



The Planning Inspectorate

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To: All Interested Parties

Our Ref: EN010143

Date: 11 June 2024

Planning Act 2008 (as amended) and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 (as amended) – Rule 13

Application by East Yorkshire Solar Farm Limited for an Order Granting Development Consent for the East Yorkshire Solar Farm

Notification of Hearings

The Examination Timetable at Annex A of the Examining Authority's (ExA) Rule 8 letter, dated 28 May 2024, includes dates reserved for Hearings.

I am now writing to advise you that the following Hearings will be held under Sections 91, 92 and 93 of the Planning Act 2008. The Hearing(s) will be Blended Events, with participants attending either in person or virtually via Microsoft Teams.

Hearing	Date	Start time	Location
Compulsory Acquisition Hearing 1 (CAH1)	09 July 2024	Registration and seating available from: 1.30pm Virtual Registration Process from: 1.30pm Event start: 2.00pm	A blended event at: The Parsonage Hotel and Spa, Escrick, York, North Yorkshire, YO19 6LF and By virtual means using Microsoft Teams
Open Floor Hearing	09 July 2024	Registration and seating available from: 5.30pm Virtual Registration Process from: 5.30pm Event start: 6.00pm	A blended event at: The Parsonage Hotel and Spa, Escrick, York, North Yorkshire, YO19 6LF and

			By virtual means using Microsoft Teams
Issue Specific Hearing 2 (ISH2) on Environmental Matters	10 July 2024	Registration and seating available from: 9.30am Virtual Registration Process from: 9.30am Event start: 10.00am	A blended event at: The Parsonage Hotel and Spa, Escrick, York, North Yorkshire, YO19 6LF and By virtual means using Microsoft Teams
<p>NOTE: Full instructions on how to join online or by telephone will be provided in advance to those who have pre-registered</p> <p>If any of the above Hearings are no longer required then notification will be published as soon as practicable on the project webpage of the National Infrastructure Planning website, providing reasonable notice to Interested Parties of the decision to cancel.</p>			

Applicant's notification duties

The Applicant is reminded of its duty to notify and publicise hearings under Rule 13(6) and 13(7) of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010.

Purpose of Hearings

Please refer to the Planning Inspectorate's [Advice Note 8.5: The Examination: hearings and site inspections](#) for information about the purpose of Open Floor, Issue Specific and Compulsory Acquisition Hearings.

Registration and requests to participate in Hearings

Please register using the [Event Participation Form](#) by Tuesday 18 June 2024 if you intend to participate in the Hearings and provide all the information requested. If you have any difficulty completing the form please contact the Case Team.

Please note that by attending the event either in person or online you are agreeing to be filmed for the purposes of the online live stream of the event and the recording of the event which will get published on the [project webpage](#). A limited number of seats will be available for observers who wish not to be filmed at the event. Please contact the case team to notify them if you prefer not to be filmed at the event. A transcript of the event will also be published on the [project webpage](#) after the event.

Any request to participate in a Hearing should include the following information:

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

- Name and unique reference number (found at the top of any letter or email from the Planning Inspectorate);
- email address (if available) and contact telephone number;
- name and unique reference number of any person/organisation that you are representing (if applicable);
- for blended events, confirmation of whether you will participate virtually or in-person;
- confirmation of the Hearings you wish to participate in, the agenda items on which you wish to speak and/or brief details of the topics that you would like to raise;
- for Compulsory Acquisition Hearings, the plot numbers of the relevant land provided in the Book of Reference and the Land Plans; and
- the Examination Library reference number (with paragraph/page number where appropriate) of any documents you wish to refer to.

Joining instructions for Hearings will be issued by the Case Team via email shortly before the Hearing dates.

Please contact the Case Team if you require any support or assistance to attend any Hearing, either virtually or in person.

If you simply wish to observe any of the Hearings then you can either:

1. Watch a livestream of the event - a link to the livestream will be made available on the project webpage shortly before the event is scheduled to begin; and/or
2. Watch the recording of the event which will be published on the project webpage shortly after the event has finished.

Alternatively, you can attend the physical event at the venue to observe the proceedings; however, to ensure there is adequate seating capacity at the venue we request that you register your attendance to observe only by **Tuesday 18 June 2024** using the [Event Participation Form](#). Please note that it may not be possible to participate on the day if you have not registered your wish to speak by **Tuesday 18 June 2024**

Attendees

All Affected Persons and their representatives and the Applicant are invited to attend CAH1.

