

Item four covers this afternoon's open floor hearing.

00:16:58:00 - 00:17:08:03

Item five I will update update the draft timetable after this meeting, and this will be published in the rule eight letter as soon as I can.

00:17:10:07 - 00:17:34:28

At the same time, my first written questions will be published. These will replace the draft set that was published on Tuesday, the 18th of June. They will identify any changes to the draft set. I am anticipating minimal changes to the draft set and principally to some errors in the numbering of questions.

00:17:38:13 - 00:17:42:03

I now have a procedural question for the applicant, please.

00:17:44:16 - 00:17:52:18

My first written questions do not repeat all the matters raised by parties in their relevant representations or additional submissions.

00:17:54:04 - 00:18:19:12

This includes matters raised in the submissions from Derbyshire County Council, South Derbyshire District Council, Leicestershire County Council, the Environment Agency, the Historic England and Natural England. That I note with interest and imagine that the applicant may wish to discuss with those parties.

00:18:22:00 - 00:18:39:19

Please could the applicant advise whether it intends to provide written responses to submissions from those parties and all of the parties who have made relevant representations or other submissions. And will it continue to do that up to the end of the examination?

00:18:43:16 - 00:19:07:04

Abso, absolutely. We should be doing that through the course of the examination. There may be specific points which we're able to inappropriate to respond to. Uh, together with the response to your answers. Uh, your written questions, but unlikely to be picking off every single point. The relevant representations, many of which, uh, are basically for negotiation with those parties. Thank you.

00:19:10:09 - 00:19:22:18

Item six of the timetable is the first examination deadline. It is a particularly important deadline that includes some of the key written submissions for the examination.

00:19:25:10 - 00:19:37:04

There is no need for you to repeat anything from your relevant representation in your written representation, and there is no need to repeat the points made by others in their submissions.

00:19:38:20 - 00:19:48:05

Similarly, there is no need for local authorities to repeat anything from their local impact report in their written representation.

00:19:51:10 - 00:20:00:20

Please note that any submissions received after any deadline may not be accepted. So it's essential that you adhere to the timetable, please.

00:20:04:16 - 00:20:16:06

Item seven is the deadline by which requests must be heard at a further open floor hearing, and the deadline by which affected persons must make a request to be heard at a compulsory acquisition hearing.

00:20:18:03 - 00:20:28:16

My teammate is when I will publish my second written questions, and when I will notify you of any hearings or accompanied site inspections to be held under items 11 and 12.

00:20:30:02 - 00:20:41:17

This will include information on the date and overall scope of each hearing. To help you to decide whether you would like to watch a live stream or recording, and whether you would like to make an oral submission to those hearings.

00:20:43:15 - 00:21:02:20

Item nine includes a deadline for responses to my second written questions. Item nine also includes a deadline for request to be heard at the hearings under item 11. I will consider those requests when I decide whether to hold the hearings. What to cover in them and who to invite to speak.

00:21:04:25 - 00:21:22:01

Item ten is when the detailed agendas for any hearings to be held under item 11 will be issued. These will be sufficiently detailed to allow parties to complete their final preparations. If the hearings are not required, they'll be cancelled at least a week before their timetabled date.

00:21:24:07 - 00:21:39:14

I'd just like to stress at this point that if hearings are held, there will be for very specific reasons, and it would be very helpful if parties could ensure that they're relevant. Experts on the matters to be discussed at the hearings are able to be present, please.

00:21:42:12 - 00:21:54:14

Items 11 and 12. The need for these hearings and the accompanying site inspection, will depend on the progress of the examination and on the receipt of requests to be heard under item nine.

00:21:56:24 - 00:22:00:22

I have another procedural question and this is for all parties, please.

00:22:02:12 - 00:22:10:04

The issue specific hearing under item 11 is identified as a firm requirement in the draft timetable.

00:22:11:28 - 00:22:30:09

Recognizing that this follows two rounds of written questions and may therefore not be necessary. I am minded to change it to as required in the same way as is indicated in the draft table. Draft timetable for the compulsory acquisition hearing and the open floor hearing.

00:22:32:22 - 00:22:43:03

Does anybody in the room have a comment about the issue specific hearing under item 11 being changed to as required please. And I'll turn to the applicant first.

00:22:45:14 - 00:22:48:00

So no comment with that. We're content with that.

00:22:48:06 - 00:22:56:01

Thank you. Local authorities. Any comments on changing that to as required? No, sir. Thank you.

00:22:56:25 - 00:22:57:12

Uh. No sir.

00:22:57:14 - 00:23:01:21

Thank you. Thank you very much. Anybody else in the room have a comment on that matter, please?

00:23:04:21 - 00:23:07:18

Yes. Could we have the microphone review? Microphone, please?

00:23:23:19 - 00:23:25:00

Thank you sir. Thank you sir.

