

TRANSCRIPTION_YORKSHIREGREEN_OFH_SESSION1_22.03.2023

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00:57

Good afternoon. Good afternoon and welcome. It's now two o'clock and time for this hearing. To begin. I'd like to welcome you all to this open floor hearing for the application by national grid electricity transmission for an order granting development consent for the Yorkshire green energy enabling project, which we shall refer to as the Yorkshire green project from now on. Can I just confirm that everyone can hear me clearly?

01:23

Good, I'm getting some nods.

01:25

Can I also confirm with Miss Hanlon that the livestream and recording is,

01:30

has commenced. Thank you.

01:34

My name is Annie Coombs. And I've been appointed by the Secretary of State for levelling up Housing and Communities. As a member of this panel, which is the examining authority to examine the application for the Yorkshire Green Project. I should be leading this hearing today. We're a three member panel. other panel members are Jessica Paris and Gavin Jones. Mr. Jones is joining us virtually and I'll ask him to introduce himself now.

02:00

Thank you, Miss combs. Good afternoon, everybody. My name is Gavin Jones. I'm a planning inspector and I'm a charter time planner. And as you've heard, I'll be joining you virtually today. And if I have any questions, I'll ask them in due course. Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Jones. And now I'm going to ask Miss Paris to introduce herself. Good afternoon, everybody. My name is Jessica Paris, and I'm the Lead member of this panel.

02:25

Thank you Miss paths.

02:28

Together we constitute the examining authority. Our role is to examine the application and to report to the Secretary of State for energy security and net zero with a recommendation as to whether or not the development consent order should be made.

02:41

I also introduce our planning Inspectorate colleagues working with us on this examination, some of whom you will have spoken to today today, pay channel page Hanlon is the case manager leading the planning Inspectorate case team for these applications. Today, she's accompanied by Jennifer Savage, and Caroline Hopewell, who is not present today lead the arrangements conference.

03:05

Can I just ask if there's anyone here present in the room who wasn't present this morning?

03:12

That's a no

03:16

was the one.

03:21

So I was going to say that I could reduce some of the preliminary marks from the examining authority if there was nobody present this morning, but I'll touch on some of them. So I'll just deal with a couple of housekeeping matters. For those attending in person. Could everyone please set all devices and phones to silent and also as this morning we're not aware of any fire alarm tests today. So in the event of a fire alarm, please exit via the front door of the hotel and congregate in the carpark.

03:57

Today's hearing is being undertaken in a blended way, which means some of you are present with us here at the hearing venue in New York. And some of you are joining us virtually using Microsoft Teams will make sure that however you have decided to attend today, you'll be given a fair opportunity to participate.

04:16

A link to the planning and spectrum privacy notice was provided in the notification for this hearing. We assume that everyone here today has familiarised themselves with this document, which establishes how the personal data of our customers is handled in accordance with the principles set out in data protection laws. And if you have questions about this, you could speak to Ms. Hanlon. But on this point, I would just say it's very unlikely that we as the examining authority would ask you to put any sensitive personal information into the public domain. And we would encourage you not to do so. However, if for some reason you feel it's necessary to refer to information that would otherwise be kept private and confidential.

05:00

It should be in the written form, which can then be redacted. I have blank line through it before it's published. In this vein, we would mention that if any of you want to tell us something about where you live, then because it's relevant to what, what do you want to say, then please give us a general idea of the location, but don't give us your specific address.

05:23

If addresses were included, then that would be redacted from the from the hearing, recording.

05:30

If you're joining virtually using Microsoft Teams, and prefer not to have your image recorded, you can switch the camera off.

05:37

Um, we're going to give each speaker up to 10 minutes to make their submission this afternoon. It's our intention not to intervene during submissions. And as long as you remain relevant, and within time, we won't interrupt you. We listen to you carefully. And if my spouse, Mr. Jones, are I have any questions, we'll raise those at the end of the speaking time.

06:00

And finally, at the end of the towards the end of the hearing, then the applicant will be given an opportunity to clarify any matters raised on saw speakers have been heard. Here at the hearing, the applicant will also be responding to what it's heard at deadline one.

06:21

So thank you for attending this afternoon. And we do want to hear from you. And we have four people who've indicated they wish to speak. And so this is the order that we'll take submissions from those four. Firstly, the British Horse Society from Mr. Mark Corrigan, who's joining us remotely. Then Miss Christine Shepard, then Miss Marian blacker. And then Mr. Douglas Fletcher.