I would find it helpful if the following parties could attend ISH2:

- The Applicant
- East Riding of Yorkshire Council
- North Yorkshire Council
- Natural England
- Environment Agency
- Others – To be confirmed

Hearing Agendas

High level agendas for the hearings are annexed to this letter. A detailed agenda and any detailed arrangements for the Hearings will be published on the [project webpage](#) at least

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



five working days before the Hearings. However, the actual agenda on the day of each Hearing may be subject to change at my discretion. There may not be an agenda for an Open Floor Hearing.

Procedure at Hearings and Post Hearing submissions

The procedure to be followed at Hearings is set out in The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010.

Participation in a Hearing will be subject to the ExA's powers of control. It is for the ExA to determine how the Hearing will be conducted, including the time allowed at the Hearing for the making of a person's representations. The Hearing will be managed in the interests of ensuring fair access to the Hearing for all parties, and to ensure that the submissions of all invited persons are fully heard within the allotted time. For Issue Specific Hearings Interested Parties (IPs) may be invited to make oral representations at the Hearing on the specific issues being examined at the Hearing as set out in the Agenda.

All Hearings are recorded. The recordings and transcripts will be made available on the [project webpage](#) as soon as practicable following the Hearing. The recordings allow any member of the public who is interested in the application and the Examination to find out what has been discussed at a Hearing. It is therefore important to note that anyone speaking at the Hearing will need to introduce themselves, including any organisation or groups that they represent, **each time they speak** to ensure that someone listening to the recording after the Hearing is clear who was speaking.

As the recordings are retained and published, they form a public record that can contain personal information to which the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) applies. Please refer to our [Privacy Notice](#) for further information. Participants must do their best to avoid making public any information which they would otherwise wish to be kept private and confidential. If there is a need to refer to such information, it should be in written form. Although this will also be published, personal and private content can be redacted or removed before it is made publicly available. Any person who is unclear on this point should ask the Case Team for guidance before they place personal and private information into the public domain. The Planning Inspectorate's practice is to publish the recordings and transcripts and retain them for a period of five years from the Secretary of State's decision on the Development Consent Order (DCO). If you actively participate in the Hearing, it is important that you understand that you will be recorded and that the recording and transcript will be made available in the public domain.

The evidence presented orally at Hearings should be included in post Hearing submissions and submitted at the relevant deadline in the [Examination timetable](#).

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact the Case Team EastYorkshireSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk.

Yours faithfully

Simon Warder

Examining Authority

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This communication does not constitute legal advice.
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Application by East Yorkshire Solar Farm Limited for an Order Granting Development Consent for the East Yorkshire Solar Farm

Agenda for CAH1 on Compulsory Acquisition Matters

Hearing	Date and Time	Location
Compulsory Acquisition Hearing 1 (CAH1)	09 July 2024: Registration and seating available at venue from: 1.30pm Registration Process from: 1.30pm Hearing starts: 2.00pm	The Parsonage Hotel and Spa, Escrick, York, North Yorkshire, YO19 6LF and By virtual means using Microsoft Teams Full instructions on how to join online or by telephone will be provided in advance to those who have pre-registered

Item	Matters
1	Welcome, introductions and arrangements for the hearing
2	The Applicant's case for CA and Temporary Possession (TP) The ExA will invite the Applicant to present and justify its case for CA and TP under the following headings: <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) The Applicant's overall approach to CA and TP in the context of the relevant tests under the Planning Act 2008 and DCLG Guidanceb) The content of, and any updates to, the Book of Reference, the Statement of Reasons, the Funding Statement and the Schedule of Negotiations and Powers Soughtc) The need for CA and TP and the minimisation of needd) The consideration of alternativese) Crown interests and consentf) The availability and adequacy of fundsg) Potential impediments to the Proposed Developmenth) Human rights and the compelling case in the public interest

3	<p>Individual objections and issues</p> <p>The ExA will review the status of CA and/or TP objections with regard to specific plots and any other CA or TP rights issues.</p> <p>The ExA will, as it considers necessary, ask questions of the Affected Persons, or their representatives, and the Applicant</p>
4	<p>Any other CA or TP matters</p> <p>Time permitting, and at its discretion, the ExA may invite any parties present to raise any other CA or TP matters.</p>
5	<p>Other Matters</p>
6	<p>Close</p>

This agenda is for guidance and is not exclusive or exhaustive. The ExA may rearrange the agenda on the day, may add other issues, or may alter the order in which issues are considered.

