

# **Hearing Transcript**

Project:	Beacon Fen Energy Park
Hearing:	Preliminary Meeting (PM)
Date:	25 September 2025

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The video recording published on the Planning Inspectorate project page is the primary record of the hearing.

# Preliminary Meeting\_Session1 \_23.09.2025

# **Speaker 1** 00:06

Good morning. Can I check that everyone can hear me clearly at the

#### 00:16

moment? We can thank you, sir.

#### **Speaker 1** 00:18

Oh, thank you very much. Good morning everyone. It is now 10 o'clock and it's time for this meeting to begin. I would like to welcome you all to the preliminary meeting for the beacon fan energy Park project. An application made by Beacon fan energy Park limited who will be referring to as the applicant. Can I also confirm with production 78 or the case team that the live streaming and recording of this event has commenced,

#### 00:46

I confirm. Thank

# **Speaker 1** 00:49

you very much. My name is Andre Pinto and I am a charge town planner employed by the planning inspectorate, and I have been appointed by the Secretary of State for Housing Communities and Local Government as a single examining inspector to examine this application, I'll be reporting to the Secretary of State for energy security net zero with a recommendation as to whether development consent should be made. You also hear me being referred to as the examining authority. The case manager for this project is Noelle margoum, Noel is being supported today by her Priya Kawar. If you have any queries about examination process or technology we are using for virtual events, they should be your first point of contact. The contact details can be found at the top of any letter you have received from us or on the project page of the national infrastructure website. I will now deal with a few housekeeping matters before we continue. First of all, I would like to stress that today is a virtual event being held on Microsoft Teams platform. In order to minimize background noise, can you please make sure that you stay muted unless you are speaking, if you wish to speak at relevant point proceedings, please use the hand up function. Please also be patient. Be patient. As I may not get to you immediately, but I will invite you to speak at an appropriate time. I would also like to remind people that chat function on Microsoft's team has been deactivated, so please do not try to use this if you don't manage to ask your question or raise your point at relevant time, there'll be an opportunity at the end of the meeting and any other business before we close this meeting. I don't think we have any telephone participants today, but if we do, you should clearly state your name if you wish to make a comment, once you have indicated that you wish to speak, please wait to be invited before making a contribution. Please speak loudly and clearly, especially those that are on the telephone. We are conducting this event virtually, rather than as a physical, face to face event or a hybrid event, and therefore the dynamics will be different than those of previous events. By this, I mean that you may see me looking away from the camera and not directly at the speaker. This is because I may be writing notes on

looking at other material on screens, but please be assured that I am paying close attention to what is happening. Are there any queries on any of these matters before we proceed? I don't see any hands raised, therefore, I assume that there are no queries on this matter. I aim to keep the proceedings focused and efficient, as efficient as possible. To assist this, I issued an exp to my letter which invited you to this meeting. The rule six letter that annex sets out an introduction to the preliminary meeting process. I trust that you have all read this in advance, as I will only be providing a summary, you will find information about this application on the planning inspectorates national infrastructure planning website, and we would strongly encourage you to familiarize yourself with this website, because I will be using it to communicate with you and to provide access to documents through the examination a recording of today's meeting will be made available on the beacon fan section of the national infrastructure planning website as soon as practicable after the meeting has finished. With this in mind, please ensure that you speak clearly into a microphone, stating your name in who you are representing each time before you speak, a link to the planning inspectors. Privacy notice was provided in my rule six letter. I assume that everybody who's here today has familiarized themselves as well with this document, which does which establishes how the personal data of our customers is handled in accordance with the principles set out in data protection laws. Please speak to Noel Margot if you have any questions about this. This meeting will follow the agenda as set out in Annex A of the rule six letter and. It would be helpful if you have a copy of this in front of you. However, I will share the agenda on screen now, so please bear with me for one second while I do that.

#### 05:26

Can someone confirm to me, please that they can now see the agenda?

#### 05:31

We can. Thank you. You

## **Speaker 1** 05:33

can. Thank you very much. Let me briefly explain the purpose of this preliminary meeting. The purpose of this morning's meeting is to focus, is to focus on the way in which this application is proposed to be examined. On that basis, I will only be inviting discussions about procedural aspects of this examination. The purpose of this meeting is not to discuss either the merits or any concerns that you may have regarding the application itself, the merits or concerns can only be considered once the examination of the application begins. Which is Which happens following the close of the preliminary meeting. Now, before I ask those who are participating today, can I just ask if anyone has any queries on what I have just set out in on the agenda for this hearing.

# Speaker 1 06:35

I don't see any hands raised before I assume that no one has any queries on the agenda as set out. So I will take this off the screen now. Thank you.

#### **Speaker 1** 06:53

I would I would also like to state that I was previously acquainted with a member of the applicants team. This has been disclosed to the Secretary of State, and considering that I have had no contact or communication of any kind with that member of the applicants team for a period of over 15 years, there

has been it has been deemed that there is no conflict of interest, it is therefore my intention to proceed as the examining authority. Can I just ask if anyone have has any concerns regarding this issue?

# **Speaker 1** 07:33

I don't see any hands raised, therefore I assume that no one has any concerns regarding that. So I am going to ask now those of you who are participating today to introduce yourselves when I state your organization's name, could you please introduce yourself, stating your name and who you are representing in which agenda item you wish to speak on, if you're not representing an organization, please confirm your name, summarize your interest in the application and confirm the agenda item upon you wish to speak. And can I also ask you to please confirm how you wish to be addressed, either Mr. Mrs. Niece or miss, and also any relevant titles or qualifications that might be useful for today's imagination examination? Can I ask? Can I start with the applicant, please? I believe Mr. Ian Mack,

#### **Speaker 2** 08:30

that's right. Good morning, sir. My name is Ian Mack. I'm a solicitor from Herbert Smith three hills Cramer, who are the appointed legal advisors for the applicant on this scheme. We've got other members of the project team in attendance with me today. However, I imagine that insofar as you're looking for responses or inputs from the applicant today, it will either be myself or Mr. Jim Hartley bond, who is the project development director and is sitting immediately to my left. To the extent that there are any other contributors, then I'll ask them to introduce themselves on behalf of the applicant at that appropriate time, but otherwise it will just be me and Mr. Hartley bonds both. Mr. Is fine for for us. Thank you.

#### **Speaker 1** 09:16

Okay. Thank you very much. Mr. Mac Welcome. Mr. Hartley bond. Then in that case, then, if that concludes the introductions from the applicants team, I will now move on to other organizations and individuals that have provided notice of the intention to speak. Can I start please with Mr. Shamal shake, Mr.

