



## Trawsgrifiad Gwrandawriad

<b>Prosiect:</b>	Fferm Wynt Alltraeth Mona
<b>Grandawriad:</b>	Cyfarfod Rhagarweiniol
<b>Dyddiad:</b>	16 Gorffennaf 2024

**Sylwer:** Bwriad y ddogfen hon yw i gynorthwyo Partion â Buddiant, nid yw'n air am air.

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## Hearing Transcript

<b>Project:</b>	Mona Offshore Wind Farm
<b>Hearing:</b>	Preliminary Meeting (PM)
<b>Date:</b>	16 July 2024

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## **Mona\_Prelim\_16 July**

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### FULL TRANSCRIPT (with timecode)

00:00:05:06 - 00:00:44:25

Okay. Good morning and welcome everybody. Barada at Christ. So it is now 10 a.m. and time for this preliminary meeting to begin. But I just confirm that everybody can hear me clearly and there's no issues with the sound. But I also ask that everybody in the rooms, that's all devices and phones to silent please as well. But I just confirm with Mr. Stevens that the live streaming and recording of this event has commenced. Thank you. Thank you, everyone for attending today. This is a preliminary meeting for the application made by Moana Offshore Wind Limited, who we will refer to as the applicant for an order granting development consent for the Mona Offshore wind farm.

00:00:45:14 - 00:01:00:08

My name is Caroline Jones. I'm a chartered town planner. I'm a planning inspector employed by the Planning Inspectorate, and I have been appointed by the Secretary of State to be the lead member of the panel to examine this application. I'm now going to ask my fellow panel members to introduce themselves.

00:01:02:04 - 00:01:15:15

Good morning. My name is Julie de Courcy and I'm a chartered time planner. I've an appellate background, including major energy and transmission infrastructure for that.

00:01:15:18 - 00:01:22:20

Good morning. My name is Graham Hobbins and I'm a chartered civil engineer with a background in major energy and rail infrastructure.

00:01:25:21 - 00:01:38:25

Put it up. Up. Good morning. I'm Jason Rowlands. I'm a chartered civil engineer under chartered environmentalist with a background in major energy and highway infrastructure.

00:01:40:15 - 00:01:48:20

Florida. Good morning. My name is Jessica Powis. I'm a chartered town planner and an examining inspector, and I've been appointed to be a member of this panel.

00:01:49:29 - 00:02:26:05

Thanks, everyone. So together, we constitute the examining authority for this application. And we will be reporting to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and net zero, with a recommendation as to whether development consent order should be made. The case manager for this project is Jake Stevens and he's been supported here today by Melbourne Evans. Georgina Hannigan is providing support remotely. Please don't hesitate to contact anybody if you need any help at any point today, either with the event or with any of the technology. So the meeting today is going to be following the agenda that was published in appendix A of our rule six letter dated the 7th of June.

00:02:26:07 - 00:02:57:17

It would be helpful if you had a copy of that in front of you as we go through today. This is a blended event, so we have some person here in person, and we have some people attending on the Microsoft

Teams platform. It's being both live streamed and it's being recorded. Anybody, uh, observing or participating through teams? Could I just ask that you stay muted in order to minimize any background noise? And if you do wish to speak, either use the hands up function or turn your camera on so that we can see you. But please be patient because we might not get to you immediately.

00:02:58:04 - 00:03:10:12

For anybody watching on the live stream, just to let you know that when we do adjourn proceedings this morning or at any time, you do need to refresh your browser page to review. We'll remind you that at any point we adjourn today.

00:03:12:18 - 00:03:32:00

A recording of today's hearing will be put on the Moana Offshore Wind Farm section of the National Infrastructure Planning website as soon as practicable after the hearing has finished. With this in mind, can I just ask that everybody speaks clearly, stating your name and who you are representing each time before you speak. The digital recorder and notes are the only official record of today's proceedings.

00:03:33:20 - 00:04:04:03

A link to the Planning Inspector's privacy notice was provided in the rule six letter. We assume that everybody has read that and familiarize themselves with this, which establishes how the personal data of our customers is handled in accordance with the principles that are set out in the data protection laws. As this event is recorded and it is published, it is important that you do not add any information to the public record that you would wish to be kept private or that is confidential. Your address. For example, please do speak to Mr. Stevens if you have any questions about that.

00:04:05:04 - 00:04:11:04

Just before we move on to introductions, I'm just going to run through a few, uh, preliminary matters that.

00:04:18:02 - 00:04:32:14

Uh, we're not aware of any fire alarm tests today or drills. So, uh, if the fire alarm does go out, please exit via these doors. There's a fire exit to the right, which takes you out to the back to the car park. Or you can go down the stairs to the front and the meeting place is on the beach.

00:04:35:11 - 00:04:40:24

We'll probably take a short break at around 1130. If it does appear that we need to continue much beyond that time.

00:04:42:21 - 00:04:45:06

Could I just ask if there's anybody here from the press?

00:04:50:25 - 00:05:22:05

Uh, I'd also like to, uh, address the Welsh language as well. We do aim to make this meeting and the subsequent examination as open and inclusive as possible. We have translation facilities available for this meeting and for all hearings throughout the examination. And all documents published by ourselves are being published in both Welsh and English. Mr. Rawlins, on the panel, is a native Welsh speaker, Mr. Stevens, the case manager and my man who are here today, can also speak Welsh. The rest of the panel we will do our absolute best to pronounce places and names correctly.

00:05:22:10 - 00:05:36:06

We do apologize in advance for any mistakes we make. Please feel free to correct us if we do. With that in mind, we welcome contributions in both Welsh and English. Do we have anybody here this morning that wishes to address us in Welsh?

00:05:42:10 - 00:06:16:01

I'll just briefly explain the purpose of this preliminary meeting. We're here to focus on the way in which we intend to examine the application. We will be discussing only the procedural aspects of this examination this morning. We are not taking any evidence at this meeting, and we are not discussing either the merits or any concerns that you may have regarding this application. We would like to emphasise that we have made no decisions yet about the merits of the application. Those concerns on merits will only be considered once we start the examination, which happens following the close of this preliminary meeting.

00:06:16:03 - 00:06:26:08

We have issued specific hearings and an open floor hearing this week, which are the appropriate forums to discuss any merits cases or raise any concerns. Thank you.

00:06:28:06 - 00:06:49:10

I'm going to ask those of you who are participating in today's meeting to introduce yourselves. When I state your organization's name. Could I ask that you introduce yourself, stating your name and who you represent and which agenda item you wish to speak on? Please could you also state how you wish to be addressed? I'll start with those in the room first and turning to the applicant.

00:06:51:03 - 00:07:14:23

Good morning. My name is Liz Dunn. I'm a partner at Burgess Salmon and I am representing the applicant, Mona Offshore Wind Limited. Um, I have a number of people around me on the table this morning. Who? For the preliminary meeting. I'm not expecting them to speak, but I'm very happy to introduce them so that people in the room know who's here in this meeting on behalf of the applicant. That's useful. Yeah, I.

00:07:14:25 - 00:07:18:07

Think it'd be useful for this morning's meeting to introduce who's present today.

00:07:18:09 - 00:07:51:13

Thank you. So, to my left, I have Emma Chappell, who is a graduate consultant at tech tech tech, Petro Tech. Sorry, PPS, who will be running the projections. So if anybody would like a document brought up. Probably not that relevant for this morning but will be for other hearings then. And please say it clearly with the document reference number, and Emma will put that up onto the screen so everybody can see it. To my right I have Paul Carter who is consent lead for the applicant, uh, past him.

00:07:51:15 - 00:08:10:26

Uh, Gerard Vella who is the offshore consents lead for the applicant. Uh, next to Gerard is Phil Williamson, who is the onshore consents lead for the applicant. And at the end of the table is I only gate and B who is a solicitor at Burgess Salmon, and she is taking our note and making use of the table to do that.

00:08:11:23 - 00:08:13:27

Thank you very much, Mr. Dunne. Welcome everybody.

00:08:15:18 - 00:08:24:11

Could I then move on to the other organisations which have expressed a wish to speak? Do we have the Welsh Government here

00:08:25:28 - 00:08:35:15

late? It might be expecting them joining us a little bit late this morning. Um, moving on to Conway County Borough Council.

00:08:37:27 - 00:08:42:24

What did, uh, Carrie Thomas, uh, principal planning officer with Conway County Borough Council.

00:08:45:08 - 00:08:49:01

Uh, so are you representing both councils this morning or just Conway?

00:08:50:16 - 00:08:57:27

I'm here as eyes and ears on behalf of both councils. But I don't intend to make any representations.

00:08:59:01 - 00:09:01:00

Thank you for confirming that. And welcome.

00:09:02:24 - 00:09:06:10

Do we have Councillor Griffiths Williams with us?

00:09:08:01 - 00:09:11:08

Good morning. Would you like to join us at the the table this morning?

00:09:13:21 - 00:09:19:03

Okay. That's perfectly fine. Thank you. If you do change your mind, you're more than welcome to come and sit up at the table.

00:09:20:22 - 00:09:23:28

Do we have Councillor Martin Barlow here?

00:09:27:23 - 00:09:38:23

Martin Barlow, Canberra Community council. Um, I'm not planning to make a representation today, but hopefully in the next couple of days. Thank you.

00:09:39:06 - 00:09:43:26

No problem. Thank you and welcome. Do we have Mr. Edwards?

00:09:50:11 - 00:09:52:16

Uh. Rebecca face.

00:09:54:12 - 00:09:58:07

Good morning, Miss Face. Do you do would you like to join us at the table this morning?

00:10:01:10 - 00:10:19:04

I'm Stuart Neal. Morning, Mr. Neal. Would you prefer to sit at the back as well? Okay. No problem. Uh, Mr. and Mrs. Jones. Good morning. Mrs.. Mrs. Jones. Would you like to speak this morning, or are you here to observe the subject? Okay. Thank you.

00:10:21:09 - 00:10:25:00

Do we have anybody else in the room today who wishes to speak?

00:10:27:22 - 00:10:31:25

I'm not seeing any hands, so I'll move on to our virtual attendees.

00:10:33:18 - 00:10:39:02

Um, firstly, can I turn to Natural Resource Wales, please?

