

**Application by Photovolt Development Partners on behalf of Solar Five Limited for an order granting development consent for the Botley West Solar Farm Project**

**Issue Specific Hearing 1**

**Date:** 15 May 2025

**Venue:** The Kings Centre, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES and MS Teams

**Action points**

No	Party	Action	Deadline
1	<b>Applicant</b>	Applicant to liaise with National Grid in terms of providing a response to the questions raised by the ExA regarding the progress towards delivering the new National Grid substation and protective provisions.	<b>D1</b>
2	<b>Applicant</b>	Applicant to confirm the height of the switchgear building within the NGET substation and whether that has been assessed in the Environmental Statement.	<b>D1</b>
3	<b>Applicant</b>	Applicant to confirm when land negotiations started in respect of securing land around Cowley substation.	<b>D1</b>
4	<b>Applicant</b>	Applicant to provide clarity in respect of what consideration/ weight was given to irradiance in the alternatives assessment.	<b>D1</b>
5	<b>Applicant</b>	Applicant to provide clarity in respect of the potential distance between the applicant main substation and the new National Grid substation (if delivered outside the Order limits). Given that distance, Applicant to set out what alternatives were considered for the location of the applicant main substation.	<b>D1</b>
6	<b>Applicant</b>	Applicant to explain the approach to alternatives undertaken in respect of locating the secondary substations and PCS units.	<b>D1</b>
7	<b>National Grid</b>	National Grid to confirm the parameters for joining into 400kV line, in particular whether is it possible to connect anywhere along the line.	<b>D1</b>

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8	<b>Applicant</b>	Applicant to submit the following documents into the examination: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blenheim Palace WHS Management Plan (2017) and all Appendices.</li> <li>• Guidance and Toolkit for Impact Assessments in a World Heritage Context, produced by UNESCO, ICOMOS and others</li> <li>• Conservation Area Appraisals and associated documents for Bladon, Cassington and Begbroke</li> <li>• Heritage Mapbook</li> <li>• Archaeology Evaluation Report</li> </ul>	<b>D1</b>
9	<b>Applicant</b>	Applicant to provide revised settings assessment including historic maps and greater detail on understanding of historic context that contributes to the setting.	<b>D1</b>
10	<b>Applicant</b>	In respect of heritage assets, the applicant is to do further work on assessments as to how levels of harm have been reached. Updated version of report to be provided.	<b>D1</b>
11	<b>Applicant</b>	Applicant to provide clarity on the VSC case and what is being relied upon to constitute VSC in the Green Belt.	<b>D1</b>
12	<b>Applicant</b>	Applicant to provide details of precedents of solar farms at airports, ideally in map form to demonstrate proximity of solar arrays to runways.	<b>D1</b>
13	<b>Applicant</b>	Applicant to submit Natural England research in respect of the 'lake' effect and any correlated relation to bird-strike.	<b>D1</b>
14	<b>Mr Rodgers</b>	Mr Rodgers to provide references to American research in respect of 'lake' effects and any correlated relation to bird-strike.	<b>D1</b>
15	<b>Applicant</b>	Applicant to review how community benefits are secured in Schedule 1 of the dDCO, as it appears only the food growing community areas are secured under Work No.8.	<b>D1</b>
16	<b>Applicant</b>	Applicant to provide an update in respect of the community benefit package and how the package would ultimately be secured either in the dDCO or other legislative provisions.	<b>D1</b>

No	Party	Action	Deadline
17	<b>All local authorities</b>	All Councils to provide a written response clarifying what input, if any, they had in the information the Applicant used to prepare the Environmental Statement. Were the Councils consulted upon and/ or agreed to the baseline, background data and the methodology that underpins the ES. This is for all relevant ES chapters.	<b>D1</b>
18	<b>West Oxfordshire District Council and Oxfordshire County Council</b>	West Oxfordshire District Council and Oxfordshire County Council to provide a written response in respect of their concerns regarding the 'downplaying' of effects' significance in respect of landscape, heritage and other relevant chapters.	<b>D1</b>
19	<b>Applicant</b>	Applicant to confirm what level of engagement has historically taken place with the Councils in respect of landscape (and indeed any other ES chapters)	<b>D1</b>
20	<b>Applicant</b>	Applicant to provide a response as to why aerial receptors, as potentially referred to in GLVIA3, were scoped out.	<b>D1</b>
21	<b>Applicant</b>	Applicant to provide updated arboricultural plans/ report correctly showing the cable route, location of substations and extent of solar arrays.	<b>D1</b>
22	<b>Applicant</b>	Applicant to confirm whether consideration has been given to neurodivergent people in the health assessment with regards to high hedges and footpath enclosure.	<b>D1</b>
23	<b>Applicant</b>	Applicant to provide evidence of what framework or objective method was used in terms of reaching a professional judgement in respect of acceptable risks to and from the proposed development.	<b>D1</b>
24	<b>Applicant</b>	Applicant to consider the incidents at Porth Wen Solar Farm in Anglesey, Cirencester Hybrid Solar Farm and the Verwood Solar Farm in Dorset and provide comment on any lessons learned and how these lessons may be reflected in the proposed development.	<b>D1</b>
25	<b>Applicant</b>	Applicant to respond to the technical queries raised by Interested Parties in ISH1 regarding specific climate change risks.	<b>D1</b>

No	Party	Action	Deadline
26	<b>Applicant</b>	Applicant to consider the Councils request for reduced construction hours insofar as piling activities are concerned and provide justification if not amending in light of the Council preference.	<b>D1</b>
27	<b>Applicant</b>	Applicant to consider the request that the monitoring of operational noise takes place on a regular basis to ensure the measures in the noise management plan are effective. Provide justification if maintaining the position that noise monitoring would not be undertaken.	<b>D1</b>
28	<b>Applicant</b>	Applicant to explain why the frequently used PRoW network has not been considered or assessed as a receptor to noise impacts, given the proximity of some infrastructure elements to such paths/ bridleways.	<b>D1</b>
29	<b>Applicant</b>	With regards to paragraph 12.7.18 in ES Chapter 12 [APP-049], the Applicant to confirm whether all road widening/ roundabout works would be retained for the lifetime of the proposed development, restored upon decommissioning, or whether these works would be temporary for construction purposes only.	<b>D1</b>