06:47

Before we move on, is there anyone else joining us here in New York today? Who would like to speak

06:55

now, and is there anybody via Microsoft teams who would like to speak, Miss Hanlon? Has anyone indicated Thank you.

07:03

So I'm very briefly going to explain the purpose of the open floor hearings.

07:08

Open floor hearings are not about a particular location or topic. They're just an opportunity for individuals or community groups to speak directly to us as the examining authority. It's an opportunity for you to raise anything that's important and relevant, and that you think we should know about and

that we should consider before we make our recommendation to the Secretary of State on the application for development consent. So the topic of the representation today is therefore up to you.

07:37

I'm not going to hand over some his powers to lead the parties to be heard.

07:43

Thank you, Miss Kim's. Okay. Before we hear from any speakers, can I just ask the applicant to confirm today who will be speaking on your behalf if any clarifications are required?

07:54

Reg attorney for the applicant, it will be me speaking in the first instance. But I think if there is clarification on design matters and so on. I may bring in Mr. Fowler, Steve Fowler, who you heard from, introduced himself earlier.

08:10

If there's any detail about the project that goes beyond my knowledge, thank you very much.

08:17

Okay, so in that case, then our first speaker is Mr. Mark Corrigan, from the British Horse Society. So Mr. Corrigan, I know you're joining us remotely, if I could ask you to switch on your lovely your microphone and camera. We can see you and hopefully we can hear you too. Mr. Corrigan. Thank you for your relevant representation, which we have read. And you now have up to 10 minutes to make your submission. So please do start when you're ready.

08:42

Thank you, Madam Chair. I'd like to start by thanking national grid for consulting with the British Horse Society in the first instance.

08:54

There are a few concerns that we've noted from the plans in that none of the plans indicate the differentials between any of the public rights of way, all public rights of way are massively different in the users that can legally use them, ie a bridle way is used by a horse rider and the cyclist under pedestrian and a footpath is simply used by a pedestrian. So we noted that in a couple of sections Section A as bold wick, there is a bridle way which is

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described as a public right of way.

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Our concern is that when people are looking at these plans, if they were planning rides,

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they would not know that there was any issues in the future where there was some would suddenly meet

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infrastructure development going on this is this has got the potential to cause some serious accidents if they were restricted by ways which can be used by

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All of the above, as I've previously described, along with somebody with a horse and cart, horse and carriage, this requires an even greater turning circle than a horse. And that's another major concern. And I believe it's a mistake, these public rights of way have not been differentiated in in any of the plans for any of the development. And that is something that we would have wished to have seen in there. Were not that there are banksman involved in these specific areas, which we welcome that. So should somebody on a horse suddenly meet a development where

10:38

there is a closure be that temporary or permanent, that there should be somebody there to actually assist them. And that's something that we welcome. So we just really wanted to bring it to the attention of the inspector, that, you know, we feel it should have been segregating the public rights away, rather than just all lumped together to give the public the opportunity to make informed judgments as to whether or not they were going to use these public rights away while this development was going on. And that's all I've got to say on it. Thank you.

11:13

Thank you, Mr. Corrigan. And you've mentioned that the section a roundup was Broadwick, as far as you're concerned, are these matters that affect potentially all sections of the proposed development? So as it travels around, you're confirmed and then head south, is it? Is it a matter you've picked up just for us? Waldwick? Or is it the wider area?

11:36

There are a couple of them. So that one was Baldwin has a bridal wear number 28 slash 13. Slash 10, which is just down as a bullet right away.

11:46

And the section in Sutton in Hazel worth which is number 35.63, slash six slash three.

11:56

Okay, thank you very much.

12:00

Mr. Corrigan. Can I just ask you to explain a little bit, you said something about temporary closures and something to assist? Can you just explain a bit more what that meant? If Yeah, if there, if there's going to be a temporary closure on any of the on any of the rights away, we we would like, well, we'd like an alternative, basically, to any, any closures be that temporary or permanent. Because again, if it's a

bridleway and somebody has planned a ride, whether that's a local horse rider, or whether that's somebody coming out of the area, and then they suddenly get there, and they can't get through, that's a massive problem. If you're on the horse, if you're if you're on a pedestrian, it's not a problem, you can generally hop over a gate or around a bollard, etc. But if you're on a horse, it's difficult. So any temporary closures we'd like to see a good amount of advertising farther in the press and actually on site.