00:10:41:17 - 00:11:07:21

Good morning. I'm Nia Phillips, senior marine advisor representing NSW. Um, and advisory. I'm supported by Sean Williams, our senior development planning adviser, also in NSW, advisor and also supported by Peter Morrison, lead specialist officer in NSW marine licensing team. But none of us are anticipating speaking on any items this morning and we've made a representation to that effect.

00:11:08:08 - 00:11:13:23

That's no problem. If you do change your mind, just use the raise hand function on team and teams and we'll come to you.

00:11:14:09 - 00:11:14:29

Thank you. We will.

00:11:15:19 - 00:11:23:03

Thank you. Um, do we have a representative for our Lemoore offshore wind farm with us this morning?

00:11:25:17 - 00:11:26:02

No.

00:11:27:18 - 00:11:30:03

Or, uh, the National Farmers Union?

00:11:32:21 - 00:11:36:02

No. Yeah. Good morning. Sorry. I'm online.

00:11:36:24 - 00:11:39:20

Uh, hello, Miss Staples. Good morning to you.

00:11:43:05 - 00:11:47:03

Are there any particular agenda items you would like to speak on today, Miss Staples?

00:11:47:09 - 00:11:47:24

Um.

00:11:47:26 - 00:11:52:04

No particular. I just wanted to be able to follow, please. And be able to speak if I wish to.

00:11:52:20 - 00:11:57:24

That's no problem. Just use the the raise hand function or turn your camera on and we'll we'll come to you.

00:11:58:09 - 00:11:59:06

Thank you very much.

00:12:03:23 - 00:12:11:25

Sorry. It does look like we have, uh, Mr. Spencer from our limo on the, um, on the teams meeting. Is that correct?

00:12:12:04 - 00:12:30:10

Good morning, madam. Yes. Oliver Spencer, a solicitor representing a well more offshore. Offshore wind farm limited. Joining me in the room is Mr. Jonathan Barnes, who is the onshore consent manager for the project. I anticipate that we're more likely to speak during ish one and two, but we may have some comments on agenda items three and five this morning. Thank you.

00:12:30:21 - 00:12:37:06

There's no problem. As I've just said, just use the raise hand function or turn your camera on and let us know if you do want to speak this morning.

00:12:40:16 - 00:12:46:08

Okay, before we move on, is there anybody else, either virtually or in the room who would like to speak?

00:12:49:28 - 00:12:59:25

Seeing any raised hands? Uh, that concludes item one of today's meeting. Does anybody have any comments on that? Before we move on to item two?

00:13:06:17 - 00:13:15:15

Can I just ask that the, um, I don't know whether is the agenda still being shared on the. We can take that down now I think. Thank you.

00:13:17:20 - 00:13:54:18

So turning to item two on the agenda. In order to streamline the running of this event in appendix B of our rule six letter, we provided an introduction to the preliminary meeting and the examination process, explaining how it's going to be conducted and how you can participate. For expediency, I'm assuming that everybody has read this, and I don't propose on spending any time on on reading through that now. It's very important to the examining authority that you're clear in your understanding of the process. Therefore, if there is anything that you are unclear about or which you need clarity on, then please do ask us if you've got any specific points to make regarding the draft timetable.

00:13:54:21 - 00:14:07:08

These will be considered later on in the agenda under item five. So on behalf on the on the basis set out in appendix B, are there any questions about the way the examining authority intends to examine this application?

00:14:11:27 - 00:14:19:00

Okay. In that case, I'm going to hand over to Mr. Hobbins, who will deal with item three, the initial assessment of principal issues.

00:14:20:02 - 00:14:27:00

Thank you for this item. It would be useful if you have appendix C of Oral six letter in front of you, please.

00:14:29:05 - 00:14:41:21

This list provides an initial framework of the issues for the examination of this application. It does not preclude us from amending the list by removing or adding to the proposed principal issues at a later stage in the process.

00:14:43:13 - 00:14:52:14

I have nothing further to add at this stage. Nevertheless, individuals here today may wish to comment on either the broad headings or the individual matters



00:14:54:00 - 00:15:05:13

by inviting you to speak. Please remember that we are not looking for submissions on the merits of the scheme that will form part of the detailed examination of the application, which commences after this preliminary meeting.

00:15:07:03 - 00:15:33:22

We are only considering comments on the broad principle issues as identified at this stage. And so with that in mind, I would now like to invite submissions. Please remember to introduce yourself and state your name and the organization you are representing each time you speak. And so we've had a request to speak on this from our land more offshore wind farm limited. And so if I could first come to Mr. Spencer, please.

00:15:35:08 - 00:16:04:12

Thank you. Good morning sir. Um, it was a minor point of clarification in relation to item two in the list, just to clarify and ensure that the examination will also cover the interaction between the Moana proposals and the more onshore elements, uh, in or around the National grid bottle wooden substation area. I think there are some broad headings in relation to onshore substation, but just to clarify that that would also be part of the consideration. Thank you.

00:16:07:24 - 00:16:20:18

Yes, yes, Mr. Spencer, it would be um, it would be our intention to to cover that. And indeed, I think you'll see it is actually on the agenda for this afternoon in issue specific hearing one.

00:16:24:05 - 00:16:26:19

I'm with the applicant. I'd like to add anything.

00:16:27:15 - 00:16:54:17

Thank you. Sir. Liz Dunn, on behalf of the applicant. Nothing in particular. It's a very broad range of principle issues, and we'd expect there to be obviously, during the examination, focus on some of those more than others. Um, but it's a it's a helpful list. And note the points that Mr. Spencer has made about, um, the interactions with hourly more. They will, of course, be properly considered as part of the cumulative impact, um, and the impacts between the projects at the border in connection.

00:16:56:15 - 00:16:57:10

Okay. Thank you.

00:17:00:18 - 00:17:12:05

So I have no further points or questions to raise on this agenda item. Uh, are there any other points that anybody wishes to raise? Now on the initial assessment of principal issues before we move on to the next item.

00:17:15:23 - 00:17:36:24

I can't see any virtual hands. Okay, so if anything does arise, please put them into writing to us by draft deadline one on Wednesday, the 7th of August 2024. Thank you for your participation. And I'm now going to hand over to Mr. Rowlands, who will deal with item four on the agenda, which relates to the examining authorities procedural decisions.

00:17:37:16 - 00:17:54:24

Sorry, Mr. Jones, I just just come Come in a second. Can we just not share anything on the screen unless the examining authority specifically, if there is something that we would like on, we'll we'll let you know at the relevant point in time. And also when, when you can take it, take it back down. So I don't think there's anything any need to have anything on at the moment. Thank you.

00:17:58:21 - 00:18:32:14

Okay. Um we'll start with appendix F of the rule six letter. That sets out a number of procedural decisions that we have made. And I do not intend to go through all of those listed. I would like to start with the statements of common ground. Now, the aim of the statements of common ground at an early stage is to be called areas of agreement and identify areas of differences.

00:18:32:28 - 00:19:11:06

Draft deadline one, which is on the 7th of August, is the date for the first versions of statements of Common Grounds to be submitted. And I do not intend to go through each one listed in appendix F. I would, though, like to start with Denbighshire County Council and Conway County Borough Council. Can I check if the intention is to have separate statements of common grounds, or are you looking to combine them now? I'm not sure who's the best party to answer.

00:19:11:08 - 00:19:13:13

This is the best to come to the applicant first.

00:19:14:03 - 00:19:47:04

Thank you sir. Liz Dunn, on behalf of the applicant, um. The applicant has made quite a lot of progress with statements of common ground already. You'll be pleased to hear. Um, presently, uh, separate statements of common ground have been sent to Conway and to Denbighshire. Um, whether they merge together to make a single statement of common ground, if it's the appropriate way to take it forward, then, um, then the applicant will do that, I think for sort of administrative purposes at the moment, it's been easier to do them separately, um, just in order to get progress with them.

00:19:47:06 - 00:19:53:03

But we'll be led by the authorities. And, frankly, what's most useful to the examination on that?

00:19:56:06 - 00:20:01:29

Thank you for for the update, Mr. Stern. Um, if I can now bring in, uh, Mr. Thomas.

00:20:03:22 - 00:20:17:02

Yeah. Um, yes, I can confirm that we have received separate statements of common ground, and, uh, a decision will be made as to whether it will take the form of a joint statement or two separate statements. Okay.

00:20:19:18 - 00:20:20:05

Okay.

00:20:21:21 - 00:20:43:22

Um, can I now move on to, uh, Natural Resources Wales advisory And Natural Resources Wales, the marine licensing team. Um what is the intention there? Um, maybe if, uh, the applicant can give us an update, if it's two separate statements of common grounds or are you looking to combine?

00:20:46:05 - 00:21:17:05

It's done on behalf of the applicant. Um, there are two, two statements of common ground being progressed with Natural Resources Wales at the moment in respect of Natural Resources Wales advisory. So we've separated our offshore topics and on short topics. Um, so those are being. Oh sorry. There are three. Um, so there's offshore topics, onshore topics. And there is a separate seascape landscape and visual impact assessment statement of common ground. So those three are being progressed separately.

00:21:17:15 - 00:22:01:24

Um, in respect of um natural resources as well as marine licensing. We've been in discussions we've been in discussions with with the marine licensing team extensively through the application, whether we progress a statement of common ground with NSW marine licensing, I think is going to depend on where we get to the marine licensing, a separate transmission marine license application has gone in that's being progressed. Um, I think we will agree. If it's all right, we will agree with NSW marine licensing what the most appropriate way is of updating the examination in respect of the points between us on the marine license or on the marine licenses, because we obviously have the Diem marine license within the DCO.

00:22:01:26 - 00:22:38:23

So it may be that a the statement of common ground is, is is a bit too cumbersome in terms of what we're trying to achieve. But we recognise and I'm sure Mr. Morrison, for many, will confirm, we recognize the importance of updating the examining authority on that. But do recognize that for the transmission marine license, that is a separate process that our W marine licensing team are running. So it'll be about trying to sort of maintain, uh uh, maintain sort of information across those and progress of both of those as part of this examination.

00:22:40:08 - 00:22:47:28

Thank you. Uh, Mr. Stern, if I can maybe bring in another w um, if you've got any comments to make on this.

