



National Infrastructure Planning
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Bristol, BS1 6PN

Customer
Services: 0303 444 5000
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All Interested Parties, Statutory Parties and
any Other Person invited to the Preliminary
Meeting

Your Ref:

Our Ref: EN010152

Date: 18 February 2025

Dear Sir / Madam

Planning Act 2008 – Section 88 and 89 and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 – Rules 4, 6, 9 and 13

Application by Fenwick Solar Project Limited for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Fenwick Solar Farm

Appointment of Examining Authority, Invitation to the Preliminary Meeting and Notification of Hearings

Following my appointment by the Secretary of State as the lead member of the Examining Authority (ExA) to carry out an examination of the above application, I am writing to introduce myself and the other members of the ExA. My name is Rory Cridland and the other member of the ExA is Samantha Murphy. A copy of the appointment notice can be viewed under the 'documents' tab on the [project webpage](#) of the National Infrastructure Planning website.

We would like to thank those of you who submitted relevant representations. These representations have assisted us when considering how we will examine this application.

Invitation to the Preliminary Meeting

As a recipient of this letter you are invited to the preliminary meeting to discuss **the procedure** for the examination of the above application.



Date	Start time	Venue and joining details
Wednesday 19 March 2025	Registration and seating available at venue from: 9.15am Virtual Registration Process from: 9.30am Preliminary Meeting starts: 10.00am	Doncaster Racecourse, Bawtry Road, Doncaster, DN2 6BB 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

You must register by completing the [Event Participation Form](#) by Wednesday 5 March 2025 if you intend to participate in the preliminary meeting and provide all the information requested (see below).

If you simply wish to observe the preliminary meeting then you do not need to register as you will be able to either:

1. watch a livestream of the event - a link to the livestream will be made available on the [project page](#) shortly before the event is scheduled to begin, or
2. watch the recording of the event which will be published on the project webpage shortly after the event has finished.

Alternatively, you can attend the physical event at the venue to observe the proceedings; however, to ensure there is adequate seating capacity at the venue we request that you register your attendance to **observe only** by **Wednesday 5 March 2025** using the [Event Participation Form](#). Please note that it may not be possible to participate on the day if you have not registered your wish to speak by **Wednesday 5 March 2025**.

Purpose of the Preliminary Meeting

The purpose of the preliminary meeting is to enable views to be put to us about how the application should be examined. It will therefore focus on the procedural aspects of the examination only and we will not consider the merits of the application at this point. See **Annex B** to this letter and the Planning Inspectorate's advice for members of the public: [The stages of the NSIP process and how you can have your say](#) for more information.

The preliminary meeting is **not** an opportunity for you to give your views about what you like or don't like about the application. The merits or disadvantages of the application will only be considered once the examination starts, which is after the preliminary meeting has closed. All relevant and important matters will be taken into account when we make a recommendation to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero.



The agenda for the meeting is at **Annex A** to this letter. This has been set following our initial assessment of principal issues arising from our reading of the application documents and the relevant representations received. The initial assessment of principal issues is set out in **Annex C** to this letter.

Written submissions about how the application should be examined

The Planning Act 2008 establishes a principally written process for the examination of applications for development consent orders and **representations made in writing carry equal weight to oral representations at all stages of the process.**

Annex D sets out our draft Examination Timetable. This will be finalised after the close of the preliminary meeting.

We are now requesting written submissions from recipients of this letter about how the application should be examined. We particularly wish to hear from you if:

- you consider changes need to be made to the draft Examination Timetable set out at **Annex D** to this letter
- you wish to comment about the arrangements for future examination hearings, including the use of virtual methods

You are invited to make a written submission about how the application is to be examined by **procedural deadline A (Wednesday 5 March 2025)** (see **Annex D** to this letter).

We request that all submissions are made using the '[Have your say](#)' page on the project webpage on or before **procedural deadline A. Annex H** to this letter provides further information about using the Make a submission tab.

