



The Planning Inspectorate

Planning Act 2008 – Sections 91, 92 & 93

The Infrastructure Planning (Compulsory Acquisition) Regulations 2010 (the CA Regulations) – Regulation 14, 15 & 16.

EN010133

Application by Cottam Solar Project Limited for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Cottam Solar Project

Agendas for Compulsory Acquisition Hearing 2 (CAH2), Open Floor Hearing 3 (OFH3) and Issue Specific Hearing 4 (ISH6)

We notified Interested Parties (IPs) on **Friday 2 February 2024** of the decision to hold the Hearings listed below:

Hearing	Date	Start Time	Location
Issue Specific Hearing under Regulation 14 of the CA Regulations (ISH6)	Wednesday 28 February 2024	Virtual Registration Process from: 09:30 Event start: 10.00am	Virtually on Microsoft Teams: joining instructions will be sent to all attendees in advance of the events.
Compulsory Acquisition Hearing under Regulation 15 of the CA Regulations (CAH2)	Wednesday 28 February 2024	Virtual Registration Process from: 09:30 Event start: 10.00am	Hearings held pursuant to Regulations 14, 15 and 16 of the CA Regulations will be held concurrently.
Open Floor Hearing under Regulation 16 of the CA Regulations (OFH3)	Wednesday 28 February 2024	Virtual Registration Process from: 09:30 Event start: 10.00am	Business will be conducted to enable each individual participant to make oral submissions as required for each hearing as a consolidated group of submissions.

Purpose of the Hearings

The Compulsory Acquisition Hearing is being held to enable us to inquire into the Applicant’s case to compulsorily acquire the additional land or rights over land or to take Temporary Possession (TP) of additional land. It also seeks to discharge our duty to hear persons ‘affected’ by Compulsory Acquisition (CA) and TP proposals

who request to be heard and will enable us to consider whether relevant legal and policy tests applicable to CA and TP have been met.

The main purpose of the Open Floor Hearing is to provide additional Interested Parties with an opportunity to make oral representations about the application and to seek to discharge our duty under Section 93(2) of the Planning Act 2008 and CA Regulations.

The main purpose of the Issue Specific Hearing is to enable us to inquire into the issues that arise from the additional land required through the Applicant's change request and to give additional Interested Parties an opportunity to make representations on the application (including on matters raised on previous agendas). It will also give Interested Parties an opportunity to make representations on the issues arising from the Applicants change request.

Agendas

In order to ensure that those attending the hearings can make the best use of the time available, we have prepared the agenda below. Please note that this is indicative and is subject to change. We may wish to raise other matters arising from submissions and pursue lines of enquiry during the discussion which are not on the agenda.

Invited Participants

The Applicant, all IPs, Statutory Parties and Affected Persons are invited to attend (including additional APs and IPs). However, as the event is being held virtually it would assist with the running of the hearing if you could let the Inspectorate's Case Team know by **Friday 22 February 2024** if you wish to attend the hearings so that the relevant instructions can be sent for you to join the event. The Case Team can be contacted at cottamsolarproject@planninginspectorate.gov.uk.

Please note that the hearing will also be livestreamed for those who may wish to view but not participate directly. Details of how to access the livestream will be made available on the [project page](#) or you may follow this [link to the livestream](#).

Participation, conduct and management of hearing

Each 'Affected Person' is entitled to make oral representations at the CAH.

Participants may be legally represented if they wish, but the hearings will be conducted to ensure that legal representation is not required.

Guidance under the Planning Act 2008 and the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 provide that it is the Examining Authority (ExA) that will probe, test and assess the evidence through direct questioning of persons making oral representations at hearings. As such, questioning at the hearings will be led by us.

Any lack of discussion of a particular issue at a hearing does not preclude further examination of this issue, including the asking of further written questions.

The virtual registration event will be open 30 minutes prior to the start of the hearings to enable a prompt start. The hearings will finish as soon as we deem that all those present have had their say and that all matters have been covered.

Please contact the Case Team if you have any questions regarding the arrangements for the Hearing.

Yours faithfully,

Rory Cridland

Lead Member of the Examining Authority



AGENDA FOR CAH2, OFH3 AND ISH6

Please note the hearings will be held concurrently. Business will be conducted to enable each individual participant to make oral submissions as required for each hearing as a consolidated group of submissions.

Item	Matters
1.	Welcome and introductions
2.	The purpose of these hearings
3.	Brief summary by the Applicant of Changes to the application and any effect these have on the Applicant's case
4.	<p>Representations from Additional Affected persons and Additional Interested Parties including in relation to the Proposed Development and the proposed provisions of the Change Request.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Each party who has indicated a wish to speak will be invited in turn to address the ExA.- Following each submission, the ExA may wish to ask the speaker questions.- The Applicant will be invited to respond to any matters raised by each speaker, or in summary at the close of the Hearing.- Oral submissions should be based on representations previously made in writing by the particular participant. However, representations made at the hearing should not simply repeat matters previously covered in a written submission, but rather provide further detail, explanation and evidential corroboration to help inform the ExA.
5.	Responses by Applicant (if not done individually under item 6)
6.	Other matters
7.	Close