13:00

giving good notice, as a minimum, I would have suggested two weeks.

13:05

That's very helpful. Thank you very much.

13:10

Thank you, Mr. Corrigan. Those points are very clearly put. And we note that they were similar to the things that you've raised in your relevant representation, albeit that you've elaborated there, which has been very helpful. We will come back to the applicant on this point when we return at the end after we've heard from everybody. So if you can stick with us until that point, then you might hear some points of clarification there.

13:33

Thank you. Thanks very much.

13:37

Okay, in that case, I think we will move on to our second speaker. And we have Christine Shepherd down on my list. Thank you very much. Miss Shepherd, we know that you're listed in the book of reference as an affected person or as a person with an interest in land in relation to this project. Yes, that's right in the area of Hearn's gutter, which will be opposite the proposed urban substation, and it was just really to come comment on the visual effect of pylons marching across the beautiful rural fields there. And the also the effect of the substation and what will be done to mitigate the view of that, particularly from the a 19.

14:20

I think my land will be more of a service area than have a pylon on it, but it's just just that visual effect. Would it be possible to put the lines underground?

14:39

Thank you very much.

14:41

Miss games, do you have anything you'd like to raise?

14:47

I don't actually play that's fine. Thank you. It's really useful. We can obviously relate your name to where those plots of land are that you have an interest but also you've you've clearly told us that we know which bit of land you're talking about there where the mainline team goes

15:00

is north and there's the Overton substation and then you're talking about the land on the opposite side of the road there. So I think from there we can understand your concerns. And, again, we'll be seeking a response from the applicant and in a moment, thank you for your time.

15:13

Okay, the third speaker then I have is Marian blacker.

15:18

Good afternoon, hello, marine blacker. Yes, I'm a Londoner in the area. And on my land, I find I'm getting a compound and a number of pylons.

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We don't have any difficulty with the project at all. But we do have a problem with one of the pylons which we have asked for it to be slightly relocated. We had a meeting arranged with two representatives of national grid, of which one couldn't come in the person who did arrive was apparently too junior to give us any confirmation of what could or couldn't happen. And, to my knowledge, we've had heard nothing since and still no satisfactory conclusion about the one pylon, which is runs against the

16:12

railway line towards Scott.

16:17

Again, we helpfully have your relevant representation. So we know that I think pilot, the pilot with the reference SP 006, that you're talking about, and we've, as part of our and accompany site inspection, we have been to that area will probably end up visiting again, but so I think we understand the issue there. And I've seen your submissions on that.

16:39

Just you also in your relevant rep. Presentation make a point about access at New Farm. Yeah. Would you like to raise anything else about that? While we Oh, yeah. Not at the moment. That's fine. Anything else? No, thank you very much. That's really clear.

16:58

Okay.

17:01

So finally we have Mr. Fletcher. Mr. Douglas Fletcher. Mr. Fletcher, welcome. We've also read your relevant representations, which is very helpful. But you've got up to 10 minutes now to tell us anything

else you'd like to raise? Okay, thank you very much. I'm Doug Fletcher. I also represent planet which is protect a Lumbee against the new environmental threats. We have suffered in the past in Lumbee. With a number of environmental threats, which we've successfully resolved, I suppose what I'm looking at is I haven't, we have no objection to the actual Yorkshire Green Project, we know what's going to happen here he needs to happen. However,

17:47

trying to access information from the applicant. And the responses is very, very difficult with the amount of paper that gets produced, and where are the actual clauses to refine one close to another clue. So information, you know, what should be done at a specific site? And how and when the site visits are going to occur? I can't find any info. We haven't had any information as to where that is.

18:17

And I think that's pretty important. Such people know, when the site visits going to occur.

18:25

The effect of the project on greenbelt and how the applicant is going to resolve the Greenbelt issues in the short term and then in the long term, we'd like to hear how you're going to treat biodiversity please, because it should improve after the major project and not continue to deteriorate.

18:50

The construction compounds are massive 4800 square metres each. And the visibility of those compounds on the Greenbelt is quite dramatic. Again, how you're going to shield the compounds from the visibility of coming down bass line or driving up or field line will come along the AC 63. This is a major project and it's going to create a lot of concerns when the works first start.