00:23:25:02 - 00:23:27:29

Thank you. And could you introduce yourself please as well?

00:23:28:09 - 00:23:29:24

Councillor Amy Walton.

00:23:29:28 - 00:23:30:13

Thank you.

00:23:31:16 - 00:23:42:15

May I just have confirmation, sir, that if the hearings were not needed, there would still be an opportunity for as this afternoon, an open hearing.

00:23:43:07 - 00:24:03:22

So thank you. So, so there is a item in the timetable which I've been through for requests to be heard at another open floor hearing. So there's an open floor hearing this afternoon. And there's a an item for request for a further hearing. And if we have requests for a further open floor hearing, then that open floor hearing will be held.

00:24:04:03 - 00:24:04:26

Thank you sir.

00:24:05:08 - 00:24:06:14

Okay. Thank you.

00:24:16:25 - 00:24:31:18

Moving back to the agenda. Thank you for those comments. Item 13 should be self-explanatory. Item 14 is when I will issue the report on implications for European sites if one is needed.

00:24:33:20 - 00:24:45:26

Items 13 and 14 include a further cycle of written questions, if that is required for me to probe further into any unanswered points, or address any new points that have emerged during the examination.

00:24:47:12 - 00:24:54:18

Item 16 is the date by which I will issue my schedule of changes to the Draft Development Consent order, if that is required.

00:24:57:11 - 00:25:00:15

I have another procedural question for the applicant. Please,

00:25:02:06 - 00:25:11:22

to assist with my schedule of changes to the draft development consent order. Please could you provide the following a deadline five.

00:25:13:21 - 00:25:18:12

Clean version of the draft development consent order in Microsoft Word.

00:25:23:04 - 00:25:32:15

The email notification from legislation.gov.uk confirming successful validation.

00:25:37:12 - 00:25:39:25

And the validation report itself.

00:25:45:06 - 00:25:55:16

So that's a clean version in Microsoft Word. The email notification notification from legislation, Gov.uk and the validation report itself.

00:25:57:13 - 00:25:58:23

So yes, we will do that.

00:25:58:25 - 00:25:59:10

Thank you.

00:26:01:17 - 00:26:36:08

Item 17 should be self-explanatory. Item 18 is another key deadline and the final key deadline of the examination. And this includes for the submission of summary statements from any party about matters that you have previously raised during the examination, but that have not been resolved to your satisfaction. In effect, a summary of your final position on the application. The applicant is also invited to provide a summary of its position and item 18.

00:26:38:18 - 00:26:44:29

Item 19 identifies the date by which the applicant the examination must be completed.

00:26:46:28 - 00:27:05:20

Please be aware that I may decide to close the examination earlier than the end of the six month period. For example, that may be any time after the last timetable deadline, which is currently Tuesday the 17th of December.

00:27:08:11 - 00:27:20:20

There is also note that the timetable is not set in stone, and I may amend it during the examination. I will write to all interested parties should it be amended.

00:27:24:11 - 00:27:36:06

Any submissions made to the Planning Inspectorate after the examination has closed will be forwarded to the Secretary of State to deal with, and I will not see them. And I am writing my report.

00:27:37:29 - 00:27:43:28

If you want to send in anything for me to consider, then I strongly suggest that you do so as soon as possible.

00:27:46:13 - 00:27:48:18

A That completes agenda item four.

00:27:50:16 - 00:27:53:06

We now turn to agenda item five.

00:28:00:07 - 00:28:06:27

So under this item I'm going to invite any questions or comments about the draft examination timetable.

00:28:08:12 - 00:28:18:09

If you have anything to say about the Statement of Common Ground or the applicants updates to the examination, then please raise this later under Agenda Item six.

00:28:20:03 - 00:28:38:17

As before, please identify yourself when you speak. Please direct all comments, questions and answers to me rather than anybody else. Does anybody in the room have a comment or question about the examination timetable? And I'll turn to the applicant first, please. Thank you. The council's Peter.

00:28:39:13 - 00:28:41:08

Yes. Thank you sir. Um, could.

00:28:41:10 - 00:28:42:24

You introduce yourself? Yes. Sorry.

00:28:42:26 - 00:28:54:15

Oh, well. Art from Planning and Design group representing South Derbyshire District Council. Um, it's specifically in relation to the submission deadline for the local impact report.

00:28:54:24 - 00:28:55:09

Mhm.

00:28:55:16 - 00:29:01:18

Um, and, um, that's obviously work that, uh, significantly underway. Um,

00:29:03:13 - 00:29:37:20

that's something that's being coordinated with Derbyshire County Council. Uh, sir, in order to assist you so that you've got a complete and comprehensive, um, report in front of you. Um, but obviously that that coordination, um, takes some work, um, and collaboration between the two. Um, I'm also mindful so that we, um, in preparing that report will be, um, we are requiring inputs from various other departments, um, within the council and within the county council.