#### **Speaker 3** 09:41

Shake. Yes, good morning, sir. Good morning. Shake. I'm of Council. I'm instructed to act on behalf of norcusteven District Council. I'm joined today by Mr. Nick beltham, who's the development manager, and Ms Sylvia bland, who's an inset planning consultant. At the council. I'm not sure extent to which they'll engage in participation. It'd probably just be me, but insofar as they do, they're likely to.

#### **Speaker 1** 10:12

Thank you very much, Mr. Shake, can I just confirm you said that you are joined today by Miss bland. I do not have a record of MS bland. Having dialed into this meeting today, is she still expected?

#### **Speaker 3** 10:31

I'll just pause on that. I know she is either observing or on another link, so I think she's here, but I'll just have a separate conversation set up without constructing me. So I'll just pause and check, but I think fine. Here is some capacity,

## **Speaker 1** 10:47

that's fine. Mr. Check. I just wanted to confirm that as far as I can see, she doesn't seem to have darling to yet. So thank you very much. So welcome. Mr. Shaken Welcome. Mr. Felton. Can I move on then to, I believe Mr. O'Sullivan.

#### **Speaker 4** 11:08

Good morning, sir. I work for the South and East Lincolnshire partnership, and today I'll be representing Boston Borough Council. The only item that I wish to speak on was in regard to the draft examination timetable, where we'd made a point on one of the deadlines.

#### **Speaker 1** 11:30

Yes, okay. Thank you very much, Mr. O'Sullivan, noted in terms of your wish to participate on draft timetable. Again, I now ask, I believe, Miss Hall, to introduce herself, please,

## **Speaker 5** 11:47

Good morning, sir. Good morning, Captain. Miss Stephanie Hall, representing Lincolnshire county council. I'm joined by Miss Justine Foster, who you should see on the attendees list. Miss Foster is the infrastructure manager at Lincolnshire County Council. We would like to address you, I think, on items four and or seven, depending both, both may raise issues in relation to the timetable and hearings.

#### Speaker 1 12:14

Okay, that's that's noted. Thank you very much. Sorry for my records. Miss Hall, can I just confirm to you how you'd like to be addressed. Was it miss, miss or miss? I wasn't.

# **Speaker 5** 12:24

I'm happy with either, but I usually go by Miss.

#### **Speaker 1** 12:28

Okay, thank you very much. Thank you very much. And Mrs. Foster Correct.

#### 12:35

Apologies. So yes, that's correct, yes.

#### **Speaker 1** 12:37

Okay, so welcome, welcome Miss Hall, and welcome Mrs. Foster, right? I believe we also have Mr. Scott.

#### **Speaker 6** 12:55

Hello, Mr. Scott. Nicholas Scott, I'm the chairman of yerby and evening parish council.

#### 13:05

Okay? Thank you very much, Mr. Scott,

# **Speaker 6** 13:08

that's it. I'm afraid I don't have any lawyers or land agents with me.

#### **Speaker 1** 13:12

That is, that is fine. You're very much welcome, Mr. Scott, can I just confirm with you I believe that when you signed up via the attendance form. You have mentioned that you would like to speak at pm on item three. But I believe, can I just confirm that that is correct? Because I believe that you described this decommissioning, and that's obviously not item three. Item three is initial assessment of principal issues. So can I just clarify if that's the item that you want to speak on?

## **Speaker 6** 13:46

Yeah, you're going to have to excuse me. I'm a bit of a layman on these, and we don't have funds for support on it. So I've been trying to read through and navigate this process for the first time, which is obviously quite difficult. I see that item three is the item where you explain what and how you're going to go about the inspection. There's a bunch of things, obviously, that we're interested in as a community about how all that works. So decommissioning is yes, one of them. But to be honest, I'm getting educated by you guys as we go through this process. And so that was the input that I wanted to understand, is how and what you're going to be reviewing, as you said in your introduction.

# **Speaker 1** 14:36

Okay, that's fine. Mr. Scott understood, and we aim to help, but that's why I wanted to clarify what the intentions were, so I could actually point you to the best item for you to participate in. But if that is your query, then I do believe probably the best item will be item three on today's agenda. So please do. Raise your hand when we are going through item three, so I make sure that we can invite you to participate. That's okay.

#### 15:11

Thank you. Thank you. Right.

# **Speaker 1** 15:14

Is there anyone else that wish to speak today that I have not called already, already.

## **Speaker 1** 15:27

Now, I don't think there is okay. So if anybody else decides that they wish to speak during the course of this morning's proceedings, for example, to make comments in response to representations made by other parties. You may be able to do so, but please raise your hand using the function within Microsoft Teams if you wish to speak. Are there any other comments anyone wishes to make under agenda item one? If there are, please raise your hand.

## **Speaker 1** 16:09

I don't see any hands raised before. I don't think there is any comments that anyone wants to raise in this agenda item, self proposed. We move on to item two of the agenda item, told the agenda is examining authorities, remarks about the examination process. So in order to streamline the running of this event, in Annex B of the rule six, letter are providing an introduction to the preliminary meeting and the examination process, explaining how it will be conducted and how you can participate. For

expediency, I'm assuming that everyone has read this, and therefore don't, I don't propose to spend time reading it out now, but it is important that you are clear in your understanding of the process. Therefore, is there anything that you are unclear about and that you need to clarify? This is the opportunity to ask now. So can ask if anyone is unclear on any of the things that were set up in Annex B of the rules six letter. I don't see any hands raised, so I assume that there are no questions. So on the basis of the information set in Annex B, I propose, if there are not any specific points to make regarding regarding the examiner table, and if you have any specific points to make regard to draft time table, can I ask these to be raised later on under Agenda Item four, it is also My intention, subject to resource availability to hold the hearings proposed for week commencing the 10th of November as hybrid events. This means that there will be a virtual and a face to face component to these hearings. Can I ask if anyone would object to the XA holding those hearings as hybrid events? Right, raise your hand please. If no one has any comments to make, then I assume that there are no objections. And that concludes my remarks on the item two, are there any questions on item two? Then before I go to Item three,

# **Speaker 1** 18:32

I don't see any hands raised, so I assume that there are no questions and item two. So propose we move to Item three, initial assessment of principal issues for this item, it would, it would be useful if you have an XC of the rule six letter in front of you. I do not propose to go through the assessment in detail, but this list provides an initial framework of the issues for the examining, for the examination going forward, though, it does not preclude me from amending the list by removing or adding to the issues. At a later stage in the process, I have received them a specific request to participate in this in this item by Mr. Scott, but before I invite him to participate, can I just ask if anyone has any comments that they would like to make on initial assessment of visible issues besides Mr. Scott, I don't see any hands raised, therefore, Mr. Scott, can I ask you now if you would like to then make your comments on on this specific agenda, Item, please. Item, please.

