



The Planning Inspectorate

National Infrastructure Planning
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To: All Interested Parties

Our Ref: EN010127

Date: 9 June 2023

Dear Sir/ Madam

Planning Act 2008 (as amended) and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 (as amended) – Rule 13

Application by Mallard Pass Solar Farm Limited for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Mallard Pass Solar Farm

Notification of Hearings

The Examination Timetable at Annex A of the Examining Authority's (ExA) [Rule 8 letter](#), dated 23 May 2023, included reserved dates for Hearings. We are now writing to give notice that the following hearings will be held, as set out in the table below.

The Hearings will be Blended Events, with participants attending either in person or virtually via Microsoft Teams.

Hearing	Date	Start time	Location
Issue Specific Hearing 1 (ISH1) Scope of the Proposed Development, need, site selection and alternatives	Tuesday 11 July 2023	Registration and seating available from: 9.30am Virtual Registration Process from: 9.30am Hearing starts: 10.00am	KingsGate Conference Centre 2 Staplee Way, Parnwell, Peterborough PE1 4YT and By virtual means using Microsoft Teams Full instructions on how to join online or by telephone will be provided in advance to those who have pre-registered

<p>Issue Specific Hearing 2 (ISH2)</p> <p>Environmental matters (during construction, operation and decommissioning)</p>	<p>Wednesday 12 July 2023 (all day)</p> <p>and</p> <p>Thursday 13 July 2023 (morning, if required)</p>	<p>On both days:</p> <p>Registration and seating available from: 9.30am</p> <p>Virtual Registration Process from: 9.30am</p> <p>Hearing starts: 10.00am</p>	<p>KingsGate Conference Centre 2 Staplee Way, Parnwell, Peterborough PE1 4YT</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>
<p>Issue Specific Hearing 3 (ISH3)</p> <p>Draft Development Consent Order</p>	<p>Thursday 13 July 2023 (afternoon)</p>	<p>Registration and seating available from: 1.30pm</p> <p>Virtual Registration Process from: 1.30pm</p> <p>Hearing starts: 2.00pm</p>	<p>KingsGate Conference Centre 2 Staplee Way, Parnwell, Peterborough PE1 4YT</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>
<p>Compulsory Acquisition Hearing 1 (CAH1)</p> <p>Compulsory Acquisition, Temporary Possession and related matters</p>	<p>Friday 14 July 2023</p>	<p>Registration and seating available from: 9.30am</p> <p>Virtual Registration Process from: 9.30am</p> <p>Hearing starts: 10.00am</p> <p>This Hearing will close no later than 3.30pm</p>	<p>KingsGate Conference Centre 2 Staplee Way, Parnwell, Peterborough PE1 4YT</p> <p>and</p> <p>By virtual means using Microsoft</p>

			Teams Full instructions on how to join online or by telephone will be provided in advance to those who have pre-registered
<p>NOTE: If any of the above Hearings are no longer required then notification will be published as soon as practicable on the project webpage of the National Infrastructure Planning website, providing reasonable notice to Interested Parties of the decision to cancel.</p>			

Purpose of Issue Specific and Compulsory Acquisition Hearings

Please refer to the Planning Inspectorate’s [Advice Note 8.5: The Examination: hearings and site inspections](#) for information about the purpose of Issue Specific and Compulsory Acquisition Hearings.

Registration and requests to participate in Hearings

You must register by 3 July 2023 if you intend to participate in any of the Hearings listed above and provide all the information requested below.

Please register using the [Event Participation Form](#). If you have any difficulty completing the form please contact the Case Team.

Any request to participate in a Hearing should include the following information:

- Name and unique reference number (found at the top of any letter or email from the Planning Inspectorate);
- email address (if available) and contact telephone number;
- name and unique reference number of any person/organisation that you are representing (if applicable);
- confirmation of whether you will participate virtually or in-person;
- confirmation of the Hearing(s) you wish to participate in;
- for Compulsory Acquisition Hearings, the plot number(s) of the relevant land provided in the Book of Reference and the Land Plans.

Joining instructions for those attending virtually will be issued by the Case Team via email shortly before the Hearing dates.

Please contact the Case Team if you require any support or assistance to attend any Hearing, either virtually or in person.

If you simply wish to observe any of the Hearings then you may choose to either:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk>



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.

Alternatively, you can attend the physical event at the venue to observe the proceedings; however, to ensure there is adequate seating capacity at the venue we request that you register your attendance to observe only by **3 July 2023** using the [Event Participation Form](#).

Hearing Agendas: The Agendas and any detailed arrangements for the Hearings will be published on the [project webpage](#) at least five working days before the Hearings. The agendas will also include a list of those parties that we would find it particularly helpful to attend each hearing. However, this does not preclude others from participating subject to the ExA's power of powers of control. The actual Agenda on the day of each Hearing may be subject to change at our discretion.

Procedure at Hearings: The procedure to be followed at Hearings is set out in The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010.

Participation in a Hearing will be subject to the ExA's powers of control. It is for the ExA to determine how the Hearing will be conducted, including the time allowed at the Hearing for the making of a person's representations. The Hearings will be managed in the interests of ensuring fair access to the Hearing for all parties, and to ensure that the submissions of all invited persons are fully heard within the allotted time. For Issue Specific Hearings, Interested Parties (IPs) may be invited to make oral representations at the Hearing on the specific issues being examined at the Hearing as set out in the relevant agenda.

Recordings: All Hearings are recorded. The recordings and transcripts will be made available on the [project webpage](#) as soon as practicable following the Hearing. The recordings allow any member of the public who is interested in the application and the Examination to find out what has been discussed at a Hearing. It is therefore important to note that if you speak at the Hearing you will need to introduce yourself, including any organisation or groups you represent, each time you speak to ensure that someone listening to the recording after the Hearing is clear who was speaking.

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR): As the recordings are retained and published, they form a public record that can contain personal information to which the GDPR applies. Please refer to our [Privacy Notice](#) for further information. Participants must do their best to avoid making public any information which they would otherwise wish to 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 transcripts and retain them for a period of five years from the Secretary of State's decision on the Development Consent Order (DCO). If you actively participate in the Hearing, it is important that you understand that you will be recorded and that the recording and transcript will be made available in the public domain.

Post Hearing submissions: The evidence presented orally at Hearings should be included in post Hearing submissions to submitted at **Deadline 4 (Tuesday 25 July 2023)**.

Applicant's notification duties: The Applicant is reminded of its duty to notify and publicise hearings under Rule 13(6) and 13(7) of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010.

Open Floor Hearings (OFH)

Two OFH (OFH1 and OFH2) were previously held on Wednesday 17 May 2023. We have subsequently received requests from Interested Parties to speak at a further OFH. It is therefore our intention to hold a further OFH in week commencing 25 September 2023, allowing the week commencing 10 July 2023 to be used for Issue Specific and Compulsory Acquisition Hearings as set out above. Formal notification of a further OFH will be given at least 21 days in advance.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact the Case Team
MallardPassSolar@planninginspectorate.gov.uk.

Yours faithfully

David Cliff

Lead Member of the Examining Authority

This communication does not constitute legal advice.

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