19:24

Traffic currently along the A 63 is a nightmare, primarily because of the two 1 million square feet developments that have been happened up at Chevron industrial estates. So traffic getting into the compound and getting out of the compound needs to be seriously addressed to prevent any accidents has already been accidents at the end of batch lane on ta 63 Because the traffic can't see around the corner, rounder bends

19:54

noise that will impact you because if you've got to 4800 square metre compounds

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I'm not quite sure what you're actually going to be doing in those compounds to be making what noise, you're going to be making

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all lorries have reversing indicators that bleep when they go backwards. And so the dumpers, and that noise

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travels quite a long way. In the atmosphere,

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we already proved suffered with that effect, the A one M, was constructed in Lumbee, we could hear all the noise that was going on that compound in the village of Lumbee, or the hamlet of Lumbee.

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Dust is another major issue, which, you know, you're going to take the vegetation soil off first. And no doubt, you'll put Crusher rundown afterwards, and the compounds that creates dust is right, if you keep watering it down to how you're going to prevent dust blowing in the prevailing winds straight into Lumbee. like to hear how you do that.

20:56

And secondly, the timeframe for all these issues. I've issued a number of, you know, points, and

21:05

one has to have time to consider what it is that and how you're going to resolve them. And obviously, you're working very, very, to a very, very tight timeframe. And I don't quite know what happens if, say, like Lee's cooperation doesn't come back the answers, does the dangerous gets delayed? Or do you just ignore the problem if somebody doesn't respond?

21:29

Thanks for your time.

21:31

I could go on, but

21:33

so you've covered an awful lot in a very short amount of time there. So thank you, that's been very useful. And I know some of those points that you've raised in your written in your relevant representation, but it's been helpful for you to expand on those points, especially when we're talking about specific areas. I know you've talked about the junction of butts lane with the A 63.

21:52

We haven't heard submissions about the industrial estates before. So that was useful. And I just assure you that all of those matters that you've just raised, are things that we've identified as matters to be examined through this examination as well. So that's when we talked about our initial assessment of principle issues this morning those those matters for factoring, there's things that we know need to be examined closely. And if you have any time to see what happens yesterday, tomorrow, and in subsequent hearings, as well, you'll see that actually, we start to get into the we'll start to get into the nitty gritty of some of those things to say

22:27

you just asked about site visits. And I just wanted to clarify that because that's something that's within our control, isn't it. And so the rule eight letter that's due out next week, and it should be sent to you, because you're interested parties that will say in it, the date of a company to site inspection. So it should be about what we mean what we've said this morning. And what I think it won't change is that Tuesday, the 23rd of May is the the date that we will be doing something accompanied.

22:55

And there may be additional time in July as well. So if that helps, so that will be confirmed. And if there are any doubts, if I know there's a lot of paper involved in this whole process from all sides. If you need to cut through that and understand what you just need to know the answer to you can always ask our case, Team colleagues, they will just be able to point you in the direction of the right document at least to give you some of those answers.

23:16

Is there anything else that you wanted to raise Miss games?

23:22

Well, I think just in response to the last point, then, um, as we said this morning, then we set deadlines, and if, for example, a local authority or anyone submits late then it will be it will take a decision as to whether it's published as a late submission, but it will be at the next deadline. And the disadvantage of that is that when we set a deadline to receive things, then there's a following deadline for people to respond to what's been received at the previous one. So it's a sort of cycle going on. And we try very hard to keep it within the cycle that we've sent within the examination timetable, but I think, as Miss Perez said, Then Miss handle and pay channel and we'll be able to help if there's documents that you want to access or or if there's particular

24:13

sort of areas of the of the project that you're interested in. So you've mentioned greenbelt and biodiversity while the biodiversity there's a section of the environmental statement that covers biodiversity. There's a separate bit about Greenbelt in the planning statement. And sometimes these things aren't necessarily all in the same place. So we do appreciate this. It's some there's a there's a lot of documentation.