Requests to participate at the preliminary meeting

Please note that **you are not required to attend, or make written submissions to, the preliminary meeting in order to participate in the examination.** If you are an interested party you can make a written representation and comment on the written representations made by other interested parties during the examination. You will also be able to participate in any hearings that are arranged.

If you wish to participate at the preliminary meeting you are required to notify us in writing on or before **Wednesday 5 March 2025 (see procedural deadline A)**.

Any request to participate in the preliminary meeting **must include** the following information:

- name and unique reference number (found at the top your letter or email from the Planning Inspectorate)
- email address (if available) and contact telephone number



- name and unique reference number of any person/ organisation that you are representing (if applicable)
- for blended events, confirmation of whether you will participate virtually or in-person
- the agenda item on which you wish to speak and a list of the points you wish to make

Requests to participate should be made using the [Event Participation Form](#) on or before **procedural deadline A**.

Please contact the Case Team using the contact details at the top of this letter if you require any support or assistance to attend or participate in the preliminary meeting, either virtually or in person.

Format of Examination Events – Preliminary Meeting and Hearings

The examination of the application will principally be a written process supplemented where necessary by various types of hearings. See the Planning Inspectorate's advice for members of the public: [The stages of the NSIP process and how you can have your say](#) for more information.

Both blended (part in-person and part virtual) and fully virtual events form part of the Planning Inspectorate's operating model. We remain flexible and will confirm the format of any hearings to be held during the examination stage when we provide formal notification of each hearing at least 21 days in advance of it taking place.

We are providing formal notification that the **preliminary meeting will be a blended event and that the open floor hearing (OFH) and issue specific hearing/ and (ISH) referred to in Annex E to this letter will also be blended events.**

After the Preliminary Meeting

After the preliminary meeting we will issue a letter (known as the Rule 8 letter) setting out the finalised Examination Timetable. A note of the meeting will also be published on the [project page](#).

Notification of initial hearings

We have made a procedural decision to hold the following initial hearings:

- **Open floor hearing 1 (OFH1) on Wednesday 19 March 2025** (blended event)
- **Issue specific hearing 1 (ISH1) on the draft Development Consent Order on Thursday 20 March 2025** (blended event)

Important information about these hearings is contained in **Annex E** to this letter, including what details need to be provided with a request to be heard at a hearing and the procedure that will be followed.



Other procedural decisions made by the Examining Authority

We have made some further procedural decisions which are set out in detail at **Annex F** to this letter. They are summarised as follows:

- Request for statements of common ground between the applicant and various interested parties
- Request for suggested locations for an accompanied site inspection
- Request for submission of a Land Rights Tracker (to replace the applicant's Schedule of Negotiations and Powers Sought document [[APP-021](#)])
- Acceptance of additional submissions into the examination

Changes to land interests

When the applicant becomes aware that there has been a change in ownership, or a new interest, in relevant land the applicant is requested to make the relevant person aware that they can make a request to the ExA to become an interested party under section 102A of the PA2008 by emailing the project mailbox

FenwickSolar@planninginspectorate.gov.uk. The Examination Timetable includes various deadlines for the submission of an updated book of reference and schedule of changes to the book of reference, which should include confirmation that relevant persons have been informed of their rights under section 102A.

Managing examination correspondence

Given the volume and frequency of letters the Planning Inspectorate needs to send to interested parties during an examination, we aim to communicate with people by email as electronic communication is more environmentally friendly and cost effective for the taxpayer.

If you have received a letter but are able to receive communications by email, please inform the Case Team using the contact details at the top of this letter as soon as possible.

As the examination process makes substantial use of electronic documents, it will be useful for you to become familiar with the [project page](#).

A '[Have your say](#)' page is available on the website which provides a portal through which parties should make written submissions at relevant deadlines during the examination. Further information about the 'Have your say' page is provided at **Annex H** to this letter.

You can also register to subscribe to '[Get updates](#)' on the project.