#### **Speaker 6** 19:47

Yeah, sure. I mean, I was looking to see what opportunity I have to meet with you as you go through this stage. We, as a community, we don't have. A lot of resources to help us through this process. So I was wondering what opportunity I have to speak with you directly.

#### **Speaker 1** 20:10

Thank you for that question, Mr. Scott, and an opportunity to clarify the situation. So my role as in xem link inspector is dependent on the fact that I am impartial, and therefore I am precluded to have any conversations with either party in isolation. Therefore I am afraid that there will be no opportunity for you to communicate solely with me directly, however, you can always communicate with me via the submission of either written representation at the specific deadlines set out within the timetable, or via posing questions at one of the hearings that we will be holding in the Future in the next five months. So I would urge you to use those opportunities in order to communicate with us and with me specifically. Does that answer your question? Scott, Scott,

#### **Speaker 6** 21:13

yes, that does, and I understand that. Thank you.

#### **Speaker 1** 21:18

Thank you very much. Is there any other issue that you would like to raise under item three?

#### **Speaker 6** 21:25

No, I think that clarifies it, and I understand what you're now saying, that I feed it in through those hearings, in that process, rather than in this particular format Forum. Thank you,

# **Speaker 1** 21:38

exactly. Thank you very much. If any further considerations or comments arise to anyone following from this meeting, I would urge you to please submit any comments to us by deadline one, and that will be on seventh of October 2025, so if no one has any further questions on Item three, I propose that we move to item four. No further questions. Then please raise your hand. If you do, I don't see any hands raised. Therefore, I propose that we move on to item four. Then draft examination timetable. So for this item, it would be so if you have an XD of the rules, etc, in front of you. In the interest of brevity, again, I don't propose reading this fully out now, but I will highlight some key points. So NXT sets out the draft examination type table for the next five months, from today until completion, proposed for Monday the 23rd of February, 2026 as mentioned in rule six, the exci is under duty to complete examination of the application by the end of a period of six months. However, the exci may decide to close the examination earlier, and in this case, on the date previously specified, if it considers that the application and relevant matters have been examined adequately. Annex D includes the draft dates for hearings and deadlines for the submission of written documents. It also includes dates for the examining authority to issue documents, such as the rule eight letter, our first set of written questions in the final itinerary for accompanied site inspections, our proposed schedule of changes to the draft dcl, the development consent order and the report on implications for the European sites. Please note that time for submissions on each date, on each day to date, is the 23rd is 2359 one minute to midnight, as detailed in timetable and as soon as possible, after this week's hearings, I will issue the rules eight, letter, which finalizes the timetable. At the same time, I will also issue the first set of written questions. I can also, if I consider it necessary, at any point during the examination, issue a specific request for information from named parties. This is known as a rule 17 letter an accompanied site inspection may be held in a week commencing the 10th of November, with the final itinerary for the accompanied site inspection to be issued by the examining authority at least five working days before the date of the accompanied site inspection. I will talk more about site inspections Under Item seven. So I would ask you to hold any questions on site inspections until we reach that specific agenda item. However, I will invite now submissions in relation to the draft examination timetable, and I believe that Mr. Mrs. Miss Foster, Mrs. Foster apologies and Miss Hall, you have highlighted that you would like to intervene on this point. So can I invite you to. To do that,

# **Speaker 5** 25:01

please. Thank you. So it's actually a point about, about hearings. I'm not sure whether it fits best here under item seven, but if you're happy to take the submission now, I can make it quickly. It's more about the subject matter of future issue specific hearings,

#### **Speaker 1** 25:16

right? In that case, then if it is about that, can ask you to please, yes, wait until, until item seven, then. And I'm assuming that that's the same comment that Mrs. Foster would like to make as well.

# **Speaker 5** 25:31

From Yeah, so I'm representing, I'll be speaking on behalf of Lincolnshire. So yes, if there's a comment for Lincolnshire, it can be directed

# **Speaker 1** 25:38

to me. Thank you very much, right? Is there anyone else that would like to make any comments regarding the draft dissemination timetable? Mr. O'Sullivan,

#### **Speaker 4** 25:52

thank you, sir. It was just in relation to Deadline five, really, obviously, deadline five, the main purpose of it was in relation to the ex age written questions to the deadline is currently set for the 29th of December. And in our response to your rule six letter, we made a request to extend that slightly on the basis that we will need internal departments to answer those questions, and it's unlikely that everyone is going to be available at that particular time in terms of the Christmas holidays. In in our response to your rule six, we suggested that perhaps it could, if it could be extended to the fifth of January to allow us that just a little bit more time to be able to respond. Obviously, sir, we don't know whether there will be one two of three sets of written questions, but if there are two sets of written questions that will just help the Borough Council be able to respond indeed, if the questions are directed at the Borough Council.

## **Speaker 1** 27:07

Okay, thank you very much for that comment. Mr. Sullivan, before I reply to you directly, can I just invite the applicant to come in on this point as well?

#### **Speaker 2** 27:18

Please. Thank you. So you'll have seen from our similar submission to the procedural deadline that we also commented on this particular deadline, we went in the opposite direction and asked if it could be pulled forward to either Christmas Eve or the other day before to try and accelerate that information, and which had a knock on implication for the release of the questions. So we asked if they could be released slightly earlier in December, if it assists. We were relatively agnostic as to whether it goes the other side. And so it's Mr. O'Sullivan suggestion of around January 5. The only comment we'd make on that is that the subsequent deadline, deadline six of Monday, the 12th of January, which will require, amongst other things, responses to the responses submitted about deadline, I think will be quite tight. So I think we, I think if you were moving that way, we'd ask if you'd consider shifting deadline six by a similar amount of days, which should still hopefully give you time to consider ahead of the proposed release of deferred questions, if they're if they're used on the 26th of January. So we're sort of happy either way, as long as there's some correlative thought to the early related deadlines.

