



# Preliminary meeting note

**Application:** Tween Bridge Solar Farm  
**Reference:** EN010148  
**Time and date:** 10:00 am 14 April 2026  
**Venue:** Mercure Danum Hotel, High St, Doncaster, DH1 1DN

*This meeting note is not a full transcript of the preliminary meeting. It is a summary of the key points discussed.*

## 1. Welcome and Introduction

Luke Simpson (LS), welcomed those present and introduced himself as the single Examining Authority (ExA) to examine the Tween Bridge application.

LS explained the appointment was made by delegation from the Secretary of State (SoS) for the Department of Energy Security and Net Zero on 8 January 2026.

LS explained that the ExA would be examining the application made by RWE Renewables UK Solar and Storage Limited ('the applicant') before making a recommendation to the Secretary of State who will decide whether an order granting development consent for the proposed project, which is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP), should be made.

LS explained the purpose of the preliminary meeting (PM) and noted that the Examination will commence after the PM closes.

The ExA confirmed that all documents and submissions received and accepted during the Examination will be published on the project-specific page of the National Infrastructure Planning website.

## 2. Audio recording

The video recording of this PM is available on the National Infrastructure Planning website and can be accessed [here](#)

## 3. General Data Protection Regulation

The ExA explained The Planning Inspectorate's duties under General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

Further info relating to the GDPR can be found in the Planning Inspectorate's '[Privacy Note](#)'.

## 4. Examination process

The ExA briefly explained the examination process under the Planning Act 2008 (PA2008), further info can be found:

- ['Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: What to expect at a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project event'](#)
- ['Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: Registering to speak at, or attend, an event'](#)

## **5. Initial assessment of principal issues**

The ExA explained the purpose of the initial assessment of principal issues (section 88 of the PA2008), which can be found in annex C of the [Rule 6 letter](#) of 16 March 2026 and asked for any observations on them.

Andrew Sireakowski (City of Doncaster Council) sought clarification on whether the upcoming hearing would address the grid connection and environmental matters together or as separate agenda items.

LS confirmed that while there may be some overlap between the two topics, they are considered distinct issues. LS confirmed that the Issue Specific Hearing would discuss the grid connection before moving on to environmental matters.

## **6. Examination Timetable**

The ExA welcomed suggestions from the parties in attendance to amend the draft examination timetable contained in annex D of [Rule 6 letter](#) and welcomed further suggestions from the parties in attendance.

The applicant outlined it's intention to submit a document detailing the implications of changes to the grid connection date for the Environmental Impact Assessment. The applicant suggested that this would be submitted at deadline 2. The ExA reserved judgement until matters were discussed further at Issue Specific Hearing 1. Since then the ExA has accepted the applicant's proposal and amended the examination timetable accordingly in the Rule 8 letter.

The examination timetable can be found in the rule 8 letter which will be published on Friday 24 April 2026.

## **7. Hearings and site inspections**

The ExA clarified the purpose of:

- Issue specific hearings
- Compulsory acquisition hearings
- Open floor hearings
- Accompanied site inspections
- Unaccompanied site inspections

The ExA sought comments on the arrangements for the above events. These were duly noted and considered by the ExA.

An Interested Party outline a concerns regarding the extent of the notifications which had taken place of the course of the pre-application and pre-examination process. The

ExA noted the concerns and asked the Interested Party to contact the case team regarding any concerns regarding notification. However, the ExA also noted that the pre-application consultation was not a process undertaken by the Planning Inspectorate.

Further information relating to hearings and site inspections can be found:

- ['Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: What to expect at a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project event'](#)
- ['Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: Registering to speak at, or attend, an event'](#)

## **8. Procedural decisions**

The ExA clarified the procedural decisions made under section 89(3) of the PA2008 and asked for any observations.

Procedural decisions can be found in annex F of the [Rule 6 Letter](#).

The applicant queried the list of fire and rescue services included for SoCGs, noting that “North Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Service” may not exist, and that responsibility lies with Humberside Fire and Rescue Service. They confirmed attempts to engage with Humberside but reported no response to date.

LS stressed the importance of resolving fire safety matters with the appropriate service to support the examination and final recommendation.

North Lincolnshire Council indicated they would encourage the fire service to engage.

City of Doncaster Council confirmed they had no further comments on the procedural decisions.

## **9. Any Other Matters**

There were no other substantive matters raised.