Your status in the examination

You have received this letter because you are a person or organisation who is involved in the NSIP process. See the Planning Inspectorate's advice for members of



the public: [National Infrastructure Projects and the people and organisations involved in the process](#) for further details.

If, having read the advice, you are still unsure about how you are involved in the process please contact the Case Team using the details at the top of this letter.

Awards of costs

All parties will normally be expected to meet their own costs. Costs can be awarded against a party who has acted unreasonably and has caused the party applying for the award of costs to incur unnecessary or wasted expense during the examination. You should be aware of the relevant costs guidance [Awards of costs: examinations of applications for development consent orders](#).

Management of information

Information, including representations, submitted in respect of this examination (if accepted by the Examining Authority) and a record of any advice which has been provided by the Planning Inspectorate is published on the [project page](#).

Please note that in the interest of facilitating an effective and fair examination, it is necessary to publish some personal information. To find out how we handle your personal information please view our [Privacy Notice](#).

We look forward to working with all parties in the examination of this application.

Yours faithfully

Rory Cridland

Lead Member of the Examining Authority

Annexes

- A** Agenda for the preliminary meeting
- B** Introduction to the preliminary meeting
- C** Initial assessment of principal issues
- D** Draft Examination Timetable
- E** Notification of initial hearings
- F** Other procedural decisions made by the Examining Authority
- G** Examination documents
- H** Information about the 'Have your say' page

This communication does not constitute legal advice.

Please view our [Privacy Notice](#) before sending information to the Planning Inspectorate.



Agenda for the Preliminary Meeting

You must register by completing the [Event Participation Form](#) by Wednesday 5 March 2025 if you intend to participate in the preliminary meeting and provide all the information requested (see below).

If you simply wish to observe the preliminary meeting then you do not need to register as you will be able to either:

1. watch a livestream of the event - a link to the livestream will be made available on the [project page](#) shortly before the event is scheduled to begin, or
2. watch the recording of the event which will be published on the project webpage shortly after the event has finished

Alternatively, you can attend the physical event at the venue to observe the proceedings; however, to ensure there is adequate seating capacity at the venue we request that you register your attendance to **observe only** by **Wednesday 5 March 2025** using the [Event Participation Form](#). Please note that it may not be possible to participate on the day if you have not registered your wish to speak by **Wednesday 5 March 2025**.

Please note that by attending the event either in person or online you are agreeing to be filmed for the purposes of the online livestream of the event and the recording of the event which will be published on the [project page](#). A limited number of seats will be available for observers who wish not to be filmed at the venue. Please contact the case team to notify them if you prefer not to be filmed at the event. A transcript of the event will also be published on the project page of our website after the event.

Venue: **Blended event at Doncaster Racecourse, Bawtry Road, Doncaster, DN2 6BB and by virtual means using Microsoft Teams**
Full instructions on how to join online or by phone will be provided in advance to those who have pre-registered

Attendees: **Invited parties who have pre-registered**

Agenda for the Preliminary Meeting	
9.15am	Registration and seating available at venue for in-person attendees
9.30am	<p>Virtual Registration Process</p> <p>Please arrive at 9.30am to enter the virtual lobby. From here you will be admitted to the virtual meeting by the Case Team, greeted and given further instructions.</p>

10.00am	Opening of preliminary meeting
Item 1	The preliminary meeting will formally open at 10.00am . The Examining Authority will join, welcome participants and lead introductions.
Item 2	The Examining Authority’s remarks about the examination process.
Item 3	Initial Assessment of Principal Issues – Annex C to Rule 6 letter
Item 4	Draft Examination Timetable – Annex D to Rule 6 letter
Item 5	Procedural decisions made by the ExA
Item 6	Any other matters
Close of the preliminary meeting	

If you are participating using Microsoft Teams please join the virtual lobby promptly using the instructions provided to you following your pre-registration. The event will start at **10.00am** irrespective of any late arrivals, for whom access may not be possible.

It may take some time to admit participants from the virtual lobby, your patience whilst you are waiting is appreciated.