00:22:49:00 - 00:23:27:04

I Peter Morrison, Natural Resources Wales marine licensing team. Um, yeah. No, I do agree with what Mr. Turner said. We we, um, as you're aware, we have a transmission licence application which is running, um, separate but parallel to this. So. So we wouldn't be wishing to make comments which prejudice that determination. Um, on that as the deemed marine licence. Uh, yeah. We are speaking regularly with the applicant as we're working through matters and hope that issues, um, become relatively, relatively apparent within the the relevant reps and written reps.

00:23:27:06 - 00:23:32:15

Um, but but if there needs to be formality around an update, we can look to that in due course.

00:23:34:09 - 00:23:40:15

Okay. That's clear. Thank you very much. And I seem to have another show of hands so

00:23:42:02 - 00:23:44:09

I could. Thank you.

00:23:44:12 - 00:24:05:12

Thank you. Neil Phillips and RW advisory. Just to confirm that an advisory are working on the three statements of common ground mentioned by Mr. N um with the applicant and those pertain to offshore, onshore and severe matters. And we're speaking regularly with the applicant about about all matters therein. It's just confirmation of that position.

00:24:06:17 - 00:24:21:02

That's good to hear. So in terms of the transmission elements for the offshore, it's likely that another advisory will be giving comments on the statements of common ground for that aspect.

00:24:21:23 - 00:24:22:23

The generation

00:24:24:13 - 00:25:02:22

cell is done on behalf of the applicant. Yes. So, uh, my understanding and Mr. Phillips will correct me if I'm wrong, but because the development consent order covers both the generation, the transmission and our W advisory have a role in terms of inputting to the DCO examination in respect of, uh, matters that they cover across both the, um, uh, the offshore elements, including the transmission and onshore. Um, and they will also be advising in our marine licensing team in respect of the separate marine licence application for the transmission on those same matters.

00:25:02:24 - 00:25:06:24

And Miss Phillips will correct me if I've got any of that. Not quite right.

00:25:07:13 - 00:25:09:03

Okay. That's correct. Thank you. Mr..

00:25:11:07 - 00:25:15:06

Okay, great. Thank you very much. Miss Phillips,

00:25:16:21 - 00:25:17:06

thank you.

00:25:19:29 - 00:25:37:06

For the remaining statements of common grounds. Could the applicant advise if any of those listed in appendix F, rule six would not be submitted at draft deadline one? So if I can hand over to you, Mr. Stern.

00:25:47:10 - 00:26:17:20

Please stand on behalf of the applicant. I may bring in others, um, in terms of being able to update. So, um, we have the applicant has agreed with Denbighshire County Council and Conwy County Borough Council that we won't be submitting a first draft at deadline. One with the local authorities? Um, that will be submitted as soon as possible and most likely the following deadline to that. Uh, Natural England have confirmed that they don't want to be party. They don't want to submit a statement of common ground.

00:26:17:22 - 00:26:20:24

I believe they've put that, um, in representations.

00:26:28:15 - 00:27:05:01

Uh, there are others that we are looking to progress, um, some of which will be further progressed as far as we can do those. I think I would note that there are a number, um, at the end of the list in particular, um, the statutory undertakers such as Network Rail, Deer Creamery, Welsh Water, SP, Manweb, Wales and West. We are in discussions with those parties in respect to protected provisions and any necessary side agreements already, and I think would question whether we need a formal statement of common ground with those parties to to reflect the position.

00:27:05:03 - 00:27:25:20

We will be updating the examination at each deadline in terms of progress of those. Um, and um, it may be that that rather than having again, rather than spending time and effort on the statement of common ground, we just agree a position with them to submit at the relevant deadline rather than a formal statement of common ground.

00:27:32:17 - 00:27:43:14

Sorry. One further point. Um heb um Clwyd Powis archaeology and Gwyneth archaeology. They are being done together as a single statement of common ground. So there won't be two there.

00:27:45:28 - 00:27:55:08

Okay. For all the others, then can I presume that they will be submitted? Draft deadline one.

00:27:57:09 - 00:28:02:08

So, for example, you've got, uh, RSPB, uh JMC. JNC.

00:28:07:17 - 00:28:28:19

So listen, on behalf of the applicant. Um, the applicant is making all efforts to get as many of those in for deadline one as we can. Um, so, for example, joint JNC. Yes. We're expecting that to be in for deadline one. Um, RSPB I believe we yes, yes, we are aiming to get that one in for deadline one as well.

00:28:29:00 - 00:28:30:13

Okay. Thank you.

00:28:35:03 - 00:28:47:12

Can you, uh, the applicant advice if there are any other parties which have not been listed in appendix F, that you are seeking to have a statement of common ground?

00:28:58:21 - 00:29:06:17

That is done on behalf of the applicant. We have one further statement of common ground. At the moment. We're progressing with Eni, who are an offshore oil and gas operator.

00:29:09:24 - 00:29:47:27

Okay. Thank you. So, um, just to note that the examining authority may request additional statements of common ground with other parties if, during the examination, it becomes necessary. Um, can I now move on to local impact reports? And, um. Section two of appendix F sets out request for local impact report from the host local authorities and welcomes local impact reports from any other relevant local authority who may wish to submit one.

00:29:48:17 - 00:30:04:27

Can I first ask Conwy County Borough Council whether there will be separate local impact reports, or will they be looking to combine local impact reports with Denbighshire County Council? Mr. Thomas.

00:30:06:15 - 00:30:08:10

There, um, we.

00:30:08:12 - 00:30:23:10

Are in discussions with a consultancy with a view to preparing local impact reports. Uh, we don't know yet whether that will be take the form of a single report or two separate reports.

00:30:24:11 - 00:30:40:09

Okay. Can I just, um, highlight the importance, um, that the local impact reports are submitted on time, and obviously the draft deadline, one is Wednesday, the 7th of August.

00:30:42:15 - 00:30:45:29

I can confirm that the consultants are aware of that deadline.

00:30:46:01 - 00:30:58:09

Okay. Thank you for the confirmation. Uh, for the next point concerning the land rights tracker. I'll hand over to my colleague, Mr. QC.

00:30:59:18 - 00:31:32:06

Thank you, Mr. Rollins. The land rights tracker was accepted as an additional submission after the procedural deadline. That examination library reference as 021. There are two issues arising. The first relates to the third column of the tracker that refers were applicable to an agent or a representative. Where an affected party has been represented, the applicant has provided their name.

00:31:32:14 - 00:32:05:08

The EXR appreciates that in the Model Land Rights Tracker that was included as appendix F of its rule six letter that the applicant was asked to, where applicable, give details of the person or organization representing the interests of affected parties. However, upon reflection, it would be useful to include both the individual's name and the company that they work for, and it would be helpful if you could do so when you're next updating the land rights tracker.

00:32:07:07 - 00:32:08:24

Would that be an issue that's done?

00:32:08:26 - 00:32:16:05

That's fine. We will. We'll make sure we do that. So that's the name of the agent and the organization that they're working for.

00:32:16:07 - 00:32:50:12

That would be very helpful. Thank you. And then the second issue it relates to the column headed the Description of land. Now the applicant chose to refer to the book of reference, rather than the specific details for plots in which each affected person has a legal interest. The tracker is designed to be a single point of reference, not only for the USA, but for affected parties and other interested parties, and to pull together information from other submitted documents.

00:32:50:14 - 00:33:14:06

Now, to this end, it's not helpful that the reader still has to refer across to the book of reference. Therefore, the applicants asked to remedy this omission at the deadline specified for the next update of the tracker in the draft, or sorry in the timetable that will accompany the rule eight letter. Is that something that the applicant can easily assist us with?

00:33:15:29 - 00:33:25:12

Is done on behalf of the applicant. So if I understand it, you would like us to take the plot description from the book of reference and drop it into this document.

00:33:25:20 - 00:33:37:04

That is 100%. It would be just very useful, Miss Dunn, rather, um, as I say, not only for ourselves, but interested and affected parties to be able to have that information in a composite form, um form.,

00:33:38:09 - 00:34:10:08

Is done on behalf of the applicant. Um, we we will look at doing that. I, I do, I think probably need to just, um, say something about the sort of various trackers and documents and, um, we do have a concern about the duplication of material again, across all of those documents. Um, and, um, given the volume of material, the potential for there to be inconsistencies in inaccuracies across those documents, no matter how hard everybody's tried to make sure that isn't the case.

00:34:10:23 - 00:34:41:21

Um, so, uh, we can provide that information. I, I, I suppose I'd just like to put down a marker around all these trackers that that appreciate the desire for a single source of information and effectively a single source of truth. But the book of reference will be updated as we proceed through the

examination, and the book of reference is known to be, in a sense, the sort of central place of truth for matters around around land.

00:34:42:05 - 00:35:15:05

Um, so I, I think I'm probably saying we'll take that away and have a look at it. Um, if you require us to do that, we will do it. But I do have concerns about the amount of duplication across some of these trackers and documents. And as I say, the the risk of, uh, that material not being consistent. So somebody's looking at a particular document thinking it and, and actually it not being consistent with other things that are there. I appreciate that is our responsibility to ensure that consistency.

00:35:15:07 - 00:35:23:05

But, um, it, it with the amount of material we're dealing with, um, errors and inaccuracies can slip in.

00:35:24:02 - 00:36:12:24

I certainly hear what you say, and I don't want to to sound as if I'm putting it straight back at you, but it's because of the volume of information that, especially for the IPS and the apps that I think it is very useful to have the tracker, um, as that from their perspective, obviously not from mine, who's who's examining land rights to have that, that that's that single reference. Um, I wouldn't envisage that the description of land that there's going to be a huge, uh, volume of or a huge effort required throughout the examination of death that unless that there are, um, new affected or sorry that there's there's a change in the, in the land ownership.

00:36:12:26 - 00:36:25:17

So hopefully it wouldn't be too onerous, but I think it would certainly pay dividends for the initial, um, effort that it would take on the applicant's behalf. But you, you have the, the request.

