

Meeting note

Project name	Peartree Hill Solar Farm
File reference	EN010157
Status	Final
Author	The Planning Inspectorate
Date	4 October 2023
Meeting with	JBM Solar Ltd
Venue	Microsoft Teams
Meeting objectives	Project Update Meeting
Circulation	All attendees

Summary of key points discussed, and advice given

The Planning Inspectorate (the Inspectorate) advised that a note of the meeting would be taken and published on its website in accordance with section 51 of the Planning Act 2008 (the PA2008). Any advice given under section 51 would not constitute legal advice upon which applicants (or others) could rely.

Non-Statutory Consultation

The Applicant informed the Inspectorate of their initial meeting with the East Riding of Yorkshire, the project's Host Local Authority (LA), in August 2023 and that they have had proactive engagement with the LA so far.

In September, the Applicant notified key stakeholders, including board members, local and neighbouring MPs and parish councillors of the project and offered them briefings.

The Applicant stated that they will run their early-stage, non-statutory consultation during October/early November. The consultation will include a brochure, three in-person events, two webinars, and a press release.

Site Boundary Update

The Applicant presented the plan that will be used for the consultation and explained the revised cable corridor area, having reduced it in size to focus on a small number of corridor routes within the original corridor area.

The Applicant informed the Inspectorate that they had three options for a cable corridor: one coming down from the west to the Creyke Beck substation, one from the east and one along the highway. The highway option presents additional issues in terms of viability and timescale. The chosen option will be dependent on a range of factors, including landowner and non-statutory consultation feedback. The Applicant chose to refine the cable corridor area to provide more detailed information for consultation purposes and to aid with scoping.

The Inspectorate and the Applicant discussed site location and surrounding settlements.

Environmental Update

The Applicant summarised the environmental surveys being carried out including:

- preliminary ecological appraisal;
- ecological surveys;
- geophysical surveys; and
- arboricultural surveys.

The Applicant's Transport, Landscape and Heritage teams have carried out site walkovers and progressed surveys. Detailed cable route surveys will be progressed shortly.

Submission

The Applicant aims to send their scoping shapefile to the Inspectorate in late October and will submit their scoping report in early November. It informed the Inspectorate that the anticipated submission date for the application has moved to Q3/Q4 2024.

The Inspectorate enquired about other projects in the area and the Applicant informed that the LA is currently dealing with other Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs); East Yorkshire Solar Farm to the west and Dogger Bank Offshore Wind Farm to the east.

The Applicant asked if any particular points should be included in their scoping report.

The Inspectorate queried the change in company name mentioned in the previous meeting and the Applicant informed that they are having ongoing discussions and will update at the next project update meeting.

Post-meeting note

The Inspectorate advises the Applicant to refer to the [National Infrastructure \(NI\) website](#) for other solar farm scoping reports and the Inspectorate's Scoping Opinion.

The Inspectorate has considered the above advice in relation to company names and advises as follows:

In the case that an applicant has more than one business entity connected to it, the applicant should take care to ensure that all linked entities are notified as part of the statutory notification procedures under s56 of the Planning Act 2008.

Specific decisions/ follow-up required?

The following actions were agreed:

- The Applicant will send the shapefile and scoping report to the Inspectorate (late October/early November).

- The Inspectorate and the Applicant to organise the next project update meeting mid December 2023.
- The Applicant will update the Inspectorate on their company name at the next project update meeting.