00:29:38:01 - 00:30:11:22

Um, and I guess I'm mindful, sir, that, um, at the end of this month, uh, schools will break up for holiday and, um, people will be, uh, drifting off and unavailable, um, for some periods of time. Um, and again, we want to ensure that you have a following or a sense of, uh, report in front of you. And the the final point, sir, is that, um, because of the, um, the importance of this, uh, proposal to, uh, the district, um, and the county council as well.

00:30:12:03 - 00:30:46:00

Um, it's it's seen as important that, um, the, uh, Environment Committee should have the opportunity to view and ratify the local impact report. Uh, before it comes to you. Um, and as is obviously common, um, committees tend to meet once a month. Um, and, um, we, we have basically two key

dates, uh, for meetings, um, both of which are after the current deadline for submission for local impact report.

00:30:46:14 - 00:31:25:25

Um, there is a, uh, a meeting on the 8th of August, um, which is potentially, uh, doable, but is still, uh, rather tight in terms of, um, leading times for getting the report completed and provided to committee. And then there's a following committee on the 19th of September, sir. Um, which I think, um, from counsel's point of view and from that coordination point of view, um, that would be a preferred date to take it through committee.

00:31:25:27 - 00:31:47:02

And then very, very shortly or essentially immediately after that date. Um, we would look to provide you the local impact report. So and as I say, the, the, the primary reason is to make sure that we've got a full, comprehensive and coordinated response to assist you with the processor.

00:31:49:06 - 00:31:50:27

Thank you. Um,

00:31:52:21 - 00:32:23:04

and I recognize the challenges that the council has, and I certainly echo your comment comments about the importance of the local impact report. It is one of the fundamental foundations of the examination. Um, however, I'm also mindful of the constraints of the examination process and the need to make sure that there is sufficient time for those comments to be questioned and examined. Um, and dealt with. Um,

00:32:25:00 - 00:33:03:08

and that is the reason why a local or local impact report is requested on all examinations towards the very start of the examination process. Um, the September date causes me a lot of discomfort in that respect. That's over two months into the examination. Um, so, um, I recognize your need for committee sign off, and that seems entirely reasonable. Um, I think I would like to press you to issue your report very soon after the 8th of August.

00:33:03:10 - 00:33:17:21

So, um, I'm certainly happy to look at the date for the submission of that. If it was to be signed off at the 8th of August, what is the earliest date that it could be submitted, please?

00:33:21:06 - 00:33:23:05

And I'm advised it would be a week later, sir.

00:33:23:17 - 00:33:32:21

One week later. So you're suggesting. 15th of August, correct, sir. Is that a Friday? No, it's a Thursday.

00:33:40:09 - 00:33:43:20

Um, I'll consider that request. Thank you.

00:33:43:22 - 00:33:50:18

Thank you, sir, I'm grateful for that. And, uh, obviously we're in your hands, but I appreciate your giving that some careful consideration. Thank you.

00:33:50:20 - 00:34:12:27

Thank you. There will obviously be opportunities for further submissions at later deadlines. Um, if there are any aspects where the council's position needs to be finalised, um, so please bear that in

mind as well. Thank you sir. Are there any comments on, um, South Derbyshire District Council's comments please, Before we move on.

00:34:14:13 - 00:34:36:06

To Patrick Robinson for a nothing in detail, I think we'd only be repeating your concerns. It pushes very late in after your second questions, very close on if there were to be an issue specific hearing that that the September date, that would be the main concern with it. But other than that aspect, just reflecting concerns.

00:34:36:14 - 00:34:40:03

Thank you. Any other comments please. In the room.

00:34:41:21 - 00:34:44:27

Microsoft teams. Thank you.

00:34:47:02 - 00:34:47:17

Um.

00:34:49:20 - 00:35:02:19

So I was going through other submissions on the draft examination timetable. Any other comments from the local authorities on the timetable? Uh, sorry.

00:35:03:24 - 00:35:30:09

Uh, not specifically from from the Derbyshire County Council, sir. I think Mr. Bollard has explained the position with the Local impact report, which is a joint local impact report for both authorities. Um, we're probably in a slightly better position. We've got delegated powers for that to be submitted as part of that representation. So don't have that constraint that the District Council has in terms of getting signoff from from a committee. So it's very much dependent on the the district council's timescale for getting that signed off.

00:35:30:11 - 00:35:43:28

Thank you. Mr.. And thank you for putting those powers in place. That's very helpful, the delegated powers. And thank you for the to the councils for working together on on a single report. That's much appreciated. Thank you. Um.

00:35:46:09 - 00:35:49:11

That completes agenda item five. Thank you.