24:38

But equally, you know, if there's dialogue with the applicant than I'm sure the applicant will be willing to help sort of guide you to the right areas of the application

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very much and just on that point of timescales and what happens if the time runs out then we our time does not get extended. We are we this the pressure is on now for all parties to produce

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Is the information that we need so that we have everything we need to write our report. If we don't have that information, then we have to take a view during the reporting period and put that to the Secretary of

State. So it's, it's in everyone's interest to resolve these questions during the examination. And just to final point, you mentioned the group, the planet group, your representation is made by you individually. Is that right? So your, your interests, and you're an interested party on the basis of being an individual, but is that group planning to get involved in this examination? The purpose of attending the meeting today was to assess where we are, and then then go back plan it was formed a number of years ago, yeah, the site to say, look, you know, what do you want to do to the other members Lumbee to say, look, you know, do you go in with this, that or the other, or do you want to individually respond? Now? It's quite difficult to get members of the public to respond to things which started back in 2001. Yeah. And things have changed. So

26:01

if we need to put a response in from planet as well, we will do. Okay. Okay. I understand. Thank you very much for that. So Mr. Fletcher, and in terms of planet, it would be too late for them to be an interested party, but there's another category called another person. And so at a later stage, another organisation can become part of the examination in that way. So again, mishandled can help you with that. Okay, or help plan it with that, should I say?

26:34

Okay, thank you. I'll just check with Mr. Jones, because I'm aware that I haven't called you in it. So is there anything you'd like to raise for anything that you've heard this afternoon? That's fine. Thanks. Miss powers? Yes, just a couple of points. Firstly, is just to reinforce what my other two colleagues on the examining authority have said about the importance of sticking to deadlines. And this really does become quite key, because what happens otherwise is that everything gets out of kilter. Because really, for example, it deadline two people are meant to respond to the submissions that deadline one, and then if something's late for deadline, one, people won't get to see it in time, and therefore they can't respond by deadline to win. And then it has a knock on effect throughout the entire examination. So if I could just again, you know, please ask you to try and stick to deadlines as far as possible. My other point is just what happens when the examination closes. So when, when we close the examination, we don't get to see anything else. Any information that's submitted. After our examination closes, the examining authority don't get to see we cannot take it into account. It gets sent to the Secretary of State, and they get to see that as part of their making their decision, but we will not see anything that's submitted after the examination ends. So again, I just thought I'd reinforce that point for everybody. That was all. Thank you. Helpful points. Thanks, Mr. Jones. Okay. That's everybody who we knew wanted to speak. But I'll just check for a final time if there's anybody else here today who wishes to speak that we haven't already heard from.

28:11

Okay, then I'll move on to Item four of our agenda, and I'll pass back to miss Coombs for this. Thank you, Miss Paris.

28:19

So, Mr. Attorney, um, are there any points that the applicant would like to make to clarify anything that's been said today?

28:31

Thank you, Rich attorney for the applicant. I mean, your hands a little bit as to how much you want us to say certainly, we can provide a bit of clarification, I think.

28:42

If it would help to just very briefly clarify on each of the points, we're happy to do so. But I think given the time, we were worried that we'd be extending unnecessarily and taking other people's time. But

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I think the first point to make is that

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many of the points that have been raised have been set out in relevant representations. And as I indicated this morning, we're proposing to provide a full response to those relevant representations. And I know, in respect of these issues, I've already seen draft so they are full responses that hopefully will assist both in seeing the answer but also in directing the parties to the relevant parts of the application where we say the the issue is dealt with. So that's the first overarching point

29:29

just briefly on Mr. Corrigan's comments from the British Horse Society. I just wanted to confirm, which I think matched his understanding that in respect of the interaction between the scheme and bridleways, the where there are crossing points of bridleways that are going to be affected by the proposals we're proposing that there would be any closure will be

30:00

Very short term and undertaken by a bank summoned. So in other words to allow a vehicle to pass over the bridle way, or the other way around, allow a person to pass over the route that's being used on the horse. So that's the the main interaction, which is in a couple of the locations that have been identified. So it's more a question of stopping a horse rider temporarily at most, rather than

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making somebody turn round.

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There's also a few locations where access routes are using

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existing tracks which are bridleways. And there that's a traffic management issue to make sure that that's a safe interaction between a rider and any construction traffic. But we'll set out the detail of that including the identified bridleways in our response to the relevant representation.

31:03

In response to Christine Sherman satanic Can I just say,

31:08

just on that, so my interpretation of Mr. Corrigan's irrelevant rep that he was that he was looking for

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a revised or enhanced version of the public rights of way plans? Is it your intention to do that? I don't think we're proposing to identify the different categories of public right of way because those plans are, don't serve a purpose in terms of the identification of the public rights, where it's not serving a purpose of identifying the particular rights or particular users on those routes. It's more identifying the location of those public rights of way. But I hope in the information we provide, we'll be able to direct towards the relevant parts of the management plans, which show the bridle ways which are affected. So in other words, that there'll be a shorter route to the answer than

31:59

trying to make the distinction on each and every rights of way plan as to the nature of the rights of the user over that right of way. So I don't think at the moment, we're proposing to issue a new set of plans. But I'm hopeful that the clarification that will provide in the in the response to the relevant rep will go at least some of the way to providing the comfort that he sees. So we'll let management plans have maps in them.