# **Speaker 1** 28:32

Right? Thank you very much for that intervention. Mr. Mack, can I just so in terms of your comment, Mr. Sullivan, and actually the applicant's comment as well, this specific deadline, as you can imagine, was

subject to a lot of internal conversations before it was set by DXA, and I am afraid that that specific deadline has been set for that date due to the need for us to secure enough resources for us to actually publish and process specific deadline. So in terms of changing it, I am afraid that that would have a knock on effect on how we have organized our own internal resources in order to be able to provide that. But also you'll have a knock on effect in terms of our release of the second round of written questions in the third round of written questions. And therefore, I am afraid that it is very unlikely, I would say now, for us to be able to change that specific deadline I do appreciate, and I do know and see that it is particularly difficult for it falling between Christmas and New Year. But the options were, well, the only one. Option was to actually put it before Christmas, which Mr. O'Sullivan, I am guessing that that's going to be against your request, because you wanted more time rather than less. And that was the only other option that we actually considered, because that would actually be two weeks after the release of the questions, which is normally a reasonable time that we give to all interested parties, and also sorry, constitutes to respond to written questions. And considering the time of the year, we have actually pushed that back to three weeks. So I am afraid that we will not be in a position, really, to push that back to four weeks at that period of time. How will that sit with you? Mr. O'Sullivan,

# **Speaker 4** 30:56

it was just a case of trying to manage resources. I know from experience that internal staff probably won't be working that week. I know from experience I definitely won't be working that week. It was a case of managing results, trying to manage resources, to see whether there was a possibility to move it by understand that by moving it, it potentially then has a knock on effect for other deadlines,

#### **Speaker 4** 31:33

if it was earlier or if the deadline stays where it is. Can you submit something earlier than that deadline? Or does it have to be on that deadline?

## **Speaker 1** 31:43

I was going to actually suggest that as well, so there is nothing to prevent you from submitting any any answers to any questions that might be directed to Boston council or that Boston might want to reply to earlier than the deadline, so that that will be more than acceptable, but obviously it would, in order to give people more time at that specific time of the year, we have actually pushed it a week ahead then perhaps what we would have normally set exactly because of consideration of it being at a challenging time of de in terms of annual leave and school holidays.

# **Speaker 4** 32:28

Yeah, I think that from the borough's point of view, we were just trying to see whether there was any room to move that deadline slightly so that it would help. It may be that we may have to consider at the point when the the ex says questions are issued, whether we actually answer those earlier than that deadline to accommodate the fact that it's unlikely that everyone's going to be In the office for for that actual deadline. And again, I guess to some extent, we're crystal ball gazing in that you may not have a you may not have a second set of examiner's questions, or it may be that you don't ask the Borough Council questions within there as well. So it was, it was more Okay, Sarah of raising it as a as a potential issue, and if it can't be moved, then it may be that if there are questions and we make our submission earlier than that deadline, that

#### **Speaker 1** 33:39

that that it is for the reasons that I have specified, just in terms of internal resources and resources needed to actually publish and deal with deadlines. I am afraid that that time of these particularly tricky, and that was the best date that we could, that we could find. So I am very limited in terms of my scope to change that at the moment. Thank you. Can I turn on to Mr. Mac please?

# **Speaker 2** 34:07

Thank you. So that's that's all understood, and I think we understand and appreciate the reasons why I can't shift to the right, so to speak, to sort of echo Mr. Sullivan. I suspect the practical reality of that is most people who respond to that deadline will do so prior to to Christmas, which falls on Thursday the 25th and so with that in mind, I did wonder, I wasn't sure, if your response earlier clarified that there was any scope to move publication of the questions from Monday the eighth of December to slightly earlier the week before, just to give people slightly longer, and if the answer to that is no because of similar resource deadlines, I wonder whether you could also consider publication of maybe draft questions after the hearing, which you could then supplement. So again, just give people a bit of advance notice. You don't need to give an answer now, but I just asked ask you to consider if there was any flexing. Ability around that to give people slightly longer so they could get it in. That's the limit at that point.

# **Speaker 1** 35:05

Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Mac for that. For the reasons I have specified, I don't think that we can actually change deadline five either way, because the issue in terms of the resources available and time needed to process would be the same for that three week period, if you would like. So within those three weeks, I'm very limited in terms of what I can change. However, I will consider the possibility of any draft questions being issued a little bit earlier, if possible, I will definitely consider that that's fine. Obviously, I cannot commit to that at this point in time, but I will certainly consider that as a possibility once we get closer to that specific deadline. But what I would also highlight is that obviously, because of the deadline for submission of any post hearing submissions following the hearings week commencing the 10th of November, that will also have a knock on impact in terms of when we can process and when we can actually digest information in order to formulate the next set of written questions. Does that clarify? Mr.

#### **Speaker 2** 36:30

Mac, it does. Thank you. So, yeah, no, that's that's all understood, and we appreciate any steps you can take to help with that.

#### **Speaker 1** 36:37

Thank you very much. Will do, right? Can I ask if there are any further questions on Item four before we move on to Item five of the agenda? I don't see any hands raised, so I assume that there are no further questions on item four. I purpose we then move on to Item five, procedural decisions made by the examining authority. For this item. We'll turn to annex g of the rule six letter, where you will note that I have made a number of procedural decisions on the following matters in relation to statements of common ground I have asked the applicant to prepare, in addition to the statements of in addition to the

statements of common ground already submitted to examination, statements with South Kim, parish council, you will be an eve then parish council, black Swiss, internal drainage board, the Environment Agency, the Forestry Commission, Historic England, Natural England and national highways. I have also made a request for any interested parties to submit suggested locations for the exit visit as part of an ASI by procedural deadline, a and for the applicant to prepare a draft itinerary for the ASI that is accompanied site inspection to be submitted by deadline one, that is the seventh of October 2025 I have made a procedural decision to request local impact reports from host local authorities to also be submitted by deadline one. I have also requested the applicant to respond to all relevant representations by deadline one. And in relation to written representations, I have made a procedural decision for those to be submitted by deadline one and for the applicant to respond to our written representations by deadline two. I have also requested as a procedural decision for the applicant provided each deadline an updated status of the applicants examination documents for ease of all parties. Finally, I have also made a procedural decision to accept additional submissions from Peterborough City Council, Rutland County Council, European parish council and the applicant. These have all been published and included in the examination library. I have not received any specific requests to speak on this agenda item, but can I ask if anyone would like to make any comments on what I have just set out and Item five,

#### **Speaker 1** 39:17

I don't see any hands raised, so I assume that there are no questions or comments that anyone would like to make under this item, but if anything does arise following from this meeting, please do submit any comments to us by deadline, 1/7 of October. 2025, I will then move us on to agenda item six, the applicants updates for this item it is, it would be useful if you have an xe of our rule six letter in front of you, annexe of the rule six letter provides further details in relation to matters which DX I would like the applicant to provide up to date information at each point of the examination. These include statements of common. Ground updates to the book of reference, statements of recent and land plans. Detailed land in rights negotiation tracker, for the reasons set out in annexe, a detailed land in rights negotiation tracker has been requested of the applicant. Updates to the draft eco and explanatory memorandum, an application guide with the up to date status of the applicant's examination documents and an update, an update to the other consents and licensing and licenses statement determining the status of each necessary consent. Again, I have not received any specific requests from anyone to speak under this agenda item. But can I ask if anyone would like to comment?