Participation in CAH1

All Affected Persons and their representatives and the Applicant are invited to attend CAH1.

Agenda for Open Floor Hearing

Hearing	Date and Time	Location
Open Floor Hearing (OFH)	<p>09 July 2024:</p> <p>Registration and seating available at venue from: 5.30pm</p> <p>Registration Process from: 5.30pm</p> <p>Hearing starts: 6.00pm</p>	<p>The Parsonage Hotel and Spa, Escrick, York, North Yorkshire, YO19 6LF</p> <p>and</p> <p>By virtual means using Microsoft Teams</p> <p>Full instructions on how to join online or by telephone will be provided in advance to those who have pre-registered</p>

Item	Matters
1	Welcome, introductions and arrangements for the hearing
2	Confirmation of who has notified the ExA of a wish to be heard at the OFH
3	<p>Oral submissions from Interested Parties</p> <p>Each Interested Party that has indicated a wish to speak will be invited in turn to speak at a table set up in front of the ExA.</p> <p>These oral submissions should be based on representations previously made in writing by the speaker. However, they should not simply repeat matters previously covered in a written submission, but rather provide further detail, explanation and corroborative evidence that will help to inform the ExA.</p> <p>The ExA will, as it considers necessary, ask questions of the speaker and provide the Applicant with an opportunity to respond.</p>
4	Other Matters
5	Close

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Participation, conduct and management of the OFH

All Interested Parties and the Applicant are invited to attend the OFH. Participation will be of most relevance to Interested Parties who wish to raise matters that do not come under the agendas for Compulsory Acquisition Hearing 1 or Issue Specific Hearing 2. Each Interested Party should assume that they will be allowed a maximum speaking time of 10 minutes in total for all submissions that they wish to make. It may be necessary to be more restrictive if there are an exceptional number of potential submissions.

Interested Parties are reminded that the hearing is not to be used as a political platform.

Agenda for ISH2 on Environmental Matters

Hearing	Date and Time	Location
Issue Specific Hearing 2 on Environmental Matters (ISH2)	<p>10 July 2024:</p> <p>Registration and seating available at venue from: 9:30am</p> <p>Registration Process from: 9:30am</p> <p>Hearing starts: 10.00am</p>	<p>The Parsonage Hotel and Spa, Escrick, York, North Yorkshire, YO19 6LF</p> <p>and</p> <p>By virtual means using Microsoft Teams</p> <p>Full instructions on how to join online or by telephone will be provided in advance to those who have pre-registered</p>

Item	Matters
1	Welcome, introductions and arrangements for the hearing
2	<p>Main discussion points</p> <p>a) <i>Landscape and visual impact</i>, with particular regard to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Landscape change ○ Visual impact on residential properties and public rights of way <p>b) <i>Use of agricultural land</i>, with particular regard to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Policy ○ The soils and agricultural land survey and assessment ○ The scale of change <p>c) <i>Human health</i>, with particular regard to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The nature and scale of change brought about by the proposal on the mental health and well-being of local communities <p>d) <i>The efficiency of the proposal</i>, with particular regard to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The output of the proposal in relation to its land take ○ The capacity of the grid connection <p>e) <i>Biodiversity</i>, with particular regard to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The effect of the proposal on European Sites and the Habitats Regulations Assessment ○ The achievement of Biodiversity Net Gain and wider environmental enhancements

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The scale of habit change and effects on connectivity <p>f) Cumulative Effects, with particular regard to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The assessment methodology ○ The shortlist of other schemes <p>g) Other Points of Clarification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The noise assessment findings ○ Construction phase traffic effects ○ Effects on watercourses including the means of crossing <p>Interested Parties will have the opportunity to comment on these matters</p>
3	Update on the Statements of Common Ground
4	Other Matters
5	Close

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During the hearing the ExA may ask for some issues and questions to be addressed in writing in post-hearing submissions.

Participation in ISH2

All Interested Parties and the Applicant are invited to attend ISH2.

It will assist the Examination if the following parties, or their representatives, could please participate in this hearing:

- The Applicant
- East Riding of Yorkshire Council
- North Yorkshire Council
- Environment Agency
- Natural England
- Others - To be Confirmed