00:36:26:24 - 00:37:00:15

I could just just just come in on that. You may have seen that this this is a quite a recent edition that other examinations are also are using. And the aim is not just for the examination, it's also for reporting as well, um, to try and make the reporting as efficient as possible as possible, because with the use of the Excel spreadsheet, you can manipulate the data to get the data that you want, whereas you can't do that with the book of reference at present. So the idea going forward is that we have a document that we can easily manipulate to get the information out, not just for us, but for the Secretary of State as well, when it comes to the decision period.

00:37:02:22 - 00:37:04:29

Thank you madam. That's very helpful explanation.

00:37:07:01 - 00:37:43:26

So then I just add that if any party has comments to make on the applicant's current land rights tracker, please Please ensure that they have been submitted into the examination by the draft deadline. One, which is currently the 7th of August and for the benefit of interested and affected parties. Appendix H of the rule six letter of the 7th of June contains information about submitting at examination deadlines, and also please feel free to contact our CSE team if there are any queries arising.

00:37:44:01 - 00:37:52:01

So thank you. That concludes the point that I wanted to make about land land rights. And I'll hand back to Mr. Rowlands.

00:37:56:06 - 00:38:15:22

I'd like to now have a look at the pre examination progress tracker. Um submitted um for reference that's PDA dash zero 20. And it would be useful if we can have this particular document briefly on the screen.

00:38:17:09 - 00:38:50:21

So the uh EXR welcomes. That's all of the issues listed in the progress tracker indicates that parties are making progress to align their position, with further work required to achieve that. I'd briefly like to explore the progress tracker with an example, so that it is clear to parties what the examining authority expectations are. So, is it possible for you to put up briefly? Page seven.

00:38:51:26 - 00:38:56:12

And if we can have a look at reference topic ten.

00:38:58:29 - 00:39:02:21

Which is habitat regulation assessment.

00:39:04:15 - 00:39:19:25

So you'll notice from that that it has an amber status which says that the applicant will look to progress the issue with relevant, interested parties with a view to agreeing a resolution.

00:39:22:06 - 00:40:21:26

Now, if we can only focus on the fourth column and on that fourth column, there is something along the lines of likelihood of adverse impact on the integrity of habitat sites, including information to assess a potential derogation. Now you can put that off the screen, please, and I'll continue with this trail of thoughts. My understanding, um, on this is the RSPB common position is that it is in this relevant representation stated that adverse effect on integrity cannot be ruled out beyond reasonable scientific doubt for collision impacts arising through the project alone, and in combination with other projects for Manx shearwater at specific special protected areas.

00:40:22:17 - 00:40:55:12

The applicant's response to relevant representation to this matter, and it can be found in PDA 008. And I think it was our oh 71.5 stated that EEOC can be ruled out beyond reasonable scientific doubt for all sites and features identified by RSVP, so currently it appears as though we have two different sets of beliefs.

00:40:57:15 - 00:41:30:00

In order for the examining authority to gain confidence that likelihood of adverse impact on the integrity of a habitat, sites including information to assess a potential derogation is amber with RSPB Cameron. It would be helpful if the progress tracker could indicate what and when further work is being planned, with RSPB Cumbria to align positions.

00:41:30:12 - 00:42:10:02

Similarly, it would be helpful to know the colour status with Anadolu and JNK on this particular point to see what remaining work is required to align positions. I don't want to labor on this matter further at this preliminary meeting, and it would be appreciated if an amended progress tracker can be submitted by draft deadline Deadline two, which is the 23rd of August, rather than draft Deadline three, which would have been the 30th of September.

00:42:10:20 - 00:42:19:23

Addressing the points that I've raised. So, I'll ask if the applicant has any comments to make on what I've highlighted.

00:42:20:09 - 00:42:52:21

So, Liz, done, on behalf of the applicant, it's a helpful explanation as to as to what you're looking for. Um, in this tracker. Again, I think I would just make the point around duplication of, um, material that the applicant's being and summaries that the applicant is being required to produce. So in addition to



this document, we've also got the statements of common ground and obviously the statement of common ground statement of commonality, which is looking to highlight where progress is made on statements of common ground.

00:42:52:23 - 00:43:31:21

And clearly these key issues are going to be matters that will be included within those statements of common ground. Um, and uh, as I've said previously in respect of these documents, I, the applicant, understands the desire to, to gather that information together. But there is a there is quite a lot of potential duplication across the documents that the applicant has been asked to provide, which um, and, and the examining authority will know what it needs. But but from the applicant perspective, there is a sort of question as to the effectiveness and the usefulness of some of those when it's being provided in another context.

00:43:31:23 - 00:44:18:01

So where, for example, there is a statement of common ground and as, um, as the applicant has made clear, there is a statement of common ground being being progressed with the RSPB, which will be the key document where issues around the disagreement on, um, on whether there could be an adverse effect on integrity will be worked through. And it's the applicant's position that there is none, and that that will be something that we will be able to satisfy as far as possible. The RSPB in respect of so So I take the points that are being made around that, but I think it is really important that all of these trackers and documents that are being provided speak to each other, but don't duplicate each other and don't provide the same purpose.

00:44:19:14 - 00:44:50:14

Just come in there, Mr. Rawlins, for a second just yet. We we do not want to encourage anyone to be duplicating work. Um, what? I think from an examining authority's perspective, we are not party to the discussions that are going on behind the scenes. We do not know what's going on between deadlines, between hearings and things like that. And we need to ensure, as an examining authority that you are progressing matters. Um, and we need to get to a point by the end of the examination where, you know, concerns that are raised or outstanding matters have got to a point as far as they can get.

00:44:50:16 - 00:45:20:14

So really these progress trackers are there so that we're aware of what's going on. Now, if you're going to put that into your statement of commonality or statement of common ground, you're going to let us know within them. That's not always the case. On on all examinations, I would like to say. So if you're going to put that in there, that's perfectly fine. Do a cross-reference within the tracker that's inside. But what we need to know is actually what you are doing to work towards that, so we can be reassured as an examining authority, that you are actually working towards resolution of matters as far as possible.

00:45:22:09 - 00:45:25:09

Leads on on behalf of the applicant. Thank you madam. That's very helpful.

00:45:29:28 - 00:46:06:28

Okay. Um, I'll now move on to additional submissions as set out in rule six, section ten of appendix F. A range of additional submissions have been published and can be accessed through the examination library, and the references are as Dash 0012 as Dash zero 16 from the applicant and from others as Dash zero 17 and as Dash zero 918 as part of procedural deadline on the 25th of June.

00:46:07:00 - 00:46:59:19

The applicant has submitted a range of documents which have been published and these are referenced. PDA Dash 001 to PDA Dash zero 36. And submissions from others have also been published. And these are Reference PDA zero 37 to PDA zero 54. After a procedural deadline, the

25th of June, three additional submissions have been published and these are referenced as Dash zero 19 to as Dash zero 21, If anyone has any comments to make on these submissions, please do so by draft deadline one which is the 7th of August.

00:47:01:00 - 00:47:36:04

While we have accepted and published these documents prior to the examination commencing. We would advise parties that any documents submitted between deadlines will not normally be published until the subsequent deadline has passed. I'd now like to take the opportunity to highlight a few issues concerning the submissions received at procedural deadline. So the first issue, um, I'd like to start with the marine licence principle documents.

00:47:36:21 - 00:48:09:07

The references PDA Dash 005, which supersedes the previous version, which was up Dash 195. The examining authority would expect revisions to the documents to also include a standalone tracked version, so that it is clear what has changed from the previous version. Can the applicant be mindful of this when further documents are submitted?

00:48:09:25 - 00:48:12:12

Searle is done on behalf of the applicant. Yes we will.

00:48:12:21 - 00:48:13:06

Thank you.

00:48:16:01 - 00:48:52:21

The second issue for the draft development consent order. The examining authority appreciates the clean, and tracked updated versions were submitted at procedural deadline, and the references for that were PDA, Dash 003 and PDA Dash 004. We would, though, like to remind the applicant that whenever an updated DCO is submitted, it should include a new version number identifying that the submitted DCO is an amended version.

00:48:54:28 - 00:48:58:11

It is done on behalf of the applicant. Yes, sir. We will do that going forward.

00:48:58:21 - 00:49:20:12

Thank you. Just one final thing. Um, if you could also ensure that we have clean and tracked versions of the explanatory memorandum that should also be provided if you're submitting, uh, updated draft issues. If anything, relevance has changed.

00:49:21:04 - 00:49:24:14

At least on on behalf of the applicant. Um, I think.

00:49:26:17 - 00:49:57:27

We will submit an updated explanatory memorandum if there are material changes to the explanatory memorandum. So if there are minor typos or, or matters like that that don't actually change the text in any substantive way, then, um, then, uh, we won't be submitting an update. Um, I think appreciate the importance of the explanatory memorandum being read against the alongside the development consent order. But we're also very mindful of the volume of material that is going to be produced.

00:49:57:29 - 00:50:11:03

So, um, I think we will look to rationalize that as far as possible in terms of when those updates are made so that they are materially reflecting a change in the development consent order that follows through into the explanatory memorandum.

00:50:13:26 - 00:50:45:02

Thank you. That's fine. Um, third issue, uh, relates to section 51 advice to the applicant, which was dated the 21st of March, of March 2024, and the reference is PD Dash 002 and how it has been implemented by the applicant. The advice was for the applicant to undertake a thorough audit of these figures to ensure that they are consistent with the Onshore work plan amended.

00:50:45:04 - 00:51:04:28

These figures should be provided together with a list of the figures subject to amendments. In order to address this, the applicant submitted a series of figures which were PDA zero 23 to PDA zero 35.

00:51:06:21 - 00:51:35:03

However, the approach adopted by the applicant at procedural deadline has made it difficult to grasp all of the evidence and how it cross-references with the environmental statements, including the draft Development Consent order. As an example, I'll refer to the onshore crossing schedule, which is app Dash 083 83

00:51:36:25 - 00:51:58:15

and compare it with document titled figures Updates to address inconsistency between Onshore Works plan and environmental statement figures volume one, two, three, four, five and six and that is PDA dash zero 25.

00:52:00:02 - 00:52:27:05

So page 54 of PDA Dash zero 25 includes figures 1.53 to figure 1.65, which are similar to figures 1.1 to figure 1.13 of unsure crossing schedule, which is up dash zero 83.