#### **Speaker 1** 40:51

I don't see any hands raised on this specific item. So again, if anything does arise following from this meeting, please do submit any comments to us by deadline. One gets seventh of October 2025 I will now then move us on to item seven of the agenda hearings and site inspections. For this item, it would be useful if you have NXP, NXT and NX f of the rule six section in front of you. So first of all, I would like to say that I am proposing to hold the first issue specific hearing tomorrow. I am also not proposing to hold an open floor hearing later on today, as I have had now, interested parties expressing an interest in attending this specific hearing, I have reviewed the event participation form circulated with the rule six letter, and now interested parties signed up for the open floor hearing. In light of this, I am making the decision not to hold the open floor hearing this afternoon. However, I would like to remind you all that I have included an opportunity for another open floor hearing to be held, if needed, week

commencing the 10th of November. This is subject to any requests being received by interested parties to have an open for hearing and to be heard in the request must reach us by deadline, one which is Tuesday, seventh of October. So I would urge anyone that would actually like to address the examining authority on an open floor hearing where any IP can raise any of the issues that they would like to raise and bring to the attention of the exci to do so open for hearings, as I said, as I said, are opportunities for individuals and community groups to put their views forward verbally to the examining authority. It is up to individuals that which to participate to decide which topics they would like to raise with the XA. However, any intervention should be based on representations previously made in writing and not simply repeat matters previously covered in a written submission, but rather provide further detail and explanation to help inform the examining authority the issue specific hearing one scheduled for tomorrow will consider general matters need, site selection and alternatives, water, environment and flood risk and access and traffic issues. An agenda for this meeting has been issued on second of September, 1 Thursday, the 25th of September has been reserved for the continuation of ish one in case it's needed and all items are not covered, to the satisfaction of the exci. In addition to this, the draft examination timetable also proposes for the hearings and an accompanied site inspection if needed to be held week commencing 10th of November. This includes a compulsory requisition hearing any specific hearings that the exam may need, and an open floor hearing if required, as I mentioned previously. I will confirm the dissipated format of any hearings to be held during the examination stage, when I provide formal notification of each hearing at least 21 days in advance of it taking place. However, I would like to stress again that it is my intention, my intention, subject to adequate resources being available, to hold the hearings proposed for week commencing the 10th of November as hybrid events, this would also then facilitate the accompanied site inspection, if needed to be held at same week as proposed. Now I have received some requests to speak on these items all now invite those comments, and I would like to start with inviting Miss Hall please.

#### **Speaker 5** 44:46

Thank you, sir. Just to note a couple of points, firstly, about issue specific hearing one, so just for your note that comes at a point where where our local impact report has been published but has not been approved by. Members. So there's a limit to our involvement in issue specific hearing. One will come with a caveat, which is that we can engage to a certain extent, but until our direction of travel and particular submissions have been approved by council in terms of the members, then that is subject to change. So there is really, for us a focus on the week commencing the 10th of November, issue specific hearings. And we were very grateful to hear your indication earlier that you would propose to hold those as hybrid events. That would have been something that I would have been asking for, given that we noticed that this week is held online, no doubt for understandable reasons, but that some members of the public do struggle to engage when they're fully, fully remote. And we were concerned, I think, that people hadn't taken the opportunity to get involved in the open floor hearing, and would hope that that might be encouraged by holding a hybrid or in person event in November. So I'm very grateful for that. So in terms of the subject matter of the 10th of November, issue specific hearings, we just had just a request, we'd ask you to consider having on the agenda for those hearings, cumulative effects in particular,

#### 46:19

together with land use and soils and the draft DCO, finally.

# **Speaker 5** 46:28

So just to note that we may wish to revisit flood risk at that point. At the moment, you may have seen our LIR has been published but not submitted because it hasn't been approved yet, but our case on flood risk tomorrow is just that we'd like some more information, and if that additional information is provided by the applicant, that may be something that needs to be revisited by by Lincolnshire county council at that point, either so in an issue specific hearing in November, or in writing. But just to make you aware,

## **Speaker 1** 46:58

okay, thank you. Thank you very much for that. Miss Hall, just to address a couple of points that you have raised. So first of all, in terms of your local impact report, you have mentioned that this is at moment, being approved or subject to approval from from Council, can I just ask if you anticipate you having any problems submitting the local impact report by deadline one? No, sir, no, we

#### **Speaker 5** 47:31

will meet deadline one. It's just in terms of tomorrow's hearing, at that point we wouldn't have an approved report. Okay?

#### **Speaker 1** 47:38

Thank you very much for that. In terms of subject matters for ish one, I will take those into consideration. As you know, it will be up to the examining authority to actually decide what matters are going to be subject to any further hearings, but I'll definitely take those requests into consideration. And thank you very much for pointing those issues out to me Miss Hall. Finally, in terms of the flood risk noted, and may I also remind that following ish one, there will be also written questions issued shortly after, and then there will also be an opportunity for Lincolnshire county council to actually submit to whatever views that they might have in terms of flood risk as part of the written process. So that would definitely be welcomed as well. Thank you, sir. Okay. Thank you very much. Can I ask if anyone else would like to make any comments on this specific point. Mr.

#### **Speaker 3** 48:49

Shake, yeah, yes, thank you. So just to repeat some of the comments that have been made by the county council, the first point is we equally welcome the opportunity to have hybrid events for the same reason. So again, we welcome that it just in respect of other topics that we think are important, in respect of Ishs to come in addition to soils and so agricultural land and BMV and the draft DCO, we also think, on the basis of our LIR that heritage and ecology are important matters for North Stephen district councils, and so we invite consideration of the extent to which they might form part of the issue specific hearing topics as well.

#### **Speaker 1** 49:34

Okay, thank you for that confirmation. Mr. Can I just ask you? You mentioned ecology, that can actually be quite a broad, specific subject. Is there any further information that you can advance on that?

#### **Speaker 3** 49:50

Now have to pause and just take instructions on that. So I think it should become clear, RLR has gone through committee, so we. Quite the same position as county, but our specific concerns are set out in the LIR. So I think it will become clear if, if I don't have anything more to say at this stage.

## **Speaker 1** 50:09

Okay, thank you very much for that, Mr. Sheik, and your comment in terms of hybrid events is obviously noted, as well as the other topics that you have mentioned in terms of future, any future hearings that we might hold. Thank you very much. Can I ask if anyone else would like to make any comments on this specific agenda item? Raise your hand, please.

