

Application by Enso Green Holdings D Ltd for the Helios Renewable Energy Project (the Proposed Development)
The Examining Authority's written questions and requests for information (ExQ3)
Issued on 2 May 2025

The following table sets out the Examining Authority's (ExA's) written questions and requests for information – ExQ3. Consideration has been given to submissions made during the examination up to deadline 7 and they are set out under each of the Principal Issues shown in Annex C to the Rule 6 Letter dated 1 November 2024, modified as appropriate.

Column 2 of the table indicates which interested parties (IPs) each question is directed to. The ExA would be grateful if all persons named could respond fully or explain why they consider the question is not relevant to them. This does not prevent an answer being provided to a question by a person to whom it is not directed, should the question be relevant to their interests.

If you are responding to a small number of questions, answers in a letter will suffice. If you are answering a larger number of questions, it will assist the ExA if you use a table based on this one to set out your responses. Please quote the guestion reference number in your response.

Responses are due by deadline 8: 16 May 2025

## **Abbreviations Used**

Abbreviation	Definition						
BoR	book of reference						
CA	compulsory acquisition						
CEMP	construction environmental management plan						
DCO	Development Consent Order						
DESNZ	Department for Energy Security and Net Zero						
dDCO	Draft Development Consent Order						
EIA	environmental impact assessment						
EA	Environment Agency						
ES	Environmental Statement						
ExA	Examining Authority						
ExQ	Examining Authority's Written Questions						
HRA	habitats regulations assessment						
HSE	Health and Safety Executive						
IP	interested party						
LIR	local impact report						
NE	Natural England						
NGET	National Grid Electricity Transmission						
NGESO	National Grid Electricity System Operator						
NPS	national policy statement						
NSIP	Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project						

Abbreviation	Definition						
NPS-EN1	Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy						
NYC	North Yorkshire Council						
NYFRS	North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service						
оСЕМР	outline construction environmental management plan						
oDEMP	outline decommissioning environmental management plan						
OEMP	operational environmental management plan						
оОЕМР	outline operational environmental management plan						
PA2008	The Planning Act 2008						
PADS	principal areas of disagreement						
PP	protective provisions						
RR	relevant representation						
SoCG	statement of common ground						
SoS	secretary of state						
TP	temporary possession						
WR	written representation						

## **The Examination Library**

References in these questions set out in square brackets (for example [APP-010]) are to documents catalogued in the Examination Library. The Examination Library can be obtained from the following link: <a href="mailto:EN010140-000453-Examination Library Helios.pdf">EN010140-000453-Examination Library Helios.pdf</a>

It will be updated as the examination progresses.

## **Citation of questions**

Questions in this table should be cited as follows:

Question reference: issue reference: question number, for example ExQ3 1.0.1 – refers to question 1 in this table.

# Planning Inspectorate

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## ExQ3: 2 May 2025

Responses due by deadline 8: 16 May 2025

ExQ2	Question to:	Question:					
1.	Site selection and alternatives						
Q1.0.1	All IPs	Submissions included information about proximity to housing:					
		[REP5-025] Pamela Joy Spreckley on behalf of HALT includes: "Note: The World Health Organisation (Submission ID: 28466) recommends that Solar Farms should be a minimum of 2 miles from residential properties"					
		[REP5-012] on behalf of the applicant includes: "The resident stated that the World Health Organisation recommends that solar farms should be two miles from housing"					
		[REP6-043] includes "Still, in general, solar farms are required to be built at least 3 km (1.86 miles) from residential areas (26 Jul 2023) and in its submission (ID: 28466), the WHO recommends that Solar Farms should be 2 miles from residential properties."					
		The ExA could not find a submission into the examination from the WHO and notes that ID: 28466 relates to a submission into the examination of the East Yorkshire Solar Farm DCO application, EN010143-000629-Beckitt and MacMillan - Other.pdf. This is consistent with [REP7-020] 9.14 The Applicant's Responses to Deadline 6 Submissions Rev. 1.					
		In trying to find the source of statements attributed to the WHO the ExA notes this:					
		What is a Safe Distance to Live from a Solar Farm?					
		The ExA invites comments from IPs					
2.	Habitats regulations assessment (HRA)						
Q2.0.1	The applicant	To ensure completeness of information, can the applicant update the HRA Report to:					
		<ul> <li>confirm whether the Lower Derwent Valley and Humber Estuary SPA and Ramsar si are in a favourable or unfavourable condition</li> </ul>					
		<ul> <li>include the conservation objectives of the Lower Derwent Valley and Humber Estuary Ramsar sites</li> </ul>					
3.	Compulsory acquisition, tempo	rary possession and other land or rights considerations					
Q3.0.1	The applicant The ExA confirms the request for the applicant to update Annex A for each remaining deal and provide a tracked changes version where changes occur.						

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ExQ2	Question to: Question:					
4.	The draft Development Consent Order (dDCO) [REP6-003]					
4.0	General					
Q4.0.1	All IPs	All IPs are asked to review and comment on the ExA's proposed changes to the dDCO published on 2 May 2025				

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Annex A

### **Helios Renewable Energy Project:**

List of all objections to the grant of compulsory acquisition and/ or temporary possession powers ExQ2: Question 3.0

In the event of a new interest in the land, or category 3 person, being identified the applicant should inform those persons of their right to apply to become an interested party under s102A of the PA2008.

1. Obj no	2. Name/ Organisation	4. RR ref no	5. WR ref no	6. Other doc ref no	8. Permanent/ Temporary	9. Plot(s)	10. CA?	11. Status of objection

#### Column explanations:

- 1. 'Obj no' is short for objection number. All objections listed in this table should be given a unique number in sequence
- 2. The name of the person or organisation which has made the objection
- 3. Reference number assigned to each interested party (IP) and affected person (AP)
- 4. Reference number assigned to each relevant representation (RR) in the Examination Library
- 5. Reference number assigned to each written representation (WR) in the Examination Library
- 6. Reference number assigned to any other document in the Examination Library
- 7. This refers to parts 1 to 3 of the book of reference:
  - Part 1, containing the names and addresses of the owners, lessees, tenants, and occupiers of, and others with an interest in, or power to sell and convey, or release, each parcel of order land
  - Part 2, containing the names and addresses of any persons whose land is not directly affected under the order, but who "would or might" be entitled to make a claim under section 10 of the Compulsory Purchase Act 1965, as a result of the order being implemented, or part 1 of the Land Compensation Act 1973, as a result of the use of the land once the order has been implemented
  - Part 3, containing the names and addresses of any persons who are entitled to easements or other private rights over the order land that may be extinguished, suspended or interfered with under the order
- 8. This column indicates whether the applicant is seeking compulsory acquisition or temporary possession of land/ rights
- 9. The plot(s) in the Land Plan provided by the applicant to which the interest and objection relates
- 10. 'CA' is short for compulsory acquisition. The answer is 'yes' if the land is in parts 1 or 3 of the book of reference and the applicant is seeking compulsory acquisition of land/ rights
- 11. A summary of the status of negotiations with the AP