

**Application by Springwell Energyfarm Limited for an Order Granting  
Development Consent for the Springwell Solar Farm****Agenda for Issue Specific Hearing 2 (ISH2):**

Hearing	Date and Time	Location
<b>Issue Specific Hearing 2</b>	<b>Tuesday 15 July 2025</b>  <b>Hearing starts at 10.00</b>  Registration and seating available at venue from 09:30 and virtual registration process from 09:30	Blended event at Doubletree by Hilton Lincoln, Brayford Wharf North, Lincoln, LN1 1YW  and  By virtual means using Microsoft Teams

**Agenda****1. Welcome, Introductions, Arrangements for the Hearing**

- 1.1. The Examining Authority (ExA) will welcome participants, lead introductions, and address housekeeping matters.

**2. Purpose of the Issue Specific Hearing**

- 2.1. The ExA will explain the purpose of the Hearing.

**3. Landscape and Visual***Landscape Character*

- 3.1. The Applicant and Local Authorities will be asked questions related to whether the Proposed Development either alone or in combination with other developments would lead to large scale solar becoming a defining characteristic of the relevant Landscape Character Areas, Landscape Character Type and National Character Area.
- 3.2. The Applicant and Local Authorities will be asked questions relating to the impact on landscape character in Year 10 of operation at Springwell East.
- 3.3. The Applicant will be asked questions relating to the vegetation removal parameters (Figures 3.11A to 3.11F) [REP1-027] and how landscape and visual impacts will be accounted for in finalising the location of vegetation removal.

### *Visual Impact and Design*

- 3.4. The Applicant will be asked about the design process that is secured in the draft Development Consent Order and control documents.
- 3.5. North Kesteven District Council will be asked to expand on its concerns relating to the visual impact of highways components.

### *Glint and Glare*

- 3.6. The Applicant will be asked questions relating to the impact of glint and glare prior to Year 10 of operation and the visual impact of any temporary mitigation prior to the establishment of screening planting.

## **4. Cultural Heritage**

### *Archaeology*

- 4.1. The Applicant, Local Authorities and Historic England will be asked to provide an update to the ExA on discussions that have taken place since examination Deadline 2 regarding further work to be undertaken by the Applicant on the archaeological desk-based assessment [REP1-038].
- 4.2. The Applicant, Local Authorities and Historic England will be asked questions relating to the wording of Requirement 11 in the draft Development Consent Order [REP1-006].

### *Above Ground Heritage Assets*

- 4.3. The Applicant and Local Authorities will be asked questions relating to the impact of the Proposed Development on the setting of above ground heritage assets, including:
  - Whether the surrounding landscape contributes to the setting of the Scopwick and Blankney Conservation Areas.
  - Effects on listed farmhouses and Scopwick Mill.
  - Effects on non-designated farmsteads both individually and in relation to their collective value.

## **5. Noise and Vibration**

- 5.1. The Applicant will be asked questions relating to impacts associated with Horizontal Directional Drilling in the construction phase.
- 5.2. The Applicant will be asked questions relating to noise impacts and the experience of users of public rights of way during both the construction and operation phases.

## **6. Procedural Decisions, Review of Actions and Next Steps**

## **7. Closing Remarks**

### **Purpose of ISH2**

The main purpose of the Issue Specific Hearing is to clarify and get views on matters relating to each of the subjects set out in the agenda above.

### **Attendees**

The ExA would find it helpful if the following parties could attend this hearing.

- Applicant
- Lincolnshire County Council
- North Kesteven District Council
- Historic England

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 hearing. 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 10.00 those attending virtually should join promptly at 09.30 to ensure that all virtual attendees can complete the registration process in good time.

### **Procedure at ISH2**

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.