The agenda for the preliminary meeting is subject to change at the discretion of the Examining Authority (ExA), although in making changes the ExA will be mindful of the need to provide opportunities for fair involvement to all invited parties.

Any request to participate in the preliminary meeting **must include** the following information and should be made on the [Event Participation Form](#):

- name and unique reference number (found at the top your letter or email from the Planning Inspectorate)
- email address (if available) and contact telephone number
- name and unique reference number of any person / organisation that you are representing (if applicable)
- for blended events, confirmation of whether you will participate virtually or in-person, and
- the agenda item on which you wish to speak and a list of the points you wish to make

Introduction to the Preliminary Meeting

Background

The preliminary meeting (PM) will be a blended event with some participants attending in person and some taking part virtually using Microsoft Teams.

The Examining Authority (ExA) is conscious of videoconferencing fatigue and will aim to keep the proceedings focussed and as efficient as possible. This annex provides advance access to information that would usually be included in the ExA's introductory remarks. Please read this carefully. The ExA will only present a summary of the key points set out here in order to ensure that the time available for participants to speak is maximised.

The Examining Authority and the Case Team

The ExA will introduce itself at the start of the PM.

The ExA will be supported by the Planning Inspectorate Case Team. During the registration process a member of the Case Team will welcome and admit participants from the virtual lobby, and will be available to answer questions by email before and after the PM. The contact email address is:

FenwickSolar@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

The purpose of the Preliminary Meeting

The PM is being held to discuss the arrangements for the examination of the application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) for the Fenwick Solar Farm project, which is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP). This will generally be referred to in the PM and examination as the 'proposed development'. The application has been made by Fenwick Solar Project Limited, which will be referred to as 'the applicant'.

You will find information about the application and, in due course, documents produced for the examination on the project webpage of the National Infrastructure Planning website ([project webpage](#)). The project webpage has links to the Examination Timetable, relevant representations, examination documents and examination procedures.

You are encouraged to look at the [project webpage](#) if you haven't already done so, because it will be used to communicate with you and to provide access to documents throughout the examination.

The PM will focus on the examination process only, and it will not be looking at the substance of the proposals. Questions, discussions and representations about the merits or disadvantages of the proposed development are for the examination itself which will begin immediately after the close of the PM.

The PM will be your opportunity to influence the process that the ExA intends to follow. The agenda for the PM is attached to this Rule 6 letter at **Annex A**. It is

important to have the letter and the agenda in front of you and to refer to them during the course of the PM. You may wish to print these in advance of the PM for ease of reference.

In summary, the PM will establish the procedures and timetable for the examination of the proposed development. It will set a framework for the ExA to enable the SoS to consider and decide the application. In doing so, the ExA will have regard to:

- government policy and guidance
- the positions and representations of all interested parties (IPs)
- any local impact reports (LIR) prepared and provided by relevant local authorities
- other prescribed matters
- any other matters that appear to be both relevant and important to the relevant SoS's decision

Government guidance and policy

As the proposed development comprises an onshore electricity generating station with a total capacity exceeding 50MW, it falls within section 15(2) of the Planning Act 2008 (PA2008) and meets the definition of a NSIP as set out in section 14(1) of the PA2008. It therefore requires a DCO in accordance with section 31 of the PA2008.

The designated National Policy Statements (NPS) EN-1, EN-3 and EN-5 apply to this examination and to decision-making relating to this application. The ExA will consider the proposed development in accordance with these NPSs and any other applicable policy or considerations the ExA deems to be important and relevant. The PA2008 makes it clear that, in making a decision, the Secretary of State (SoS) "*must decide the application in accordance with any relevant NPS*" (s104(3)), subject to certain provisos. Essentially, the provisos are that the application must not breach legal or treaty obligations, and that any adverse impact of the proposed development would not outweigh its benefits.