00:52:29:05 - 00:53:00:18

Other figures within PDA. Dash zero 25 mirror this approach, and seem to be similar to figures within different environmental statement chapters, such as the onshore ecology app Dash zero 66, The landscape and visual resources, which is up. Zero 69 The land deals and recreation, which is up. Zero 70 and so forth.

00:53:01:27 - 00:53:37:28

The application guide, which is PDA. 001 identifies PDA. Dash zero 25 as new documents. The errata sheets PTA 006 does not clarify if figures 1.53 to figure 1.65 replaces figures 1.1 to 1.13 in unsure crossing schedule and what corrections were made.

00:53:38:04 - 00:53:49:22

The errata sheet does not appear to be part of documents to be certified in schedule 15 of the Draft Development Consent Order.

00:53:52:19 - 00:54:17:08

I appreciate this, a lot of data there, but what we're trying to get to the bottom of is, is the applicant able to summarize this approach to the US documents and figures? The role of the errata sheet and how it feeds into schedule 15 documents to be certified in the draft development Consent order.

00:54:18:29 - 00:54:59:12

So listening on behalf of the applicant, that was quite a lot of information. If I explain perhaps what the purpose of the update to the documents was, and then I suspect this is something we probably want to take away and provide a clarification in respect of. So the the iOS figures were updated, um, because there was one very minor change to the, um, uh, order limits at the border with a substation where, um, uh, when the order limits plans were finalized, which was quite late on in the process.

00:54:59:19 - 00:55:37:17

Um, there was a the inclusion of this in access to the south of the existing Bollywood and substation that had been erroneously excluded from the, uh, from the, um, uh, the order limits plan that was used for the environmental statement figures. It had been it had been consulted on as part of the preliminary environmental information. So it was it ended up being included within the work plans and the order limits plans. But there wasn't time to update the environmental statement figures in respect of that, um, of that small access.

00:55:37:19 - 00:55:55:00

And that's the only change. However, the plans were submitted, all the sets of plans were submitted because they are a set of plans rather than being a single plan. That makes sense. So there are no changes to um, uh.

00:55:57:21 - 00:56:30:08

There are no changes to the plans apart from that addition on the environmental statement plans of the red line at the border wooden substation. And I think perhaps that's that's where the lack of so that there haven't been changes to any of those other plans. They are as they were in the other documents. It perhaps hasn't been, um, made quite as clear as as it could be, but that that was the sole change that was being made there, and it was a change that the applicant flagged at application.

00:56:30:17 - 00:56:36:15

It was on the application cover letter to explain that that that particular bit had been, um,

00:56:38:01 - 00:56:44:17

wasn't wasn't there early enough to go into the environmental statement figures because they get they get finalised much earlier on.

00:56:45:11 - 00:56:46:00

Okay.

00:56:46:13 - 00:57:08:18

But I think, I think it's probably one for us to take away and, and provide an explanation as to which are the correct figures then to be to be read through. Yeah. Um, it also sorry that the last thing to say is that they have not been reflected in the update to the development consent order. Um, in terms of the documents to be certified yet, which we will update further on in the process.

00:57:09:04 - 00:57:09:24

Okay. Um.

00:57:10:08 - 00:57:32:02

Could I just I think it would also be very helpful if you could submit the explanation that you've just given today. I appreciate that you put something in with the application documents, because they were then just submitted as a pack with no explanation attached. It would be quite helpful if you could provide an explanation, as you just have to us now so that we have that in the in the into the actual examination.

00:57:32:09 - 00:57:46:21

Yes. I'm very happy to we can add that into our hearing summaries to explain if you'd like us to do that before deadline one, which is, I think when hearing summaries are due, then we could do that early if it's of assistance to to parties reviewing those.

00:57:47:02 - 00:57:53:29

You could always submit that and then obviously have discretion to accept anything as um, additional submission okay.

00:57:58:20 - 00:58:30:16

Okay. So yeah, obviously due to the number of documents submitted during the course of the presentation and examination stages, the X Examining Authority would like to stress the importance of a clear and simple document trail. Thank you. Um, I will now hand over to, uh, Mrs. Powers and Mrs. Jones, who will talk about the draft timetable for the examination.

00:58:32:11 - 00:59:07:05

Thank you, Mr. Rowlands. Um, I was just thinking one quick, um, fix for future deadlines on that. On what? The what? Just to finish, what we were discussing would be just for the cover letter to be a little bit clearer about everything that's coming. I know we have the application guide, and I know in the last submission, we had a response to some of the things we've put out at all six. But the cover letter is such a useful tool for us when a submission lands to know why things have been. For example, you could have explained the fact that we hadn't had an additional explanatory memorandum in the same way, just to have, you know, what have we got and why have we got it and what haven't we got and why? It's just a really useful place to put that information.

00:59:08:06 - 00:59:46:16

Um, okay. So we're looking now at the draft examination timetable and it's useful to have appendix D of our rule six letter in front of you. Um, this appendix sets out our draft examination timetable for the next six months, from when this preliminary meeting closes today, to the completion, which must be on or before the Thursday the 16th of January, 2025. The appendix sets out the draft dates for hearings and deadlines for submissions of written documents. It also includes dates for the examining authority to issue documents such as our written questions, our proposed schedule of changes to the draft Development Consent Order, and the report on the implications for European sites.

00:59:47:07 - 01:00:20:07

Please note that the deadline for submissions is always 2359, which is one minute to midnight. Um, and you'll see from the draft timetable that there are currently seven proposed deadlines at which we've asked for information to be submitted. We've received some comments on the draft timetable in writing from the applicant, and I will come back to the applicant and give you an opportunity to speak on this matter shortly. We've also received some comments on the timetable from Natural Resources Wales Advisory, and that's L reference examination library reference as 022.

01:00:20:12 - 01:00:51:04

And we've also had some comments in writing from Mr. Martin Hussey, who is a local resident and an interested party who's made his comments in writing ahead of today's meeting because he's unable to attend in person. And those comments are referenced as 019. So what I suggest we do is briefly run through the timetable in chronological order, and then I'll just invite submissions as we go through on any of the items. And I'll just briefly mention the fact that we're having obviously some early hearings this week, uh, as soon as we kick off the examination.

01:00:51:06 - 01:01:26:13

And that's based on our own experience of, um, it being a useful time to kick off an examination with diving straight into some hearings. So this afternoon, we have the first issue specific hearing, one, uh, starting at 2 p.m., which is an exploratory hearing covering the scope of the proposed development. So that's really about making sure we've understood the project, um, appropriately, an opportunity for us to ask any questions about it. We'll also be looking at the the the marine licensing approach as well. Then we're back in this room tomorrow morning for a 930 start on issue specific hearing two, which will cover onshore and offshore environmental matters.

01:01:27:09 - 01:01:57:16

That continues until Thursday. So we expect more or less two full days Wednesday and Thursday for that that issue specific hearing. And then on Friday morning of this week, we hold an open floor

hearing. So that's an opportunity for individuals to speak directly to the examining authority. And the name suggests, um, as it is, that we're open to any interested party to attend, not about a particular location or topic, it's just about any topic that anyone wants to bring to us. So that's particularly relevant to members of the public or interested parties. You might want to come along and have their say.

01:01:57:18 - 01:02:30:27

You can do that in person or virtually. Friday morning from 930. And then as soon as possible after we finished this week's hearings, we'll issue what is known as our rule eight letter, which is an important document that finalizes the examination timetable and sets out any further procedural decisions that we've made. Um, I will jump straight in then to deadline one, which is currently in the draft timetable for Wednesday the 7th of August. And we've had some submissions from the applicant about the possibility to bring that date forward to allow more time for the review of deadline one submissions.

01:02:31:13 - 01:02:36:03

I'll ask Miss Dunn, do you want to make any further points on deadline one before we open it up?

01:02:37:14 - 01:03:12:01

Thank you, Madam Dunn, on behalf of the applicant, um, I think it might be helpful just to put the applicant submissions in respect to the timetable into a slightly sort of broader context. I'm aware of the representations that have been made by Mr. Hussey and by Natural Resources Wales in respect of the applicant's requests and the requests to move time, move dates sort of slightly earlier. Um, are principally driven by, um, items nine and 11.

01:03:12:18 - 01:03:56:10

um, which were a desire to try and bring the examining authority's first written questions forward, if possible. Um, appreciate that. That, um, has may well have, um, implications for the examining authority in terms of getting those together. But they are two months into the start of the examination, um, which given this is principally a written process and the examining authority's questions are clearly an important focus. Um, I think the applicant felt that if that if it was possible to move that earlier, um, on, it would actually be beneficial to all parties to be giving that focus for the examination.

01:03:56:12 - 01:04:23:29

So, so that was the that was the first, um, kind of key point around the timetable was, um, a note that that those first questions felt like they were quite late in the process. That's the third of the way through the whole of the six month examination, and it feels quite late to be getting those in terms of sort of key issues for the examination. The second was in respect of items. I think it's nine and 11 where, um.

01:04:25:20 - 01:04:59:07

Uh, sorry, they're not nine. 11. They're they're to do with the dates of the, um, the hearings of the second and third sets of hearings and the fact that on the timetable is currently drafted, there is no there is no deadline for comments on comments to questions. And again, the applicant's experience is that is a very useful, um, uh, stage to have in the examination. So we've had the examining authorities questions. All parties have responded. And actually other parties then get the chance to comment on those.

01:04:59:09 - 01:05:37:06

And again, applicant's experience that those are very useful to have got that cycle through before those hearings then take place, because every part you've been able to um, to review others responses to understand where parties are coming from, which then makes the hearings more effective. So. So that was that was really the driver for seeking to move some of those deadlines forward, appreciating

um, there are always um, uh, issues around timing of hearings in terms of holidays and things like that and making sure you get those in.

01:05:37:08 - 01:06:07:08

But it was really trying to find some more space to get that. Responses to questions, for first questions and second questions into the timetable before the hearings take place. Um, yes. So that was the principal driver. Um, the other was in respect of um, item eight, which was the applicant's request to provide more time for comments on written representations and local impact reports.