#### **Speaker 2** 50:36

Sorry, sorry, I haven't, I haven't raised, raise the hand. But if no one else comes in, we don't have any comment to make on the prospective hearings, which we're happy for you to consider and determine as appropriate. In respect of the ASI, we did have an update that we could offer following the suggested locations we put in at the procedural at the recent procedural deadline and those offered by others, if that was

#### **Speaker 1** 50:59

helping. Yes, I'm about to turn to that specific topic now in my notes, but thank you very much for that. And just Mr. Mac, can I just remind you to please when you intervene, just confirm your name for the record. If that's okay. I know it takes a while to get used to that, but if you could please that would be very helpful for our recordings, for the reasons I have explained. Thank you very much. Right before we move on, then, are there any other comments that anyone would like to raise?

## **Speaker 1** 51:42

I don't see any hands, right? So I will then continue. So as I have mentioned, I will now want to turn to accompanied site inspections. So I have already made an accompanied site inspection from publicly accessible land on 24th of July, 2025 the inspection was principally undertaken in order to view the application site and surrounding area for publicly accessible land, including highways and public rights of way by car and on foot. The note of this inspection is available to view on the project web, web page of the national infrastructure website, and they have the examination, Library of reference, PD 002, an accompanied site inspection is provisionally scheduled in draft timetable for week commencing the 10th of November. The final itinerary will be published at least five working days in advance of different taking place, and will include information regarding deadline for confirmation from interested parties of the desire to attend the accompanied site inspection. An accompanied site inspection will only be necessary to view land to which there is no public right of access or with no clear view from nearby locations with open, publicly accessible land. The purpose of DSI is formalization only, and no discussion of the merits of the proposed development will be entertained during an accompanied site inspection. I have received a deadline, a suggested locations for an accompanied and accompanied site inspections from the applicant as well as Well as North Stephen District Council. I have reviewed these, and I would like to ask both the applicant and North constevan council to please talk me through suggested sites and why they believe that an accompanied site inspection is needed, particularly as opposed to an excess required inspection. So could I please ask, first of all, the applicant to present

their sites for accompanied site inspection, and also why those sites are needed as part of an accompanied site inspection, please,

# **Speaker 2** 54:09

sir, thank you. Ian Mac, for the applicant, I'll just introduce Mr. Hartley bond to perhaps just elaborate on the reason for the locations with suggested and then also potentially elaborate on some of the recent discussions we've had with nkdc and BBC in respect of their suggested locations, and then maybe once we've heard that in the rounds, we circle back to the sort of general need for us in the first place, if that suits.

#### **Speaker 1** 54:33

Yes, that's fine. That's fine. Thank you very much. Mr.

#### **Speaker 7** 54:36

Mac Thank you, sir. Good morning. Jim hartlebond for the applicant. So I was going to talk through, by reference to the number in the document you will have seen, sir, if that's okay, there's seven locations that we have proposed, but what I will do is just give you a rundown, a couple of points on each one as to. Why we think they're suitable locations. So taking, taking the first one, number one, this is the we note that the EXA has done a general tour of the of the area, as you mentioned, Mr.

# **Speaker 1** 55:16

Mr. Hartlepont, sorry, apologies. Can I just ask you to just bear with me for one second in order to synthetic this process. I think it might be useful for all involved that I try and share the list that you have submitted. So I will aim to do this now. But for the record, I believe and please ask, I ask the applicant, correct me, if I am not right, but I believe that you're going to talk through a PDA 008, and that is the examining examination library reference. If you could confirm that, please,

#### **Speaker 2** 55:51

similar, bear with us. Just double check that, and Sheila has grown

#### **Speaker 1** 55:58

and I will share that specific document now on my screen.

#### **Speaker 2** 56:05

Yeah, that's that's correct, sir, thank you. Sorry that was earmarked for the applicant, confirming that that's very much on

#### **Speaker 1** 56:13

screen. If you would like to continue, Mr. Hartley bond, please.

#### **Speaker 7** 56:18

Thank you, sir. Yeah, so Jim Hartley bond for the applicant. So location number one, we've selected a location which is along the car dyke. But it's the reason for picking this location, sir, is the it's the confluence of three different public footpaths, and it's an opportunity that we've selected to see one of

the proposed bridges which would form part of the permissive walkway for the scheme that we have proposed. And so really two reasons for this location, one is to see that which is one of the added benefits of the scheme. The other reason is that it's an elevated position. So I think in terms of just being able to get an understanding of the site and the context of that northeastern side of the site, that's why that particular one has been selected, sir,

## **Speaker 1** 57:10

okay, if, if I may ask, Am I right in assuming that This is further south from the public right of way that no access is allowed, and it has gates, I believe, ended responsibility of the Environment Agency, and in the footpath is closed. Is that further down from that specific point?

#### **Speaker 7** 57:38

So, Sarah, I think you drove along ferry lane and paused or stopped at Ferry Lane from your notes. And there was a footpath that runs down the side of the dike, if you want the if it helps, that particular footpath is you are or ew er, forward slash nine. Forward slash one, for reference,

## **Speaker 1** 58:04

okay, yeah, I think, I think it is the same footpath that I am thinking, and therefore this would be further south, and actually it's landed, it's not accessible. Is that correct?

#### **Speaker 7** 58:19

It is a public footpath, sir, we can check, but it is, it is a public footpath, so it should be open. It may have a vehicular restriction to the reasons you've suggested, which is to do with the maintenance.

# **Speaker 1** 58:33

Okay, if, if I could ask you to please check that that would be useful. Because, again, if I can do if I can access it via public client, then that is a site that potentially I could do as part of an uncompanied site inspection, which does increase flexibility to us all in terms of how the examination will be run. So I would like to really understand that to that level of detail, please,

#### **Speaker 7** 59:07

of course. Yeah. Comments noted. Thank you.

#### 59:10

So if you must move on to the second one, please,

#### **Speaker 7** 59:12

yes. So the second location, there is a pumping station, which is also in a raised position within the site. So this is as you're coming down approximately halfway down the eastern side of the site. It's another opportunity to get to slightly elevated land to be able to see over the majority of the northern side of the site.

# **Speaker 1** 59:40

So access. Okay? Again, I understand that maybe access, permission for access may be required, clearly from what you are stating, however, can we please have a conversation? I would really welcome, if any. Applicant could facilitate that if an accompanied site inspection is actually required, or this is something that perhaps the exci could do as part of an excess required inspection and not an accompanied inspection.

#### **Speaker 8** 1:00:14

Yeah, we'll take that on board also. Thank you.

