

West Lindsey District Council notes the draft examination timetable proposed within the 'rule 6' letter.

We do have concerns with the examination programme as proposed and we would welcome the opportunity to discuss these matters further within the Preliminary Hearing.

The timetable as drafted does not currently appear to make provision for the submission of Written Representations. A key document to be used by a relevant authority, such a document will require Committee scrutiny and we therefore seek early clarity on this matter in order we can satisfactorily make provisions to adhere to any deadline, and within the Committee schedule.

Secondly, we are concerned that the programme as proposed, runs almost parallel to the Cottam Solar examination and concurrently with the Gate Burton Solar Examination that is already underway. As proposed, this results in a number of tensions which will pose considerable strain on bodies that wish to actively participate, including the public and ourselves in the role of the relevant planning authority (this has already commenced – this Procedural Deadline A has fallen during Hearings taking place in the Gate Burton examination). There are similar conflicts with the need to provide an LIR (and WR?) within the following week of a similar deadline requirement for Cottam. Consecutive Cottam and West Burton Hearings in December will limit the Authority's ability to adequately prepare for the hearings (we will be in the Cottam Hearing in the week leading up to the West Burton Hearing), and to prepare post-hearing submissions after (we will be in the West Burton Hearings when putting together our written submissions for Cottam).

Deadline 3 falls on the same day for Gate Burton's deadline 7.

We would therefore welcome the opportunity to identify where such tensions may exist and opportunities to consider how they can be addressed within the 6 month examination period.

We attach a combined timetable that may assist with such discussions.

