

Application by Gate Burton Energy Park Limited for an Order Granting Development Consent for Gate Burton Energy Park

Agenda for Issue Specific Hearing 3 (ISH3): Environmental Matters

Please note that sessions 1 and 2 have been swapped around from the original notification for this Issue Specific Hearing. This has been done to accommodate a request from Lincolnshire County Council to enable attendance of their Landscape consultant and given that I have received no objections to this change being made from those who had notified me of a wish to speak at these sessions.

Hearing	Date and Time	Location
<p>Issue Specific Hearing 3 on Environmental Matters</p> <p>There will be three distinct sessions</p> <p>Session 1 will focus on Landscape and land use including Character of the area, visual amenity BMV and agricultural use;</p>	<p>Wednesday 23 August 2023</p> <p>Hearing Starts at 2.00pm</p> <p>Registration and seating available at venue from 1.30pm and virtual Registration Process from 1.30pm</p>	<p>Riseholme College - Showground Campus, Horncastle Lane, North Carlton. LN1 2ZR</p> <p>(free on-site day parking)</p> <p>and</p> <p>By virtual means using Microsoft Teams</p>
<p>Issue Specific Hearing 3</p> <p>Session 2 will focus on Carbon Saving including Generating capacity/ electricity and BESS; and</p> <p>Session 3 will focus on other matters including Construction, flooding, ecology, EMF and noise.</p>	<p>Sessions 2 and 3 Thursday 24 August 2023</p> <p>For Session 2 Registration and seating available from: 09.30am Virtual Registration Process from: 09.30 Event start: 10.00am</p> <p>For Session 3 Registration and seating</p>	<p>Riseholme College - Showground Campus, Horncastle Lane, North Carlton. LN1 2ZR</p> <p>(free on-site day parking)</p> <p>and</p> <p>By virtual means using Microsoft Teams</p> <p>Full instructions on how to join online or by telephone</p>

Hearing	Date and Time	Location
	available from: 01.30pm Virtual Registration Process from: 01.30pm Event start: 2.00pm	will be provided in advance to those who have pre-registered for virtual attendance.

Attendees

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

- The Applicant
- Lincolnshire County Council
- Nottinghamshire County Council
- West Lindsay District Council
- Bassetlaw District Council
- Natural England
- Environment Agency
- Statutory Undertakers

In addition, all Interested Parties (IP) are welcome to attend and make oral representations on the matters set out in the agenda, subject to the ExA's ability to control the hearing. Confirmation of your wish to attend this hearing was required to be provided by **Deadline 2 - 8 August 2023**

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.

As the recordings are retained and published, they form a public record that can contain personal information to which the General Data Protection Regulation (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.

Agenda

Item 1	Welcome, introductions and arrangements for the Hearing
Item 2	Purpose of the ISH
Session 1 – Landscape and Land Use	
Item 3	<p>Character and visual amenity of area</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design components of scheme main buildings • Location of BESS, BOSS substation and buildings etc location should be fixed? Given detail of assessment in ES • Cumulative assessment industrialization of landscape • Sequential/ kinetic effects • AGLV • Proportion of LCAs taken up by scheme • Screening mitigation effects on landscape character and open views • Weight to be given to adverse landscape and visual effects
Item 4	<p>Best and Most Versatile Land</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall surveying and identification of BMV • Surveying of grid connection corridor
Item 5	<p>Agricultural production</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sheep grazing
Item 6	<p>Adjourn hearing – session 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of issues and actions arising • Any other matters • Adjourn hearing
Session 2 - Carbon Savings	
Item 7	<p>Generating Capacity/Electricity Exported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General outline of generating capacity of generation station. Relationship between the generating capacity and electricity exported. • Assumed generating capacity, electricity output per year and over lifetime of development - minimum assumed yields?
Item 8	BESS

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operation, charging and exportation • Safety issues
Item 9	Adjourn hearing – Session 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of issues and actions arising • Any other matters • Adjourn hearing
Session 3 – Other Environmental Matters	
Item 10	Construction Issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cumulative impact progress • Coordination between projects • Compound and general accesses changes • Site accesses on grid connection corridor during operation
Item 11	Flooding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Response to detailed flood issue around specific location raised by Michael Hare. • Any necessary remediation? How secured?
Item 12	Ecology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress with NE expecting signed SoCG any issues holding it up? • Protected species approach
Item 13	Electromagnetic Fields <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human Health • Impact on ecology
Item 13	Noise <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction noise LOAEL/SOAEL impacts and whether more mitigation needed / can be done. • Changes to Framework CEMP at Deadline 2. Any further mitigation required?
Concluding Items	
Item 14	Review of issues and actions arising
Item 15	Any other matters
Item 16	Close

Purpose of the ISH

The main purpose of this ISH on Environmental Matters is to consider the matters on the agenda and which will enable me to undertake an examination of specific issues that have arisen in respect of the Relevant Representations, Councils' LIRs, other Deadline 1 submissions and the Written Representations of Interested Parties. In particular I wish to examine matters related to the following matters:

- Landscape and land use matters. In particular I will be seeking to get a full understanding of the effect of the development on the Character of the area and visual amenity of the surroundings and including in-combination effects with other solar NSIP developments in the area. In terms of Land use I will want to ensure that the impact of the development on BMV and agricultural production is fully understood including any cumulative effects;
- Carbon savings that would derive from the proposed development and during which I wish to understand the generating capacity of the generating station and the electricity that would be exported including from the BESS. I wish to also understand the operation and risks associated with the BESS. To ensure I have a full and proper understanding of the benefits that may derive from the proposed development; and
- Thirdly I wish to clarify and understand a limited number of specific issues related to a number of other topics including construction, flooding, ecology, electromagnetic fields and noise.

Applications for development consent orders are examined principally through the written process, however, hearings can be held to examine matters where this is helpful to the ExA.

There is a subject matter controlled agenda. This means that the matters for discussion on the day are those matters identified on the agenda.

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

My invitations to participate in this hearing have been made on the basis that an IP is either a publicly funded or expert body with responsibility for or expertise in relevant subject matters and I am seeking their involvement to assist me in informing the Secretary of State, or that they have raised a relevant subject matter in their submissions and I have matters arising from those that I need to explore. Participation is subject to my power to control the hearing.

The objective of the hearing is to develop my understanding of the issues and consider any further issues arising, including any remaining concerns of IPs.

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 hearing will finish as soon as I deem that all those present have had their say and that all matters have been covered. If there are additional matters to be dealt with, it may be necessary to defer some matters to written questions. The evidence presented orally at ISH3 should be included in post-hearing submissions and submitted by **Deadline 3 (Friday 1 September 2023)**.