00:35:50:26 - 00:35:55:25

Just bear with me a moment. I just want to make a note or two. I'll just be a few minutes. Thank you.

00:36:42:06 - 00:36:53:15

Okay. Thank you. So let's move on to agenda item six. Um, which is in relation to updates requested of the applicant during the examination.

00:36:58:07 - 00:37:05:05

I'll start with statements of common ground. Appendix G of the rule six letter.

00:37:06:25 - 00:37:09:05

And if that could be shared on the screen, please.

00:37:13:25 - 00:37:21:01

This sets out, um, statements of common ground requested between the applicant and various of the parties.

00:37:25:07 - 00:37:31:12

Does the applicant have any comments or questions about the statements of common ground that are requested, please?

00:37:34:00 - 00:38:12:12

So Patrick Robinson for by um, just one point of clarification that we were hoping to raise with you, and that's in relation to the request for a statement of common ground with the Health and Safety Executive. Um, we've been to their, um, commentaries to date and material they've put in and, um, wanting to make sure that we, we set off in the right direction as to what it is of particular concern that you would like to see covered. So we're wondering whether now or at some later point there is any more, um, detail you can give us about what areas you'd like covered in that.

00:38:12:14 - 00:38:13:07

That would be common ground.

00:38:15:22 - 00:38:43:13

So there are matters under the National Policy Statement in relation to, uh, health and safety matters. Um, I think that probably in this case, um, if there were a statement from that body about their position and any concerns that they hold, then that would be sufficient rather than a fully blown statement to common ground.

00:38:45:08 - 00:38:48:29

But it would be very helpful to understand their position,

00:38:50:16 - 00:39:08:07

because there are various tests in the M.P.s that I need to consider. National policy statement I should say that I do need to be satisfied about including in relation to the battery storage, for example, but other of the health and safety concerns. Is that helpful?

00:39:09:01 - 00:39:10:10

So thank you very much, sir.

00:39:14:28 - 00:39:16:15

Just bear with me a moment, please.

00:39:52:10 - 00:39:55:13

Any other comments from the applicant about the statements on common Ground? Uh.

00:39:56:16 - 00:40:07:09

Uh. Uh. So, no, I mean, we I could update you if you want to, where we are, but they're quite general points. I mean, we're making progress on them, but, um, nothing specific on it.

00:40:08:00 - 00:40:08:22

Thank you.

00:40:11:21 - 00:40:16:24

Any comments from anybody else in the room about the statements of Common Ground, please?

00:40:19:18 - 00:40:25:29

No thank you. Any comments from anybody on Microsoft Teams about statements of common Ground, please?

00:40:30:00 - 00:40:30:26

No. Thank you.

00:40:35:17 - 00:40:41:15

Appendix D of the rule six letter, and if that could be shared on the screen, please.

00:40:52:03 - 00:41:05:11

The appendix D sets out the updates requested of the applicant during the examination. These updates are requested at certain deadlines that are identified in the examination timetable.

00:41:08:25 - 00:41:19:02

I don't propose to go through them in detail. They're set out in the appendix, but does the applicant have any comments or questions about the updates requested during the examination, please?

00:41:20:11 - 00:41:29:19

Patrick Robinson. Uh, by note, um, those understand those and, uh, deal with those updates at each point they're required.

00:41:30:00 - 00:41:40:17

Thank you very much. Does anybody else in the room have any comments or questions about the updates requested of the applicant during the examination, please?

00:41:43:14 - 00:41:45:24

Anybody on Microsoft Teams, please?

00:41:49:10 - 00:41:58:05

No. Huh? Thank you. That completes agenda item six. We'll now move on to agenda item seven, which is any other matters.

00:42:00:19 - 00:42:14:03

So within the scope of this preliminary meeting, which is to do with the process and the timetable. Does anybody else have anything else that they would like to raise? Anybody within the room please?

00:42:17:07 - 00:42:25:02

No. Does anybody on Microsoft Teams have anything to raise within the scope of this preliminary meeting, please?

00:42:28:18 - 00:42:29:16

No. Thank you.

00:42:31:06 - 00:42:54:27

So, just to repeat, as soon as I can after this meeting, I will send out the rule eight letter to confirm the examination timetable and any of the procedural decisions that may be necessary following this meeting. This letter and the notes of this meeting, and the recording of this meeting will all be published on our project web page for all to see as soon as as is practicable.

00:42:56:22 - 00:43:10:08

Open floor Hearing one will start at 3 p.m. this afternoon. Seating will be available at 2:30 p.m. and the Arrangements conference for people attending using Microsoft Teams will start at 2:30 p.m..

00:43:11:29 - 00:43:20:17

I believe that I have now covered all items on the agenda. Thank you for your assistance during this meeting. This preliminary meeting is now closed. Thank you.