32:37

Yes, I think, originally for the applicant, again, they don't at the moment, so far as we can recall, in the rights management plan, but it sets out the description of the relevant, right.

32:52

But that's something that we'd be happy to take away to see if we can provide that sort of clarification by identifying

32:59

where that were those interactions are all a plan, it seems to me for the British Horse Society that something like that might be helpful.

33:09

Thank you. And also potentially, if it's not already picked up in that document, to ensure that the point about advertising and notification and notice periods or closures, a point made by again, Mr. Corrigan, whether that if that's not already picked up to ensure that that is also picked up in that it may well be?

33:28

Thank you. Well, we'll pick that up in the in the public rights of way management plan, and consider those points. Thank you.

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I was going to go on to Christine shepherds submission.

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We know the points and we're aware of

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the area of land that's been described. And if that, I think the limited interference, I think there's a major sailing of shepherds land.

33:57

We've provided an assessment of the visual effects of the pylons and indeed of the nearby substation.

34:07

I don't have the expert here. So I'm not going to go into that for the purposes of this response. But we will provide references to the relevant parts of the document to miss shepherd in response to what has been said today.

34:22

And hopefully, they'll provide some clarification as to our assessment. I suspect it's something she'll disagree with. But that's, that's our assessment as to those impacts. In respect of undergrounding, we have put in

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our planning statement and elsewhere, including the consideration of alternatives, national grids approach to undergrounding. I won't go through that now. But it's something which is not proposed generally on this scheme except where there's particular

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constraints that are required, where we have to do some cabling

35:00

But generally, this is an above ground scheme. And that's a that's a deliberate choice.

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If I can move on then to

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Merriam black again, I should say, Christine Shepard I think did not put in a relevant rap. So but we'll provide that written response with the detail in response to the what's been said today. Thank you. Yeah, that probably is more of a post hearing submission in that case. Yes. Good point. Yeah.

35:35

Marian blacker did put in a relevant rep, which we have reviewed and prepared a draft response to and will be providing a full response, as I've already indicated.

35:49

And we're well aware of her interest in the scheme. And the particular concern she raises today, in respect of the location of one particular pylon is an issue that we're aware of, and which will respond to

36:08

in your hand, Mr. Fowler can explain briefly why we cannot move the pylon in question in response, or do you want that now? Or would you like that in writing? There is a technical reason?

36:20

I think it actually might be more useful to have it in writing so that we've got it to refer to because I think all we're going to do otherwise isn't asked you to repeat it in writing anyway. So I think, if I think it's probably the best way forward today,

36:33

I think just to say we're aware of the request. It's not it's one which we've looked at, and we don't think we can consider for a technical reason. And we have prepared a written response along those lines, which

36:46

Marian blacker can look at and decide whether she wants to whether she agrees or doesn't agree with it at that stage, I think, and certainly that opportunity will exist. So once you've seen that material, you can you have the opportunity to come back on that and, and make further comments.

37:05

So moving on to

37:09

Mr. Fletcher,

37:11

and Lumbee.

37:15

Again, we've got Mr. Fletcher's relevant representation to which will respond. I'll just add that

37:23

I don't think we've met with Mr. Fletcher before, but I know that over the course of the lunch hour, we suggested that we should have a meeting with Mr. Fletcher. So we're going to try and arrange that afterwards. And hopefully that can assist in providing some of the clarity issues.

37:40

In terms of the key issues raised.

37:45

The effect on the Green Belt is obviously one which is going to be an issue for the examination, we will provide our response to that. And

37:59

matters such as why we're in the Greenbelt why we say that that's acceptable in planning terms, and so on, we'll address that as well as addressing obviously the landscape and visual impacts which we've done in the assessments to date.

38:12

And the same sort of high level point in respect of biodiversity

38:18

in respect of

38:21

the traffic issues and consequent impacts on Lumbee.

