



# Planning Inspectorate

## Preliminary Meeting Note

<b>Application:</b>	Helios Renewable Energy Project
<b>Reference:</b>	EN010140
<b>Time and date:</b>	3 December 2024, 2:00pm
<b>Venue:</b>	The Parsonage Hotel and Spa, Escrick, York, North Yorkshire, YO19 6LF and Microsoft Teams (Blended)

*This meeting note is not a full transcript of the Preliminary Meeting. It is a summary of the key points discussed.*

<https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010140>

### 1. Welcome and Introduction

Ken Taylor (KT) welcomed those present and introduced himself as the single Examining Authority (ExA) to examine the Helios Renewable Energy application.

KT explained the appointment was made by delegation from the Secretary of State (SoS) for the Department of Housing, Communities and Local Government on 31 July 2024.

KT explained that the ExA would be examining the application made by Enso Green Holdings D Limited ('the Applicant') before making a recommendation to the Secretary of State who will decide whether an Order granting Development Consent for the proposed project, which is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP), should be made.

KT explained the purpose of the Preliminary Meeting (PM) and noted that the Examination will commence after the PM closes.

The ExA confirmed that all documents and submissions received and accepted during the Examination will be published on the project-specific page of the National Infrastructure Planning website.

### 2. Audio recording

The video recording of this Preliminary Meeting is available on the National Infrastructure Planning website and can be accessed [here](#)

### 3. Examination Process

The ExA briefly explained the examination process under the Planning Act 2008 (PA2008), further info can be found:

[Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: What to expect at a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project event - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/nationally-significant-infrastructure-projects-what-to-expect-at-a-nationally-significant-infrastructure-project-event)  
[Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: Registering to speak at, or attend, a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project event - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/nationally-significant-infrastructure-projects-registering-to-speak-at-or-attend-a-nationally-significant-infrastructure-project-event)

#### **4. Initial Assessment of Principal Issues**

The ExA explained the purpose of the Initial Assessment of Principal Issues (section 88 of the PA2008), which can be found in [Annex C](#) of the [Rule 6](#) letter of 1 November 2024 and asked for any observations on them.

Burn Gliding Club agreed the Initial Assessment of Principle Issues are appropriate however raised concerns that the current structure and topics would not be the best way to address the issues which the Applicant creates for the Burn Gliding Club. Safety, Glint and Glare and Socio-Economic issues are interrelated in terms of the potential effects on the Burn Gliding Club operations. The issue of Cumulative impacts is of particular significance to Burn Gliding Club and requested that Burn Airfields and Burn Gliding Club are dealt with as a designated issue and a designated hearing is arranged for this purpose.

#### **5. Examination Timetable**

The ExA noted requests, already received in writing, to amend the draft Examination Timetable contained in [Annex D](#) of Rule 6 letter and also welcomed further suggestions from the parties in attendance.

The Applicant advised the ExA it would not be intending to submit updated documents at every deadline unless there had been a material change, however it will submit a list of changes at every deadline.

All comments received were duly noted by the ExA and considerations will be reflected in the Rule 8 Letter.

The Examination Timetable can be found in the [Rule 8](#) letter published on 11 December 2024.

#### **6. Hearings and Site Inspections**

The ExA clarified the purpose of:

- Issue Specific Hearings
- Compulsory Acquisition Hearings
- Open Floor Hearings
- Accompanied Site Inspections
- Unaccompanied Site Inspections

The ExA sought comments on the arrangements for the above events. These were duly noted and considered by the ExA.

Further information relating to hearings and site inspections can be found:  
[Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: What to expect at a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project event - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)  
[Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: Registering to speak at, or attend, a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project event - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

## **7. Procedural decisions**

The ExA clarified the procedural decisions made under section 89(3) of the PA2008 and asked for any observations.

Procedural decisions can be found in [Annex F](#) of the Rule 6 Letter.

The Applicant confirmed with the ExA its position with progress on the Statements of Common Ground (SoCG's).

The Applicant confirmed it had no objection to providing an ongoing Land Rights Tracker during the examination.

## **8. Close**

The PM closed at 2:52pm and the ExA confirmed the examination would begin after the close of the PM as well as confirming the remaining events for the week.