The SoS is entitled to disregard any representations that relate to the merits of the designated National Policy Statement (NPS). In practice, this means that the ExA will not spend time examining representations that challenge policy set out in NPSs, or the validity of NPSs themselves. The focus will be on the merits or disadvantages of the proposed development, tested to the appropriate extent using the tests set out in relevant designated NPSs that are in force.

Other important and relevant planning policies that the ExA may consider include policies in the relevant local authorities' development plans. However, if these conflict with policy in a NPS, then the NPS will take precedence.

Preliminary Meeting invitees

The applicant is invited to the PM and is generally given the opportunity to reply to any representations made.

Everyone who has made a valid relevant representation has been registered as an IP and has been invited to the PM. All IPs are entitled to involvement in the examination.

Each person or organisation with an interest in land or rights that are affected by a compulsory acquisition request in this application is an affected person (AP) and has been invited to the PM. In addition to a general entitlement to involvement in the examination, APs have a right to be heard in relation to any objection about the effects of compulsory acquisition on their interests in land, and a right to be notified of any compulsory acquisition hearing. All APs are IPs, whether or not they have made a valid relevant representation.

Certain bodies are statutory parties and they have been invited to the PM. Statutory parties can elect to become IPs without having made a valid relevant representation by notifying the ExA in writing.

The ExA has the power to involve people who are not IPs in the examination as though they are IPs, including by inviting them to the PM. However, this is only done in exceptional circumstances, for example if it was clear that the application would materially affect a person, they are not automatically an IP or eligible to elect to become an IP and they had been unable to take the necessary action to register as an IP.

Conduct of the Preliminary Meeting

The ExA estimate that the PM will take around 2 hours to complete.

During the PM, participants may have to make allowances and be patient if there are delays associated with the technology used. In recognition of the fatigue associated with on-screen communication, the ExA will provide breaks during the PM as appropriate.

A digital recording of the PM will be made available on the project webpage as soon as practicable following the close of the PM. The recording allows any member of the public who is interested in the application and the examination to find out what has been discussed at the PM. The making and publication of these recordings are a means by which the ExA meets the legal requirement to hold the PM (and any other hearings) in public. In this regard, **anyone speaking at the PM will need to introduce themselves each time they speak**, to ensure that someone listening to the recording after the event is clear who was speaking. A written note of the PM will be produced and published as soon as practicable following the close of the PM.

As the recordings are retained and published, they form a public record that can contain personal information to which the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) applies. Participants must do their best to avoid providing any information which should otherwise be kept private and confidential. If there is a need to refer to such information, it should be in written form. Although this will also be published, personal and private content can be redacted or removed before it is made publicly available. Any person who is unclear on this point should ask the

Case Team for guidance before they place personal and private information into the public domain.

The Planning Inspectorate's practice is to publish the recordings and retain them for a period of five years from the SoS's decision on the DCO. If you actively participate in the PM, it is important that you understand that you will be recorded and that the recording will be made available in the public domain. Please see our [Privacy Notice](#) for more information about how we handle your data.

Following the ExA's introductions, each participant who has been registered to speak will be asked to introduce themselves, including any organisations or groups that they represent. The ExA will then conduct the meeting in accordance with the agenda. If you prefer not to have your image recorded, you can switch off your camera at any point.

The Examination process

The examination of NSIPs follows different processes to those, for example, of a public inquiry into a planning appeal following the refusal of planning permission. The main differences are that the examination of NSIPs is primarily a written process and hearings take on an inquisitorial approach as opposed to an adversarial one.

This means that the ExA will probe, test and assess the evidence primarily using written questions. While some hearings are held to provide supplementary evidence, questions to the applicant or to witnesses will come from the ExA. Questioning or cross-examination of witnesses by other parties will not generally be allowed.