01:06:07:10 - 01:06:49:12

And I know that Mr. Hussey, um, suggested that that that request, there should not be more time given there. Again, it's just to note that that is can be very substantial material for the applicant and indeed for others to review in terms of understanding parties positions. Um, that date is the 7th of August. If those documents aren't uploaded, because it can take time for things to go up onto the Planning Inspectorate website. If those don't go up until Friday the 9th of August, or indeed until Monday the 12th, then the applicant has less than two weeks to review those and prepare detailed and meaningful responses to them.

01:06:49:14 - 01:07:18:25

So again, that was that was behind the request there to extend time. Um, I'm aware that that all parties to the examination it's it's a tricky time. There's a lot of material to go through. But it was really just to try and as I say, get that responses to questions stage in before the hearings and to try and get a bit more time, um, um, for review and then response to lawyers and written representations. Given the time it can take to get documents up onto the website.

01:07:20:11 - 01:07:21:22

May I, may I comment?

01:07:22:15 - 01:07:53:23

I'm just going to respond to a few points. Thank you. Um, so yes, take your point to understand that that the tweaks to dates were kind of, um, couched in that wider context. I suppose one thing I would say is that the approach we're taking here is different to the approach on other examinations I'm sure you've been involved with. Um, but it is based on experience that we've all had, and it's, um, it's something we're trying on some recent examinations in terms of focusing the issues and trying to actually decrease the amount of written material that goes in and out of the examination.

01:07:53:25 - 01:08:25:05

So it's an evolving area of examinations at the moment. Um, as you know, historically, an examining authority would have put their written, their first written questions out with the letter and right at the right at the beginning. It has its pros and cons, but one downside is that we tend to ask a lot of questions that are going to be naturally answered anyway in written reps, comments on relevant reps, comments on written reps, and local impact reports. So the idea is that, um, by allowing that process to run a bit and obviously we're watching closely what happens.

01:08:25:16 - 01:08:57:18

Um, we then can pick up more focused, targeted questions when we do ask them at that point that we've put into the timetable. So we're trying that approach. Um, but we're also holding early hearings, um, because we have got a lot of questions and we don't want to hold off on some of them. So that's why we have got quite detailed agendas, and we've got a lot to say over the next few days. Um, because we there are some things we need some immediate answers to and things where it would be useful to sort of hear the discussion on them sooner rather than later. So the feedback we're getting so far is that it's not it's an approach that's been quite successful in other cases.

01:08:57:20 - 01:09:28:27

So, um, it's not leading to issues being raised late in examinations as far as we're aware. Um, I know that's one of the concerns that's been raised, but, um, we do hear your point about having enough time to prepare for the hearings that are in there for October. We're trying to be quite disciplined in terms of only bringing matters to those hearings if they really need oral examination. As you've already said, this is a written process primarily. So we are only looking at issues coming to hearings if they would benefit from multiple parties being in the room to discuss things.

01:09:28:29 - 01:09:50:13

We're not here to have kind of unilateral discussions on matters that could just be answered in writing. So we will undertake a kind of triage exercise to make sure that things that go to hearings are only things that that need to be examined that way, and otherwise we will be asking them in written questions. Um, I'm trying to remember what your second point was. I had I had something to come back on you about that too, but I'm not sure.

01:09:50:29 - 01:09:57:03

If the applicant, I think it was the lawyers and and written reps and a bit more time actually.

01:09:57:05 - 01:10:30:19

To. Yeah. So okay. So so we've had a look at that as well. Um we'll come back to look at deadline one and deadline two in a moment. But yeah just to say we've had a look at that and we appreciate what you're saying. We do have um a very strong service level agreement to get things up on our website as soon as possible. It does depend on the amount that comes in, but it certainly should be within 48 hours that things are published. And we should be getting examination library updated around that time as well. I appreciate the frustration of waiting for things to be published, so I would urge everybody when they submit things, to make it as easy as possible for things to be processed.

01:10:30:21 - 01:10:54:12

So that includes document titling. That doesn't mean lots of work is required internally at our end to make things, um, to process things and put them up on our website. So, um, that certainly helps as well. We can get things, um, published as quickly as possible, but we hear you about, um, you know, time scales are tight. Unfortunately, there is only a finite amount of time and an examination. Um, would you like to come in on those points as well?

01:10:54:17 - 01:11:24:26

Yes, sir. Martin Barlow, Marietta Community council, Mr. and Mrs. Hussey are Kevin residents and, um, they are the people most affected by this development, which is, I think, something like 150m from their that their house. Um, I did happen to speak to them yesterday. And I know that Mr. Hussey does feel disadvantaged by the would feel disadvantaged, shall I say, by the proposal to change the deadline. So I'd just like to make that point.

01:11:24:28 - 01:11:25:13

Thank you very.

01:11:25:15 - 01:11:46:01

Much. That's very helpful. And I know that Natural Resources Wales have also made a comment. I don't know whether I miss staples. I can see your hand up too. I've just come to an hour if there is anything that Miss Phillips or Mr.. Yeah. Mr. Williams, anyone wanted to come in from an RW? We've already had your points in writing, but if there's anything you wanted to add.

01:11:46:04 - 01:12:01:27



Yeah. Thank you. Nothing additional to to what we've put in our submissions. Um, it would significantly impact the time that we have to prepare evidence, um, as outlined in ASC Euro 2022. So we wouldn't be in support of squeezing squeezing the timetable.

01:12:02:23 - 01:12:08:24

Thank you. I can see Mr. Spencer has a hand up too, but I'm going to come first to Miss Staples.

01:12:09:22 - 01:12:33:04

Uh, thank you, Louise Staples from the NFU. Um, it was just to raise. Actually, I can just see from the timetable that there isn't actually a set compulsory acquisition hearing. It just says if one is needed, that it might be the week commencing 14th of October or week commencing the 21st of October. I suppose I'm just raising, from a landowners point of view that can pass through acquisition hearings. Really important.

01:12:34:00 - 01:12:46:25

Thank you very much. I think it's safe to say we will be having a compulsory acquisition hearing at least one. And I think October is when we're targeting that. So we can't give you a specific date today. But I think we can give you some assurance on that point.

01:12:47:04 - 01:12:47:19

Thank you.

01:12:49:00 - 01:12:50:27

And, Mr. Spencer, would you like to come in?

01:12:51:29 - 01:13:11:06

Thank you. Good morning. Madam. Just to add a further voice in support of not, um, bringing forward the deadline, one to the early August date that was suggested by the applicant in the procedural deadline response, simply for logistical admin reasons, particularly as it's coming up to the school holiday period, and it's already quite a tight timetable. Thank you.

01:13:11:19 - 01:13:31:05

Thank you for those points. And if I could ask you both to put your raised hands down there, maybe just a delay our end, but, um, did the applicant like to come back on we're talking specifically now, if we could come back to deadline one and I did have I've just remembered my other point as well, which I'll pick up in a moment. But in terms of what we just heard on this is specifically on the idea of moving deadline one forward.

01:13:31:19 - 01:14:07:10

Les Dunn, on behalf of the applicant, I appreciate all the comments that have been made. And as I said at the start, um, there was a very specific reason for trying to move those deadlines to try and squeeze another another two deadlines effectively in to the examination. And I, I welcome very much welcome the points around the ECAs questions being focused, um, and not having um, and, and being able to focus on the key issues rather than having rounds of writing on things that, frankly, could have been dealt with much more in a much more streamlined way.

01:14:07:18 - 01:14:26:01

Um, I just think it's very important that that is what happens through this process. Um, and that it really does. You know, if, if the written questions come at that date, that they really are focused on issues, um, and things that haven't moved on rather than going back over, back over old material.

01:14:26:06 - 01:15:05:10

That's certainly our intention. Um, yeah. So, uh, you have our assurance on that. Um, just the other point that you'd made up was about allowing time for, uh, comments on responses to written questions. And, um, we always have the intention to allow that. Obviously, we didn't want to, uh, miss an opportunity for parties to comment on each other's responses to written questions. It just wasn't. It was implicit rather than explicit. On the face of the timetable, we take your point. So we will make that change in the timetable when we finalize it, just to be specific that there is that opportunity at the subsequent deadline for parties to comment on the responses of other parties to our written questions.

01:15:06:02 - 01:15:07:19

Um. Mr..

01:15:08:11 - 01:15:39:22

Thank you. Lasdun, on behalf of the applicant. Um. I guess just noting that that the timings are quite tight between where, where hearings are and dated and where responses to questions. Um, and the ability again, there is normally quite a significant amount of material to review in terms of others responses, then respond to them and again principally for third parties there because most of the questions be, uh, tend to be directed at the applicant.

01:15:39:24 - 01:15:50:10

So again, it's just making sure that there is sufficient time there and noting that parties will also be needing to prepare for hearings, uh, in the, in the time frame up to that.

01:15:51:11 - 01:16:23:05

Thank you. Which is why I'm trying to make the point about triaging so that it's not. But I accept what you're saying about just the volume of work at pinch points in the examination, and we're very much aware of those. Um, I suppose we will consider all of the points we've had. Um, on deadline one, I will say now, though, given that it's only three weeks from now, we are reluctant to bring that date forward, particularly particularly in light of the submissions we've received. So I'd say the deadline. One, um, you know, being the deadline for written reps, being the deadline for other key submissions like local impact reports.

01:16:23:07 - 01:16:38:21

They're all resource intensive to prepare, and we do need to ensure fairness for all of interested parties, including those who are unrepresented in this process. So, um, I wouldn't I would probably just give the assurance that deadline one is unlikely to move further forward than the 7th of August.

01:16:40:14 - 01:17:20:08

Um, briefly on to deadline two. And we've I think we've heard your points in the same way, Miss Dunn, on this, um, which was, again a question about whether to bring this forward, um, or indeed to extend deadline 2 to 20 9th of August. Um, we do appreciate there's going to be a large volume of material from deadline one for you to respond to that. That burden is primarily on the applicant at deadline two. Um, we note the request for 15 working days between deadline one and deadline two. Um, the biggest constraint here, from our perspective, is translation, because we have to make sure, um, under our obligations under the Welsh language scheme, that we can get our written questions translated.

