

Application by Photovolt Development Partners on behalf of Solar Five Limited (the applicant) for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Botley West Solar Farm

Agenda for Issue Specific Hearing 2 (ISH2):

Hearing	Date and Time	Location
Issue Specific Hearing 2 (ISH2) into Environmental Matters	Thursday 9 October 2025 Hearing Starts at 09:30am Registration and seating available at venue from 9:00am and virtual Registration Process from 9:00am	The King's Centre, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES and By virtual means using Microsoft Teams Full instructions on how to join online or by telephone will be provided in advance to those who have pre-registered

- 1. Welcome, introductions, arrangements for the Hearing**
- 2. Purpose of the Issue Specific Hearing**
- 3. Examining Authority's Questions**

Issue	Scope of Questions
3a	Development Consent Order: Articles, Requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarification matters and change request 2 • Early views on the ExA Schedule of Changes • IPs proposed changes to the DCO
3b	Flood Risk and Drainage Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cassington Parish Council, Worton Hall and Jericho Farm specific concerns • Field drainage and modification of watercourses • Remedial measures for surface water flood risk
3c	Ecology and Biodiversity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bats, habitat and commuting protection. • Farmland birds. • Biodiversity net gain. • Bird strike.

3d	Cultural Heritage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World Heritage Site matters including ICOMOS review and derivation of benefits to heritage assets • Change Request 2 and other areas proposed for exclusion • Archaeology including trial trenching and Samsons Platt
3e	Landscape and Visual <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change Request 2 and other areas proposed for exclusion • RVAA and buffer zones • Hedgerows – mitigation and decommissioning
3f	Traffic and Transportation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A40 protection • Aviation Safety including radar, thermals, ecology and defence
3g	Socioeconomics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education facility • Community growing areas • Community benefit fund • Outline Skills, Supply Chain & Employment Plan
3h	Noise and Vibration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noise management during construction • Construction period duration • Monitoring, influence of results on design and operations • Cumulative effects assessment if NGET substation outside order limits
3i	Outstanding Matters <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any other questions that the ExA wishes to ask

4. Next Steps and Hearing Actions

5. Closing

Purpose of ISH

At ISH2, we are looking for clarity on a number of environmental matters across a range of topics.

Attendees

The Examining Authority (ExA) would find it helpful if the following parties could attend this Hearing:

- Applicant
- Oxfordshire Host Authorities
- Cumnor Parish Council
- Cassington Parish Council

- Defence Infrastructure Organisation (for item 3f)
- Environment Agency
- Historic England and/ or ICOMOS representative
- Natural England
- Oxford Aviation Services

However, this does not indicate that other parties will not be able to contribute. All Interested Parties (IP) are invited to attend and make oral representations on the matters set out in the agenda, subject to the ExA's ability to control the Hearing.

The ExA has sought to provide sufficient detail to assist the parties to prepare for the ISH. The details set out above are indicative and the ExA may find it necessary to include additional agenda items or to amend the order in which the items are dealt with.

Anyone wishing to attend the Hearing in person, who has not already advised the Case Team of this, should do so as soon as possible.

The event will be livestreamed and a link for watching the livestream will be posted on the [project webpage](#) of the National Infrastructure Planning website closer to the Hearing date. IPs and members of the public who wish to observe the Hearing can therefore view and listen to the Hearing using the livestream, or view and listen to the recording, after it has concluded.

Registration Process

Parties who have registered to speak (both in person and virtually) will receive a Joining Instruction email shortly before the Hearing which will include a link to the virtual event on Microsoft Teams, and a telephone number should they need to participate by telephone. To enable the Hearing to start on time at 09:30am those attending virtually should join promptly at 9:00am. This will ensure that all virtual attendees can complete the registration process in good time.

Procedure at ISH

Guidance under the Planning Act 2008 and the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 provides that it is for the ExA to probe, test and assess the evidence through direct questions of persons making oral representations at Hearings. Questioning at the Hearing will be led by the ExA. Cross questioning of a person giving evidence by another person will only be permitted if the ExA decides it is necessary to ensure representations are adequately tested or that an IP has had a fair chance to put its case.