

**From:** [Botley West Solar Farm](#)  
**To:** [director@cpreoxon.org.uk](mailto:director@cpreoxon.org.uk)  
**Cc:** [Botley West Solar Farm](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Grateful for advice on NSIP process  
**Date:** 10 January 2024 18:26:49  
**Attachments:** [image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)  
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[image007.png](#)  
[image008.png](#)  
[image009.jpg](#)  
[image004.png](#)

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Dear Helen,

Many thanks for your email, which has been passed to me as the Case Manager for the Botley West Solar Farm project. I am sorry that it was not possible to issue a response before your recent meeting, as requested.

As you mention, the process is currently at the Pre-application stage. This is the stage at which promoters develop and refine their proposals, and undertake statutory pre-application consultation with prescribed consultees and the local community. In this case, the promoter – Photovolt Development Partners (PVDP) on behalf of SolarFive Ltd – is undertaking its statutory consultation until 8 February 2024. The Planning Inspectorate would encourage parties with views on the scheme to engage with the Developer’s statutory consultation, however not submitting comments now does not preclude anyone from registering to participate in the Examination process by submitting a Relevant Representation, should the application be accepted for Examination. Similarly, any parties that respond to the Developer’s pre-application consultation may submit a Relevant Representation that covers additional points if the application is accepted for Examination.

You are correct that only those with Interested Party status are guaranteed to be able to engage with the Examination process. Examining Authorities have the power to allow non-Interested Parties to participate in the process, however this is entirely at the discretion of the relevant Examining Authority. In terms of registering as an Interested Party, as mentioned above, this can be done by submitting a Relevant Representation (if the application is ultimately accepted for Examination). Some parties are automatically afforded Interested Party status without needing to submit a Relevant Representation, such as those with an interest in land affected by the scheme (known as Affected Persons), or host local authorities; however anyone may submit a Relevant Representation and become an Interested Party as long as this is done in the prescribed form. Please refer to the Planning Inspectorate’s [Advice Note 8.2](#) for further information.

In terms of the content of a Relevant Representation, this should contain a summary of a party’s principal submissions on the application and should ideally cover the key points they wish to raise. That being said, if an application is accepted for Examination, then Interested Parties are also given the opportunity to submit a more detailed Written Representation later on which can expand on and add to the points raised in their Relevant Representations.

I hope this is helpful, however please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any further queries.

Kind regards



**George Harrold | Case Manager - National Infrastructure**  
The Planning Inspectorate  
**Mobile:** [REDACTED]  
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**From:** director@cpreoxon.org.uk <director@cpreoxon.org.uk>

**Sent:** 09 January 2024 10:54

**To:** Botley West Solar Farm <BotleyWestSolar@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>

**Subject:** Grateful for advice on NSIP process

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Hello,

We are being asked about the NSIP process by a number of local parish councils and would be grateful for your confirmation of our understanding.

The Botley West Solar Farm is currently as pre-application stage. The PCs are seeking reassurance that:

- a. There are no penalties for not responding at this stage ie no comments now would not prevent them from commenting at a later stage
- b. If they do comment now but additional issues/matters of concern come up at a later point, they will still be able to input at this later stage (ie failure to comment on an issue now will not mean they can't raise it later).

My understanding is that neither of these scenarios are true ie there is no penalty for not responding now and that additional matters could also still be raised at a later stage.

I have spoken to the general PINS customer service line who thought this was correct but suggested I contact you for full reassurance!

Assuming our interpretation is correct, could you also advise as to what happens when it comes to registering as an Interested Party... Here we assume:

- a. You must register to be guaranteed an input (non-registered parties may be able to speak/input but only at the Examiner's discretion?)
- b. Does your written submission at this point need to cover all the issues in which you wish to engage?

Very grateful for your advice. We have a meeting with parishes tomorrow evening (Wed 10<sup>th</sup>) so if in time for that, this would be really helpful.

With thanks

Helen Marshall | Director

T: [REDACTED]

(Normal working days Mon-Thurs)

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