01:17:20:10 - 01:17:52:06

And so that adds quite a chunk of time in for us. So we need to be able to have time to digest deadline two before we have to send off our written questions for translation. And that's the kind of other aspect of what we're dealing with here, in terms of allowing enough time to make sure those questions can be meaningful and can be based on the most recent deadline, because it's there's no point, I submit, sending out questions that may have already been answered in a deadline that's just passed. So it's a real juggling act from our perspective to we are looking into the possibility of moving deadline to just to buy a cup, maybe even a 1 or 2 days.

01:17:52:08 - 01:18:22:24

So moving it from the Friday the 23rd to Tuesday the 27th, so that just give an additional working day between deadline one and deadline two. We'd need to look at that in the round following today's discussion. But we we appreciate the point you're making there about the volume of material at the particularly in the beginning of the examination, because we're talking about quite a wide, uh, funnel of information at this point. And hopefully as we go through things do become a bit more focused on the key issues. Was there anything else you wanted to raise on deadline to Miss Dunn and anybody else on deadline to?

01:18:24:18 - 01:18:45:09

Okay, we'll move on then. Um, we've heard your points about publication of first written questions. Um, I don't think you need to repeat them. We did have something from an advisory. Just, um, stating that you would not support an earlier date for publication. Miss Phillips, do you want to add anything on that point?

01:18:47:10 - 01:18:57:18

Um. Thank you. No, nothing further to add. Um, our point was a general point about about not not squeezing the timetable. We were happy with it as it, as it was drafted initially in the rule six letter.

01:18:58:09 - 01:19:28:12

Thank you. And any other points on deadline? Two is currently in for Friday the 23rd of August. We are potentially looking at, um, moving that slightly into the next week if we can, um, get that wriggle room. We've had no submissions about deadline three. So unless anyone wants to raise a hand on that, we will scoot straight on. Dates reserved. We have. So the next after we've sat this week, we will be coming back for, um, all types of hearing if required in October. And that's the weeks of the 14th of October.

01:19:28:14 - 01:20:01:22

And the 21st of October is the time we have reserved. There's also time in there for an accompanied site inspection, which is obviously a really important part of the process. We've done unaccompanied site inspections already, but we will be doing more of those, and we will also be doing a site inspection in the company of any interested parties who wish to attend. That includes any members of the public. Um, we haven't had any submissions in advance about the dates of those hearings or the accompanying site inspection, but just in case anybody wishes to raise anything, I would just add we're obviously holding an open floor hearing this week.

01:20:02:01 - 01:20:13:21

Um, if so, that may cover it. If we need another one, we have time reserved, but if we have one this week and people have given their had their opportunity to to speak, we may not need to hold another open floor hearing in October.

01:20:15:18 - 01:20:22:14

Um, we've covered this point as well about, um, we have a hand up. Sorry. Thank you. We have a hand up from a staples.

01:20:27:09 - 01:20:28:09

Miss staples, would you like to come?

01:20:28:15 - 01:20:31:03

Yeah. It's coming. Just a slow delay, I think.

01:20:31:09 - 01:20:32:05

Haha. No worries.

01:20:33:24 - 01:21:03:28

Sorry, I meant to ask. Sorry. Not sure if this is quite the right place, but yeah. Louis Staples from the NFU. Um, could the issue specific hearings going forward separate out onshore to offshore Issued just because. Yeah. Obviously land anything issue regarding land is going to be very Pacific compared to marine. Um, so it is. Yeah. It is helpful if they can be separated out rather than just being mixed within a day.

01:21:04:11 - 01:21:05:00

Thank you.

01:21:05:13 - 01:21:36:12

Thank you. Yeah. We we've heard your point on that. Um, we'll, We're aiming to put out agendas that again in decent time that explain, even if it is a joint hearing, that it would explain where in the day, um, issues come so that you could just join for parts of the hearing as well. So even if it was an onshore and offshore one, like tomorrow in the next day, we've trying to split things. So it's not all over the shop, people coming back and leaving again, that you could cover all of your matters under one section of the agenda. so we'll bear that in mind.

01:21:36:21 - 01:21:37:06

Thank you.

01:21:37:15 - 01:22:08:22

Thank you. Um, now, the applicant suggested about an additional deadline for comments on responses. I think we've covered all of that, and I should wish to raise that again. That's fine. Um, we'll bear that one in mind as we look at the, um, timetable after this meeting. Nothing on deadline for unless anybody wishes to raise anything. Now, Miss Staples, is your handler, um, a legacy hand. Yeah. Lovely. Um, and then we've got publication of written second written questions and the DCO commentary if one is required.

01:22:09:09 - 01:22:17:27

Um, again, about the timing relative to the December hearings, we've understood the applicant's point. Would you like to. Would you like to say anything on that, Miss Dunn?

01:22:18:20 - 01:22:39:00

No. Just to repeat the. It's basically repeating the points we've made before. Um, I think the timing is tight. Um, there for deadline, five of, um, responses to second questions. And then obviously the hearings, um, pretty soon after that. So squeezing in responses to those maybe, maybe tricky. Yeah.

01:22:39:16 - 01:22:45:07

Okay. Noted. Thank you. Uh, anybody else like to come back on that point?

01:22:47:03 - 01:23:18:01

Um, I suppose, yeah. Just to mention the other thing that's at play for us there is the report on the implications for European sites. So it's not just written questions, but that in this, you know, it's going to be a significant document that's going to need translation again. So we need to just make sure we can factor all of that in. Um, and the same is true if we have a commentary on the DCO at that point. But we'll have a look. Um, we'll have a look and see if there's any practicalities in making any changes there. Just on deadline five. We've got. Is that still a deadline five isn't it.

01:23:18:09 - 01:23:55:17

Item 14 we've got in their final agreed protective provisions with relevant statutory undertakings. I just wanted to check. I mean, in our experience, this is an area that, um, things often drag right to the very end and sometimes not. You know, answers still aren't resolved by the end of an examination and, and can have quite serious implications for the timescales that applications sit in the decision phase. So we're just keen to, um, firstly highlight the importance of protected provisions being agreed as early as possible. But certainly, um, I the deadline we've got in the timetable, I just wanted to give you an opportunity to comment on whether you think that's a realistic deadline.

01:23:55:19 - 01:24:02:13

If whether you think you will be in a position to submit final agreed protective provisions by deadline five it's about six weeks before the end of the examination.

01:24:04:26 - 01:24:11:29

Is done on behalf of the applicant, that is, that in the SAT, in the timetable item and the version that I'm looking at.

01:24:12:01 - 01:24:14:18

Item 14. Um, file. Agreed.

01:24:16:09 - 01:24:30:14

Apologies. Yes. 3rd of December. Um, the applicant is seeking to agree protective provisions as quickly as it can, but it does take time. Um, and, um, um.

01:24:32:16 - 01:25:09:05

It's quite early. It typically, um, those that are capable of resolution simply tend to get done quite early in the process. And those that are more tricky do um, extend on Um. It is the applicant's intention and desire to have all those protected provisions agreed by the end of the examination. It's not in our interest for those to to carry on, but, um, uh, they do obviously involve negotiation with third parties. So, um, I think it might be a bit of an unrealistic expectation for those to all be completed.

01:25:09:13 - 01:25:39:26

Um, and in by the 3rd of December. Um, it may be helpful as a marker for people to be aiming for that, but, um, realistically, um, there may be some that aren't, as I say, um, it's in the applicant's interest as well to try and get those closed off. Um, it's just sometimes it isn't possible and there is good, good work going on at the moment to do that so that there is progress being made and we are engaging with all the relevant parties.

01:25:39:28 - 01:25:57:13

Okay. Thank you. Yep. We understand the issues. Um, I think we'll discuss whether to keep it in there. Deadline five is an enticement to get things sorted early or whether we look at moving that. But in any event, is there anybody else you'd like to come in on that?

01:25:59:07 - 01:25:59:25

Okay.

01:26:01:22 - 01:26:14:15

Um, I haven't got any comments in writing on any other elements of the timetable beyond deadline five. Um, we have got time reserved for hearings in December, the week commencing the 9th of December. Um,

01:26:16:11 - 01:26:52:07

so unless anyone else wants to raise anything about any other timings in there, then I think we can move on. Um, as we've already discussed in some detail this morning, there are many competing aspects for us to consider when drafting a timetable, including the internal deadlines for the inspectorate, um, publications of notifications and agendas for hearings, um, time for translation. So there is some lag between the submissions that we receive and the items we issue simply because of some of those issues. Um, it is a difficult task drafting a timetable with which everyone is 100% happy.

01:26:52:09 - 01:27:22:18

But we will take all of the comments we've heard today into account and we all produce our rule late letter following this meeting with the final timetable. I'd also just briefly highlight the importance of ensuring that information is submitted in accordance with set deadlines, because late submissions really do restrict the ability of other parties to respond to information, which raises issues of fairness and can jeopardize the examination timetable. So if something is submitted late, there's the possibility that we may not accept it or we may hold it off into the next deadline.

01:27:23:15 - 01:27:36:12

And then once the examination closes, no further submissions can be accepted, and we will make our recommendation on the basis of the evidence before us. At that point, I'm going to hand over now to Miss Jones to run through some information on site inspections and hearings.

01:27:36:14 - 01:28:20:25

Thank you, Mrs. Powers. Just before I start, I did say at the at the very beginning that we might take a break at 1130 and we haven't actually got that much left to get through. Are people content if we just carry on? Okay. I'm just starting with site inspections. The examining authority has already taken and unaccompanied site inspection, all from publicly accessible land, on the 18th, 19th and 20th of June. The inspection was principally undertaken in order to familiarise ourselves with the proposed onshore substation site, the cable corridor and landfall, as well as landscape and seascape viewpoints and heritage assets from publicly accessible land, including highways and public rights of way by car and foot.

01:28:21:00 - 01:28:30:09

The notes for the inspection are available to view on the project page of the website. I'm just going to briefly pause. I do need to plug my laptop in.

01:28:31:27 - 01:28:32:12

Okay.

01:28:44:00 - 01:28:44:15

Okay.

01:28:45:04 - 01:28:45:23

Sorry.