In terms of opportunities to provide evidence in writing, the draft Examination Timetable makes provision for the following written processes:

- Local authorities can submit LIRs if they wish. Whilst these are voluntary, the PA2008 provides that if they are submitted, they must be considered by the SoS in reaching a decision. Consequently, LIRs are a very important method for local authorities to communicate issues of concern to the ExA, the SoS and their residents.
- IPs can make written representations (WRs) and comment on WRs made by other parties.
- IPs can respond to the ExA's written questions (ExQs) and comment on responses to these written questions provided by others.
- IPs may be asked to contribute to the making of statements of common ground (SoCG) if it appears that there are matters on which they and the applicant agree, and if it would be useful for this to be clarified. SoCGs most usefully extend to catalogue matters that are not agreed or are outstanding.

The draft Examination Timetable includes a series of numbered deadlines for receipt of written submissions. Timely submissions received by the relevant deadline and that address its purpose will be accepted. **Documents received after the relevant deadline are only accepted at the discretion of the ExA and may not be accepted to ensure fairness to all parties.** Circumstances where documents are

submitted late without good reason, causing inconvenience or delay to other parties can amount to unreasonable behaviour.

These written processes will be the principal means used by the ExA to gather information, evidence and views about the application. However, the examination will only be effective if all parties resolve to give timely, full, frank, clear and evidenced answers to every question that is relevant to their interests and to engage fully with any other related processes such as the completion of WRs and SoCGs.

There is no merit in withholding or delaying information, or in failing to co-operate, and should it occur, any unreasonable behaviour that caused another party to incur wasted expenditure could lead to an award of costs against the offending party.

The ExA has discretion to make amendments to the Examination Timetable for the wider benefit of the examination. If possible, events will be arranged for times when all relevant parties are available, but the ExA is under a duty to complete the examination by the end of the six-month period beginning with the day after the close of the PM. This requirement is set by legislation, and while the ExA will try to rearrange event dates to accommodate all relevant parties, in practice there will be limited scope to alter dates set out in the draft Examination Timetable.

The statutory time limit for the examination means that where there are matters that still need to be discussed and agreed between the applicant and IPs, it will be very helpful to the ExA if these could be progressed as early as possible.

Hearings

The draft Examination Timetable includes provision for hearings, at which the ExA takes oral evidence from the various parties.

Any registered IP may request an **open floor hearing** (OFH) to make oral representations about the application if they believe this to be preferable to relying on their written representation, though both carry equal weight. Oral submissions should be based on representations previously made in writing, but they should not simply repeat matters previously covered in the written submission. Rather, they should focus on specific detail and explanation to help inform the ExA. There should be no new or unexpected material in oral representations. A written summary note with any supporting evidence or references will be requested of each speaker following the hearing.

As with all examination events, OFHs are subject to the powers of control of the ExA, as set out in the PA2008 and supporting legislation. Participants must register in advance by the deadline shown in the Examination Timetable and in accordance with the instructions. It is common practice for the ExA to set a time limit for each speaker and speakers with common points are asked to come together to nominate a spokesperson or representative speakers to cover specific topics, so as to avoid repetition. Speakers representing public authorities, community and membership organisations or multiple IPs are normally provided with an additional time allowance, recognising their representative role.

The applicant's draft DCO provides for the compulsory acquisition of land and rights, and the temporary possession of land. APs have a right to request and be heard at a **compulsory acquisition hearing (CAH)**. If one or more APs request to be heard then a CAH must be held. Provisional dates for CAHs are included in the draft Examination Timetable along with deadlines by which requests to be heard must be submitted.

The ExA has the discretion to hold **issue specific hearings (ISHs)** if it would aid in the examination and there is a specific reason this would be more helpful than reliance on written evidence only. The lack of an ISH on one or more topics does not suggest that that topic is less important than others which are subject to a hearing. Rather, it is an indication that the ExA is satisfied that the issues can be fully considered through written submissions and responses to its written questions and that each party has had a fair opportunity to put its case.

The draft Examination Timetable includes a number of dates reserved for ISHs and IPs may make suggestions for topics to be discussed at an ISH in their written or oral representations to the PM.