## **Speaker 7** 1:00:19

Shall I move to point number three. Number three, please, yes. Thank you. So this one is a little bit further to the west of their. Main reason for selecting this one, sir, is to just get a bit more of a feel for the permissive walkway as it continues to the west of the pumping station, yeah,

## **Speaker 1** 1:00:42

okay, and this is a permissive path. That's right, okay, so if we could signal it as that as well, that would be good. Of course,

## **Speaker 7** 1:00:54

turning to point number four, this was an opportunity we thought, to see a key component of the scheme. So this is the adjacent to the substation and the battery, energy storage system. So think it's probably a particularly important one to take in to your visit. So okay,

#### **Speaker 1** 1:01:18

I again, I think that this site might fall subject confirmation from the applicant. Might fall on the same class as site number two, where access will clearly be required because it's on private land. However it might be, it might be available, and it might be easily done in terms of an excess required inspection rather than an accompanied inspection. So if we could move on to the next slide, please.

#### **Speaker 7** 1:01:50

So then we have location number five, sir. This one could be seen from public land, and we've selected this one. So this is on the west Northwestern side of the scheme, so closest to UB thought. And the reason for the inclusion is probably twofold. One is it's a slightly elevated position on the western side of the site, and the other one is to try to provide a representative viewpoint from that particular direction.

# **Speaker 1** 1:02:22

So okay, thank you. And I assume that this specific, this specific point, alongside the other three, as per your education, are publicly accessible land. So that could potentially, obviously be done as part of either an accompanied site visit or an access required inspection.

#### **Speaker 7** 1:02:47

Yes, that that could be done either way. Sir for that. Thank you very much. Turning to, turning to point number six, the reason for the inclusion. So this one is at the the meeting point of the main site access and also the the bespoke access road on the other side of hackington Road.

#### **Speaker 1** 1:03:10

That specific point, I have actually checked that specific point as part of the reference, the references and coordinates that you have provided me, and unless, unless I was not able to pinpoint the point that you actually specifically mean, I think that I have actually observed that specific site on my company site inspection, and I think that's not made that specific, that very clear. So maybe that one I would ask the applicant to consider if we need to revisit that specific point. Okay, thank you,

# Speaker 7 1:03:48

sir. That's noted. And then the final one we selected, sir, is the other side of the bespoke access road at the entrance or exit to the A 17 lay by. Hopefully the inclusion is there for obvious reasons. We just felt, yes, it's around the access.

#### Speaker 1 1:04:09

Apologies, apologies. I meant this one, so I actually meant it, one that is the connection to a 17 is one that I have actually checked as part of my company unaccompanied site inspection, and the other one is one that I have not actually checked. So apologies for that, if so. Are we clear now in terms of the comments, so I would then question the value of the last point. So I would perhaps question if the applicant agrees, if that one can be removed and not the one before last, obviously, yes.

#### **Speaker 7** 1:04:47

And then just, just to come back, sir, if it helps on point six, then that can also be viewed from a public vantage point. So if you wish to,

# **Speaker 1** 1:04:56

okay, this brings me, then, to. The comment that I was alluding to on my speaking notes, in terms of from your representation so far, I believe that all of the sites that you have put forward could easily be done as part of an access required inspection, rather than an accompanied site inspection, which, considering the resources and time, it might be something that I would be willing to explore if it's going to be a best, a better use of resources to actually do it as Part of an access

## Speaker 2 1:05:40

required. So, yeah, that that's all understood. And we'll, we'll, um, we'll certainly take that away and see if we can, see if we can facilitate that. Should that be the direction you'd prefer to go down? I know we have a an action for d1 to provide comments on the suggested itinerary, so perhaps we could pick up an update and response as part of that

#### **Speaker 1** 1:06:01

that would be very useful. Thank you very much. Mr. Mac that that that would be ideal. Can I ask also you have mentioned that there were some additional sites that you would like to put forward. Can I ask you to do that now?

# **Speaker 7** 1:06:15

Please? Yes. Jim Hartley, bond for the applicant, I think this was just really in relation to the additional requests that have been received by the EXA. We so we have spoken with Boston Borough Council yesterday just to understand the their request. In principle, we have no sort of particular issues with the request. I won't speak for them. They may wish to come in on that point, but we're happy with the suggestions, if you would like them to comment on that, it's not been possible just in the timeframe to convene a meeting with North Coast Steven, just at this point that being said, we have reached out, and I think it's entirely reasonable, subject to their agreement, that we could reach an agreement on these viewpoints with them before deadline, one sir, unless you want to

#### 1:07:13

sort of pick that up separately.

## **Speaker 1** 1:07:15

Thank you. Okay. Thank you very much. I would like to understand situation better. So if I could invite Mr. Sheik to please comment on this specific point,

## **Speaker 3** 1:07:27

thanks chemistry, the North Sea Industry Council, I'm going to ask Mr. Feltham just to take you through the council's list of suggested locations, if I might.

#### 1:07:36

Thank you very much, Mr. Sheik. Mr. Feltham,

#### Speaker 9 1:07:39

Good morning, sir. Nick fella from development manager at North Coast, Stephen District Council, yes, we've made a submission setting out a number of viewpoints and suggested general locations for site visits, just to sort of run through those, if I can, sir, this will become clear in the local impact report and the written representation that we submit, but we think there needs to be a focus around some of the health some of the Heritage assets, in particular site inspections taking those into account, specifically having regard to kind tower as goodby Hall st, Andrews church, Boughton house and Howell Hall And together with a number of non designated heritage asset farmsteads that we identify in our local impact report, including those in and around you would be and even, but also West moorlands, ascoby fen farm, and also gashes barn. So there's a there's a grouping there of of heritage assets. We don't consider that a physical visit to Kime tower is necessary. However, there is a an issue of effectively setting and significance that we will set out in our local impact report and written rep Kime tower is visible across the application sites from the area just north is a slight, slight elevation just north of you would be Thorpe. So we think that kind tower ought to be something which is factored in in terms of a site visit viewing kind tower from the application site, rather than actual visit to kind tower itself. We've also identified some residential properties where, again, I've set out in our LIR, there is some disagreement between the assessment and the council in terms of the levels of impact by year 15, which has been estimated as a result of landscaping, planting and screening. So we think that visits are necessary to residential group receptor r1 which is ewerby Thorpe farm and ewbie Lodge. Group r2 which is Howell Fen farmhouse, ascoby Barnes westmoreland's farm. Uh, group three. Residential group three, which is copper Hill kennels, cattery, wave farm house, the Grange Ferry Farm and mere

house. And some of that Representative view. Residential receptor are four, which is gashes barn, and then group resent, group receptor, are 20, which is how, including crown cottage and keepers cottage. So of course, I think, as you'd mentioned on earlier, there's so a number of those residential properties are, of course, private, and that would require access to private land. Thank you, sir.