01:28:50:25 - 01:29:24:27

We do have an accompanied site inspection to ensure that the examining authority has an understanding of the proposed development within its site and surroundings as one of its effects. Um, there won't be any discussion on its merits during the course of the inspection, and that's currently scheduled for the week commencing either the 14th or the 21st of October. Um, and we'll the final itinerary for that will be published at least three weeks in advance of that, uh, taking place. We have received a number of suggested locations for the accompanied site inspection at our procedural deadline.

01:29:27:28 - 01:29:35:14

Could the, um, applicant give us a rough indication of how long they think we would need for an accompanied site inspection.

01:29:40:16 - 01:29:49:00

It's done on behalf of the applicant. Um, suggest a full day is probably going to be needed. Hopefully not into two days, but, um, a full day.

01:29:49:11 - 01:30:16:02

Uh, ideally from our perspective, because, uh, we have got a lot to get through and to cover to make that week as efficient as possible in terms of hearings we'd ideally encourage, um, a one day site inspection. Um, and just to say that really we don't anything that we can see from publicly accessible land, we can obviously go and carry out more unaccompanied site inspections of our own. So really we need that to focus on land in which we can't access.

01:30:17:03 - 01:30:17:18

Thank you.

01:30:23:02 - 01:30:38:23

Um, just on the site there. It would be helpful for us if we could understand the proposed locations of some of the infrastructure, but the applicant would be able to or is willing to peg out anything on site when we do the accompany site inspection.

01:30:44:12 - 01:31:12:11

List done on behalf of the applicant. It's something we'll need to agree with. Landowners, obviously. Where, um, whether it is third party land, um, and probably can't do it in areas of public open space. But, um, I expect you'd be looking at whether we could peg out the substation area, that sort of thing. That's right. Um, uh, we will need to secure landowner agreement to do that. Um, so it's it's whether that's possible to do. That's great.

01:31:12:13 - 01:31:16:19

If we if we could just make a request that if you could look into that, that would be really helpful from our perspective.

01:31:19:06 - 01:31:25:24

Attending to hearings. Oh. Sorry, sir. Before I move on, does anyone else have any comments in relation to site inspections?

01:31:28:07 - 01:31:59:00

Okay. I'll move on to, uh, hearings. Then you'll be aware from the format of this week's events that the examining authority is now able to hold hearings in a as a blended event, either with people in person or people attending virtually. It is our intention at the moment to hold the majority of future hearings in this format. However, we would also like to reserve the right to hold hearings wholly, virtually. So that means everybody would be participating through Microsoft Teams. Does anybody have any comments or questions on that matter?

01:32:04:18 - 01:32:10:08

Yes, we we just we just wait for you to get a microphone, Mr. Speaker.

01:32:18:17 - 01:32:21:14

If I could just remind you to introduce yourself before you speak. Thank you.

01:32:21:16 - 01:32:25:20

Yes. Uh, Rebecca, face an interested party. Um.

01:32:31:00 - 01:32:43:03

Oh, yes. Um, not everybody has the, uh, technical facility to do that. We would not be able to join at all if it's if we can't come to a location where it's being played.

01:32:49:24 - 01:32:55:00

The that would mean you don't have. You don't have access to a computer of any sorts and able to to join.

01:32:55:04 - 01:32:56:17

That can do teams. No.

01:33:03:21 - 01:33:06:09

Thank you. That's something that we'll take into consideration.

01:33:10:21 - 01:33:13:26

Sorry, Miss Face, can I just come back to you just one moment?

01:33:16:05 - 01:33:35:11

Um, obviously, um, participating virtually through Microsoft Teams is for people who want to actually participate in the hearings. But we also have, uh, the live stream. So all events, if they were virtual as well, they would be, uh, live streamed on the internet. Would it be your intention to participate or observe?

01:33:36:02 - 01:33:40:08

It would depend on what the subject matter that was being discussed. Okay.

01:33:40:10 - 01:33:44:00

And would you have the ability to observe on the live stream?

01:33:44:02 - 01:33:46:13

We could observe. Yeah, but we couldn't participate.

01:33:46:18 - 01:33:47:08

Thank you.

01:33:58:21 - 01:34:00:22

Any other questions on that matter?

01:34:00:24 - 01:34:33:15

Just let us stand on behalf of the applicant. Um, generally, I think the applicant supports, um, in person hearings if possible. Um, but recognizes, I think that there may be some issues around venue availability for the second week of hearings that we're looking at at the moment. Um, if those are run virtually, um, the applicant can look at providing somewhere where people can, um, attend and view those, um, remotely. So effectively providing the equipment with, um, we need to have a look at it.

01:34:33:17 - 01:34:48:23

But I know it's been done. It's been done on other projects. Um, and if people don't have access to, um, don't access to, um, um, computers to be able to either just listen in or indeed to participate, then we may be able to provide that.



01:34:49:15 - 01:34:51:02

That's really helpful. Thank you.

01:34:55:19 - 01:35:21:23

Um, in terms of venue, um, as was done just said we we have venue camera um for this week, but that is unavailable for our October hearings. And therefore at the moment we're looking at, uh, I think an alternative venue of Saint George's Hotel, which is also included now, um, for any further blended events. And I think we, uh, if we, if required and we do hold hearings in December, we would be back here. Is that correct?

01:35:24:25 - 01:35:47:19

Uh, just to point out as well that whilst we do have the full examining authority present this week, that does not necessarily mean that will be the case at all hearings going forward. There may be occasions where some members of the panel might not be present at a particular hearing. Is there time is better spent on other matters, but they will, of course, have the opportunity to bring themselves up to date on anything that's discussed by watching the recordings of the hearings.

01:35:49:20 - 01:36:24:23

I'd just like to take the opportunity as well, just to remind you all that oral submissions, in all hearings should be based on representative representations previously made in writing and not simply repeat matters. They should rather provide further detail on issues previously arranged to help inform the examining authority. As already said, in addition to the hearings this week, we've reserved two further weeks in October and one week in December for additional issues specific compulsory acquisition and open floor hearings, if required. And they're scheduled for the 14th, the 21st and the 9th of October, sorry, and the 9th of December.

01:36:26:03 - 01:36:45:03

If we do have any interested parties who wish to be heard at any future open floor or compulsory acquisition hearing and have not notified us already. We'd be grateful if you could notify us in writing by deadline one, which is Wednesday the 7th of August, 2024. Does anybody have any comments they wish to make?

01:36:49:18 - 01:37:03:25

Okay. Thank you for all your comments on this section. We will consider all requests and suggestions in finalizing the the timetable in our forthcoming rule eight letter. I'll now hand over to Mr. Corsi who is going to deal with item six.

01:37:05:18 - 01:37:36:28

Thank you. Moving on to item six on the agenda, which is any other matters, there's one matter that the Acsa wishes to raise with the applicant. Several of the relevant representations raised concerns about the cost of hardcopy application documents being prohibitive, and we note that the applicant engaged with such concerns in its response to relevant representations. That was PDA 008.

01:37:37:03 - 01:37:54:03

For example, at pages one five 7 to 1 five nine inclusive. It seemed that the parties might be able to reach a compromise on the matter. Has the applicant any update on whether the issue has been progressed in the intervening fortnight since the procedural deadline?

01:38:07:20 - 01:38:18:22

Is done on behalf of the applicant. Um, where requests have been made. Um, I understand we've responded on a case by case basis and provided documents that have been requested. Um,

01:38:20:15 - 01:38:23:22

yes Yes., I think that's probably all I can say at this stage.

01:38:24:02 - 01:38:32:22

That's useful. We review the position, obviously, when the written, uh, representations come in, if there are any outstanding concerns.

01:38:50:12 - 01:39:16:09

At least done on behalf of the applicant. Um, we've provided copies of documents to those people that have requested them through the written reps. I think there may have been some confusion in that the same group of people were requesting documents, and they were provided to a representative of that group of people, rather than different copies being provided, because effectively they were the same family. As I understand it. Is that correct? No.

01:39:16:24 - 01:39:17:14

We responded to.

01:39:17:16 - 01:39:18:03

Request before

01:39:19:25 - 01:39:20:18

responded about.

01:39:23:14 - 01:39:23:29

Yeah.

01:39:27:15 - 01:40:05:08

I Paul Carter, on behalf of the applicant. We had a request prior to written reps from an interested party, a landowner, and provided copies of documents that were requested. Some of the relevant representations are related to that request, but from a number of different people involved in the same family, and therefore some of our responses to that may be, um, slightly confusing. And in fact, we didn't want to make assumptions when replying to them about exactly who we'd provided it to, because the relevant rep was coming from a different person who hadn't received the documents, which maybe explains why there are some confusion over it, but we have responded to that prior to the relevant rep period.

01:40:06:14 - 01:40:12:10

That's helpful. Thank you. Does any other party want to address this specific issue?

01:40:15:09 - 01:40:37:19

No, I don't see any indication. I've had no other matters that were notified to the Acsa under this agenda item that people wish to raise at this meeting. Are there any items in relation to procedural or other relevant matters that anyone wishes to raise? After what they've heard today?

01:40:40:13 - 01:40:50:06

I don't see any indication in the room or on screen. So in that case, I'll hand over to Mrs. Jones to close the meeting.

01:40:52:24 - 01:41:23:03

Thank you. Um, we just like to say thank you on behalf of everybody for, uh, contributing fully and usefully, uh, to this meeting, including our participants who joined us virtually this morning. Um, we very much look forward to commencing the examination of this application. We do urge all parties to engage meaningfully with the examination from the outset. Uh, from where we're sitting today, it may seem like the end of the examination. Thursday, the 16th of January, 2025 is a long way in the future.

01:41:23:05 - 01:41:26:00

However, the examination period does pass quickly.

01:41:28:07 - 01:42:01:16

May we remind you that both notes and a digital recording of the proceedings today will be made available and as soon as practicable, practicable on the project page of the National Infrastructure website. Just a quick reminder of the next stages of the process that we have this week. We have issue specific hearing one on the scope of development here in this room at 2 p.m. today. We have issue specific hearing to back here tomorrow morning at 9:30 and continuing on Thursday. And we have open floor hearing one here on Friday at 9:30 a.m.

01:42:01:18 - 01:42:16:02

and the next deadline at the moment is currently deadline one and the 7th of August. The time is now 1142, and this preliminary meeting for the Moana Offshore Wind farm is now closed. Thank you doc.