It may be necessary for the ExA to hold more than one ISH on the draft DCO. This is normal practice, and they are held on a without prejudice basis. Parties can suggest modifications and amendments to the draft DCO provided by the applicant with the application, without prejudicing their overall position on the application.

Holding such hearings does not imply that the ExA has reached any judgements on the merits of the application. Whatever the ultimate recommendation is, the ExA must make sure that the draft DCO is fit for purpose if the SoS decides to grant consent, as any consent will be subject to requirements (ie conditions) set out in the DCO.

At hearings it will not normally be necessary for parties to make long and detailed submissions that require (for example) PowerPoint presentations. Any supporting detail/information can be provided in writing following the event by the relevant deadline.

The draft Examination Timetable includes deadlines (**procedural deadline A (Wednesday 5 March 2025)** and **deadline 1 (Wednesday 30 April 2025)**) for participants to notify the ExA that they wish to speak at an OFH or a CAH.

Site inspections

As part of the examination process the ExA may undertake site inspections. These can be either unaccompanied or accompanied.

The purpose of these is for the ExA to see features of the proposals within the context of the evidence put forward. Notes of unaccompanied site inspections (USIs) are published on the [project webpage](#).

Accompanied site inspections (ASIs) 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 public access. The purpose of ASIs is familiarisation only and no discussion of the merits of the proposed development will take place during an ASI.

The ExA may decide to hold USIs to relevant nominated locations, supported by the submission of additional written, photographic, video or even drone material if this would be preferable to not visiting sites or holding ASIs in circumstances which could make them difficult and unduly time-consuming to conduct (for example if public health restrictions are in place). The ExA may also consider if it would be appropriate to make arrangements for access only to be provided to specific sites such that they could be inspected as part of a USI on an access required basis (ARI)

The draft Examination Timetable includes a deadline for IPs to make submissions suggesting sites and locations that the ExA should visit. These will be used to inform further USIs/ARIs as well as possible ASIs.

Initial Assessment of Principal Issues

This is the initial assessment of the principal issues arising from consideration by the Examining Authority (ExA) of the application documents and relevant representations received. It is not a comprehensive or exclusive list of all relevant matters; regard will be had to all relevant matters in reaching a recommendation after the examination is concluded.

A number of the principal issues set out below have an interrelationship and overlap and this will be reflected in the examination. The principal issues are listed in alphabetical order and should not be taken to imply an order of importance.

The policy and consenting requirements and documents associated with the Planning Act 2008 (PA2008) are an integral part of the examination and are therefore not set out as separate principal issues. Furthermore, it should also be noted that whilst the effects of the proposal on (i) the achievement of sustainable development and (ii) the effects of the proposal in relation to human rights and equalities duties are not listed as specific principal issues, the ExA will conduct all aspects of the examination with these objectives in mind.

Principal Issue	Brief amplification To include but not necessarily limited to:
Biodiversity, ecology and the natural environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effects on protected species, including those subject to European site designations • Effects on other locally present species • Effects on statutory and locally designated sites, including those subject to European site designations and functionally linked land • Effects on woodland (including ancient woodland), trees and hedgerows • Adequacy of assessments and effectiveness of proposed mitigation measures • The extent to which the proposed development would deliver a biodiversity net gain and how that should be secured within the DCO
Environmental statement general matters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whether the Outline Design Parameters Statement sufficiently captures the maximum (or where relevant

	<p>minimum) design parameters for the project as assessed in the ES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The identification of any other proposed nearby major developments and the consideration of cumulative and in-combination effects of those developments with the proposed development • The effects during the decommissioning phase for the proposed development
General matters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The principle of development including whether it would accord with the UK's climate change obligations • The intended generating capacity for the proposed development having regard to the dDCO's reference to 'output capacity of over 50 megawatts' • The approach to the consideration of alternatives to the proposed development, including location and scale, and whether the proposed development would comply with legal and policy requirements in relation to the consideration of alternatives
Historic environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The effect on designated and non-designated heritage assets during the construction, operation and decommissioning phases of the proposed development • Effects on below ground archaeological deposits • Effectiveness of the proposed mitigation
Landscape and visual effects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suitability of the study area and the viewpoints used in the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment • Effects during construction, operation and decommissioning • Effects on views from the public rights of way network • Effects on the outlook from residential properties • Consideration of glint and glare effects • Effectiveness of landscape and visual mitigation measures and whether they are adequately secured in the dDCO