#### **Speaker 1** 1:10:40

Thank you very much for that. Mr. Felson, can I just ask in relation to time tower, from the application Site, site, have you had any conversations with the applicant so far in terms of agreeing a suitable location from the applicant site where you believe it would be really important for the excite to view time tower from

#### **Speaker 9** 1:11:12

Nick Feltham for North Coast evening District Council, I don't believe we have had that direct conversation. However, we should be able to have that discussion and an agreement fairly quickly. I think the actual area of view is fairly defined in terms of the preferred location for that visit. So we'd be happy to agree that with the applicant directly. Okay.

#### Speaker 1 1:11:34

Thank you very much. I I would welcome that, Mr. Thompson, so if I could actually ask the applicant to please contact and liaise with North Christ even District Council, in order to provide with some agreement and some assistance in terms of these sites that will be very useful. Mr. Feltham, I would also like to add that in terms of the residential groups, I would like a little bit more justification why northquarter Steven believes that we would have to actually view those specific residential groups identified receptors from the property themselves and from private land and not from public land. I your suggestions correspond to some of the suggestions that I myself have already identified. But that's not the same. That's not the case across the board. So I would like, I would like, to ask North Coast river to actually consider that, and consider what benefit is there to be gained in terms of viewing the proposed development site from those specific receptors, from private land rather than from public land. And also, I would like to ask Northwest even to please consider if any of the sites that you are putting forward do require an accompanied site inspection to be carried out, or similarly to what we have gone through with some of the sites put forward by the applicant, potentially X access required inspection might be suitable if, obviously, we are granted access by the land owners to view the property and to view the land.

# **Speaker 9** 1:13:40

Thank you. So that's all noted. We'll take that away and work on those for you, sir. Thank you.

#### **Speaker 1** 1:13:44

Thank you very much. Mr. Feltham, can I just ask very quickly for the applicant to confirm if they are in agreement in terms of taking a lead with that and liaising with Northcote Stephen on those points, please?

# Speaker 7 1:13:59

Hi, sir. Jim hartlebone for the applicant, yes, we're fine with that. Happy to arrange that.

#### **Speaker 1** 1:14:04

Thank you very much, Mr. Hartley bond, Mr. Schick, is there anything else that you would like to raise now under this point? No. Thanks, sir. Thank you very much. Mr. Schick. Okay, those were the two requests that I had received in terms of speaking on this specific agenda item. Can I ask if anyone else would like to intervene on this specific agenda item? Mr. Sullivan,

#### **Speaker 4** 1:14:42

just, just to say so, just to highlight, obviously, Boston Borough Council also offered some suggested locations. And just to confirm, as the applicant said, that we had a brief discussion with the applicant yesterday about those locations and. I don't know whether you wanted me to go through those locations or whether you're happy with the suggestions that we put forward, but just to say that we did make few suggestions. Obviously, the suggestions that the applicant put forward, and what North Coast Stephen District Council put forward will have been solely in relation to the solar array site and the bespoke access. Obviously, we've put a few locations forward, which will be clear from our local impact report in and around the extension to the substations there, and the crossing of the South 40 foot train, which is a local wildlife site.

# **Speaker 1** 1:15:51

Okay, and can I ask Mr. O'Sullivan, you have been engaging with the applicant for this specific issue, as you have mentioned just now, and are those sites being taken forward? As far as you know, as far as your understanding is,

#### **Speaker 4** 1:16:11

I don't want to put words into the don't want to speak for the applicant. My understanding was that they were reasonably happy with those suggestions, some of the suggestions of particular location you may have already visited, but there are some bespoke reasons as to why we suggest them, because we wanted you to consider them in the context of the local impact report and some of the concerns that the Borough Council raised in terms of some of the vegetation loss.

#### Speaker 1 1:16:44

That's that's absolutely fine. Mr. Sullivan, if I could ask then I I believe from your representation that and from the description that you have of those sites, I do believe that, particularly those that are more linked with connection with beacon, fan substation and construction compound, I believe that I have probably seen those sites already. However, if I could ask the applicant to integrate those sites as part of their proposal, and then when we receive, when, when I receive all of the sites, I will then make a decision in terms of, do they need to be revisited, or do I need to visit them if, if they have not been inspected yet. And also, please, bearing in mind the situation in terms of access required versus accompanied site inspections, and please do let me know if there is a specific site that actually requires an accompanied site inspection for whatever reason, or if access required would suffice as long permission is granted. Can I ask if the applicant, if you are happy to coordinate that, please?

## **Speaker 7** 1:18:10

Yeah, hi, sir. It's Jim Hartley bond again, for the applicant, we're happy with that, we'll take that away and your points are noted.

# **Speaker 1** 1:18:17

Thank you very much. Mr. O'Sullivan, is debt acceptable to you

#### **Speaker 4** 1:18:22

as well? Yes, yes, that's fine. So thank you. Thank you very much.

#### 1:18:27

Right? Anyone else that would like to intervene on this specific point?

#### **Speaker 1** 1:18:39

Okay, so it should be noted that submissions made at deadline a do not preclude any further requests for site visits during the examination. It may be that after you've had an opportunity to review what has been said at hearings and in any additional documents, IPS may wish to suggest other or further prospective locations for site inspections during the examination. However, there should be a very good reason for us to do so, and that should be made clear within any submissions. It may be that the examining authority also does decide to carry out further accompanied site inspections at any point during the examination, with any notes of such inspections to be placed on the project page of the national infrastructure website, I will now invite any further comments on what I have set out. So can I ask if anyone would like to comment on this specific item of the agenda before we move on?

#### **Speaker 1** 1:19:46

You, I don't see any hands raised, so I assume that we can move on to Item eight of the agenda, which is any other matters? So. So I have not had any matters notified to me that people wish to raise this item. But can I just ask if there are any other relevant items that anyone wishes to raise as part of this specific meeting? If you do, please raise your hands. I don't see any hand raised virtually, therefore, I assume that no one has any other matters that they would like to raise today. So in that case, I would like to say thank you to everyone for contributing to today's meeting this morning, and I'm very much looking forward to commencing the examination of this application. May I remind you that both notes and a digital recording of the proceedings today will be made available as soon as possible on the project page of the national infrastructure website. May I also remind you that we will not hold the open floor hearing schedule later today for the reasons stated previously, so the next hearing will be the issue specific hearing one, which is scheduled for tomorrow morning. The time is now 1121, and this preliminary meeting for the big fan energy Park project is now closed. Thank you very much to everyone. You.