

Application by Ecotricity (Heck Fen Solar) Limited for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Heckington Fen Solar Project

Agenda for Issue Specific Hearing (ISH3) into the Draft Development Consent Order and Environmental Matters:

Hearing	Date and Time	Location
<p>Issue Specific Hearing (ISH3)</p> <p>Draft Development Consent Order (dDCO) and Environmental Matters to include:</p> <p>a) Land and Soils, and b) Landscape and Residential Visual Amenity</p>	<p>Tuesday 21 November 2023</p> <p>Hearing Starts at 2.00pm</p> <p>Registration and seating available at venue from 1:30pm</p> <p>For those participating via Microsoft Teams arrive at 1:30pm to enter the virtual lobby.</p>	<p>DoubleTree by Hilton, Lincoln, Brayford Wharf North, Lincoln LN1 1YW</p> <p>and</p> <p>By virtual means using Microsoft Teams</p> <p>Full instructions on how to join online or by telephone will be provided in advance to those who have pre-registered.</p>

Attendees

The Examining Authority (ExA) would be assisted by the attendance of representatives of the following parties:

- Ecotricity (Heck Fen Solar) Limited (the Applicant)
- North Kesteven District Council
- Boston Borough Council
- Lincolnshire County Council
- Statutory Undertakers and
- Any other Interested Parties (IPs) with an interest in the drafting of the dDCO, the implementation or discharge of proposed articles, requirements or other provisions; and/or the range of environmental matters listed in this Agenda

Registration Process

Parties who have registered to speak (both in person and virtually) will receive a Joining Instruction email shortly before the Hearing which will include a link to the virtual event on Microsoft Teams, and a telephone number should they need to participate by telephone. To enable the Hearing to start on time at **2.00pm** those attending virtually should join promptly at **1.30pm** to ensure that all virtual attendees can complete the Registration Process in good time. Please confirm your attendance as soon as possible by contacting the Case Team:

heckingtonfensolar@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

The event will be livestreamed and a link for watching the livestream will be posted on the [project webpage of the National Infrastructure Planning website](#) closer to the Hearing date. IPs and members of the public who wish to observe the Hearing can therefore view and listen to the Hearing using the livestream, or view and listen to the recording, after it has concluded.

Notes

ISH3 will start with a discussion on the dDCO and then the discussion on the first topic of Environmental Matters will begin. Depending on progress with the first topic the discussion will continue into the following day at ISH4 therefore attendees are advised to familiarise themselves with both Agendas.

The ExA expects to hear principally from the Applicant in answering questions, providing updates and clarifying matters. Any other parties present, including the Relevant Planning Authorities, will be asked for their comments if required.

All documents referred to will be those received with the Application or as superseded by the Additional Submissions submitted on 28 March 2023 [AS-001 to AS-029], the Change Application accepted by the ExA on 26 September 2023 [PD-010] or at Deadline (D2) [REP2-001 to REP2-080].

The most up-to-date version of the draft Development Consent Order is revision 4, received at D2 [REP2-008].

Procedure

Guidance under the Planning Act 2008 and the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 provides that it is for the ExA to probe, test and assess the evidence through direct questions of persons making oral representations at Hearings. Questioning at the Hearing will be led by the ExA. Cross questioning of a person giving evidence by another person will only be permitted if the ExA decides it is necessary to ensure representations are adequately tested or that an Interested Party has had a fair chance to put its case.

All IPs are invited to attend and make oral representations on the matters set out in the Agenda, subject to the ExA's ability to control the Hearing.

The ExA has sought to provide sufficient detail to assist the parties to prepare for the Hearing. The details set out are indicative and the ExA may find it necessary to include additional Agenda items or to amend the order in which the items are dealt with.

Agenda

Issue Specific Hearing 3 21 November 2023 Draft Development Consent Order and Environmental Matters

Part 1: Draft Development Consent Order

Item 1	Welcome, introductions, arrangements for the Hearing
Item 2	Purpose of the Issue Specific Hearing: i) Draft Development Consent Order ii) Environmental Matters to include: a) Land and Soils, and b) Landscape and Residential Visual Amenity
Item 3	Applicant's update on the latest version of the draft Development Consent Order (dDCO) [REP2-008] The Applicant is to provide (guide time 10 minutes): <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A summary of further engagement on the dDCO with relevant parties• A summary of amendments made to the dDCO following this engagement and since submission of revision 3 [PS-024], with reference to the Schedule of Changes to the DCO [REP2-013]
Item 4	Schedule 2: Requirements The ExA will ask questions and seek any comments on a range of the proposed Requirements, in particular from the RPAs in relation to the amendments submitted at D2.
Item 5	Schedule 13: Protective Provisions The ExA will ask questions and seek any comments on a range of the Protective Provisions listed at Schedule 13, particularly in relation to the amendments submitted at D2. The ExA will seek comments on the Protective Provisions from any relevant undertaker or Interested Party.
Item 6	Other Articles and Schedules Interested Parties will be asked if there are any outstanding concerns relating to any other Articles and/or Schedules of the dDCO.
Item 7	Update on Statements of Common Ground The ExA will seek an update on the progress of statements of common ground relevant to the dDCO.

Part 2: Environmental Matters	
Item 8	<p>Land and Soils</p> <p>The Applicant is to provide a summary of their response to RPAs concerns set out in their Local Impact Reports (LIRs) regarding use of Best and Most Versatile agricultural land, including cumulative effects.</p> <p>The RPAs are invited to provide their further comments.</p>
<i>Item 9 will be carried over to ISH2 if necessary.</i>	
Item 9	<p>Landscape and Visual Amenity, and Residential Visual Amenity</p> <p>The Applicant is to summarise their response to Lincolnshire County Council's Local Impact Report [REP1-028] in relation to landscape and visual effects.</p> <p>The ExA will ask questions of the Applicant in relation to viewpoints, significance of effects, mitigation and cumulative effects.</p> <p>The ExA will seek comments from Lincolnshire County Council and other IPs present.</p>
Item 10	Any Other Matters
Item 11	Review of Issues and Actions Arising
Item 12	Close