

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

Agenda for Issue Specific Hearing 1 (ISH1): Scope of the Proposed Development, Need, Site Selection and Alternatives

Hearing	Date and Time	Location
ISH1 Scope of the Proposed Development, Need, Site Selection and Alternatives	Tuesday 11 July 2023 Hearing Starts: 10.00am Registration and seating available at venue from 9.30am and virtual Registration Process from 9.30am	KingsGate Conference Centre 2 Staplee Way, Parnwell, Peterborough PE1 4YT and By virtual means using Microsoft Teams

Attendees

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

- Applicant
- Lincolnshire County Council
- Rutland County Council
- South Kesteven District Council
- Mallard Pass Action Group

However, this does not indicate that other parties will not be able to contribute. All Interested Parties (IP) 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.

If you have not already confirmed your attendance, please do so as soon as possible by contacting the Case Team on 0303 444 555 or MallardPassSolar@planninginspectorate.gov.uk.

Agenda

- 1. Welcome, introductions, arrangements for the Hearing**
- 2. Purpose of the Issue Specific Hearing**

3. Scope of the Proposed Development

- a) Proposed output of the generating station and connection to Ryhall substation
- b) Period of operation of the Proposed Development
- c) Proposed decommissioning
- d) Applicant's approach to the 'Rochdale Envelope' including Project Parameters and Design Guidance
- e) Proposed photovoltaic arrays/panels (including number required, orientation and layout)
- f) Proposed on-site substation
- g) Details of solar stations and other equipment
- h) Proposed cable routes including crossing of the East Coast Mainline railway
- i) Proposed fencing, cameras etc
- j) Proposed construction phasing and construction hours
- k) Other matters relating to the scope of the Proposed Development

4. Relevant planning policy and decisions

- a) Discussion of national and local policies that may be deemed "important and relevant"
- b) Implications of recent solar farm decisions

5. Need

- a) Applicant to set out their position in relation to need
- b) Consideration of benefits of the Proposed Development

6. Site Selection and Alternatives

- a) Approach to site selection and the extent of the Order limits
- b) Consideration of the preference in national policy to use lesser quality agricultural land
- c) Alternative technologies

7. Action points arising

8. Closing

Purpose of ISH1

This Hearing is being held to address matters and questions identified by the ExA through its reading and site inspections to date. The ExA considers that it would assist its examination for matters relating to the Scope of the Proposed Development to be examined through a Hearing in order to ensure that the nature and scope of the Proposed Development is clearly understood. It also considers that matters relating to need, site selection and alternatives also require oral representations and questioning in order to ensure adequate examination of these issues.

The agenda provided above is indicative and may be subject to change on the day. Documents within the Examination Library should be taken as read and need not be repeated in oral submissions, although signposting to key documents and representations may assist.

Attendance

Anyone wishing to attend the Hearing in person, who has not already advised the Case Team of this, should do so as soon as possible.

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.

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 **10.00am** those attending virtually should join promptly at **9.30am** to ensure that all virtual attendees can complete the Registration Process in good time.

Procedure at ISH

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 IP has had a fair chance to put its case.

The evidence presented orally at ISH1 should be included in post-hearing submissions and submitted by **Deadline 4 (Tuesday 24 July 2023)**.