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The applicant is well aware of the issues in respect of the A 63. And the junction with bus lane, which obviously is a it's the A 63 is a very busy road. And there are issues in respect of the bus lane junction which we know have been raised by local residents, including Mr. Fletcher,

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there is a simple piece of mitigation proposed for the construction traffic which is

38:57

heading towards the compound for the substation, which is a left in left out arrangement so that there's no going to be no right turn and construction traffic, which reduces the impact of construction traffic on that junction. It doesn't stop traffic going through, but it means there's no right turning going on, which could cause more delay.

39:21

Beyond that, we've assessed obviously the impacts in respect of noise, and in respect of dust and air quality issues in the environmental statement. And in responding to Mr. Fletcher's written representation, we will

39:41

identify where those assessments are to be found.

39:44

So we'll provide that response but also hope in the meeting we'll be able to assist him in finding the relevant parts of the documents and be able to pick up any other issues that he wants to raise either in his own right or on behalf

40:00

Have planet.

40:02

So at a very high level, that's the response. But just to emphasise that it is superficial in the sense that we're going to provide a full written response to these points.

40:15

Thank you very much for that. And I think just to people who have

40:22

given us their submissions today, then then just to say that as as you heard this morning, the next thing that will happen is

40:30

we'll issue what's called our rule eight letter, which will have a lot of procedural things in it, but it will have the finalised examination timetable in it so that you'll be able to establish when the ASI is and when any other hearings might be. And attached to that will be our written questions. So you may well find that some of the questions that we're asking the applicant, and the local authorities are things that you're interested in as well. We've tried to organise those questions under topics. So they hopefully there'll be reasonably easy to sort of pinpoint into the the ones that you might be interested in. So I'd encourage you to look at our questions as well. And then at the next submission deadline, then deadline to, then you'll be able to see the applicants responses to those, but also encourage you to

41:20

put in written submissions if you if you want and

41:24

it would be helpful to us if you can do a sort of precis of what you've said today, and submit that deadline one. So I'm written sort of a written submission of what you've told us today. If that can come in as well, that would be helpful.

41:42

And just to provide some reassurance about the question of timescales as well, that I know Mr. Fletcher raised just in terms of understanding what the construction might be like if when if and when it happens, and understanding what what you know over what timeframe your area might be affected, that these are issues that we will be coming back to even in tomorrow's hearing. And I'm sure after that, too. So tomorrow's agenda, we're looking at the scope of the development, and we're looking at the way that the development consent order seeks to stage parts of the development. So these are issues that may well come up again, even tomorrow, but certainly other points of this examination to

42:20

registering for the African I'm sorry, I didn't mean to say that that certainly in respect of Lumbee, that's one of the issues on which the substation works, you've asked for us to provide a narrative and respective timetable. Mr. Fletcher, we'll do that tomorrow. Okay, lovely. Sorry, Mr. Foul.

42:38

I'm sure

42:39

Mr. Fowler will do that tomorrow.

42:42

safer, and those hearings are welcomed, everyone is welcome to attend those in person or, or virtually.

42:53

Is there anything else that anybody would like to raise?

42:59

Nothing from virtual.

43:04

So we decided to hold this hearing to provide an opportunity early in the examination people for any local people, businesses, consultants to come along and make points. So we're really grateful that some that you have done that. So I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all the speakers for your contributions and the application, sorry, applicants for your attendance and contribution. As I said, we will be assisted if we can have written versions of submissions that deadline one, which is the fifth of April, and we're acknowledging that the applicant will be providing responses also at deadline one.

43:40

You'll also know that we have time reserved for further open floor hearings, if required in May and or July. But I would observe at this point that unless we receive requests from interested parties to be heard at an open floor hearing by deadline one, then we may decide not to hold any further open floor hearings in this examination that will be dependent on on requests received.

44:04

I'm just going to ask again, if there's anything else that anybody would like to raise.

44:09

I just like to add Miss combs that there is going to be a list of action points coming out. afterwards. It's a very brief list you'll all be no doubt pleased to hear. And one of the action points is for everybody who's spoken today to please provide a written summary of what they said today, basically.

44:26

Thank you very much, Mr. Jones. Mr. Jones has been our note taker and action taker in the background. So we're really pleased that he's doing that and we don't have to do it as well as being here.

44:37

Anyway, so if there's nothing else that anyone wishes to raise, then the time is now 1443 And I'll close open floor hearing number one.

44:48

Thank you