<p>Land use, agriculture and socio-economics</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The assessment of agricultural land classification and the effects on agricultural land and farming • Effects on soil quality • Economic and employment effects on the local and wider economy, during construction and operation • Whether the proposals are appropriate to minimise disruption to users of the public right of way network during construction and decommissioning • Effects on the living conditions/amenity of neighbouring occupiers
<p>Noise and vibration</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of sensitive receptors • Noise effects during construction, operation and decommissioning phases • Vibration effects during construction and decommissioning phases • Effectiveness of proposed mitigation
<p>Other planning matters</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The effect on air quality during construction and decommissioning including dust and the effectiveness of proposed mitigation • Major accidents and disasters including the potential safety hazards associated with battery storage technology and effectiveness of the proposed mitigation • Ground conditions and land contamination • Waste
<p>Traffic and transport</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effects on the strategic road network • Effect on local road network, including public rights of way • Effects on communities and other sensitive receptors along the construction HGV delivery route, including associated noise and air quality and accessibility • Effects on rail network • Effectiveness of proposed mitigation measures, including the contents and adequacy of the Framework Construction

	<p>Traffic Management Plan and the Framework Construction Environmental Management Plan</p>
<p>Water Environment and Flood Risk</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adequacy of the Flood Risk Assessment and the approach to flood risk modelling • Potential changes in surface and groundwater quality including impact on source protection zones and indirect implications for biodiversity • Relationship with environmental permits • Assessment of hydrological, water quality, water resource and wildlife effects • Effect of the proposal on Water Framework Directive objectives • Disapplication of relevant legislation • Climate change considerations • Mitigation and enhancement measures, including likely effectiveness, monitoring procedures and method for securing such measures within the draft Development Consent Order (dDCO)

Draft Examination Timetable

The Examining Authority (ExA) is under a duty to **complete** the examination of the application by the end of the period of six months beginning with the day after the close of the preliminary meeting.

The examination of the application primarily takes the form of the consideration of written submissions. The ExA will also consider any oral representations made at hearings.

Item	Matters	Date
1.	<p>Procedural deadline A</p> <p>Deadline for receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> written submissions about how the application should be examined, including the draft Examination Timetable requests to register for the preliminary meeting requests to register for open floor hearing 1 requests to register for issue specific hearing 1 regarding the draft Development Consent Order suggested locations for site inspections, including the reason for nomination, issues to be observed there and whether the location(s) require access to private land 	Wednesday 5 March 2025
2.	Preliminary meeting	Wednesday 19 March 2025
3.	Open floor hearing	Wednesday 19 March 2025
4.	Issue specific hearing 1 on the draft Development Consent Order	Thursday 20 March 2025
5.	<p>Issue by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the Examination Timetable 	As soon as practicable after the preliminary meeting
6.	<p>Deadline 1</p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> comments on relevant representations 	Wednesday 30 April 2025

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • statements of common ground requested by the ExA – see Annex F of the Rule 6 letter • local impact reports from local authorities • written summaries of oral submissions made at Hearings held during the w/c 17 March 2025 • written representations and summaries for any that exceed 1500 words • requests from interested parties to be heard at a further open floor hearing • requests by affected persons (defined in section 59(4) of the Planning Act 2008) to be heard at a compulsory acquisition hearing • the applicant’s proposed itinerary for an accompanied site inspection (if held) • the applicant’s updated documents - clean version and version showing tracked changes since the last submitted version, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the draft Development Consent Order - the Explanatory Memorandum - the Book of Reference - the Statement of Reasons • the applicant’s reports on progress – see Annex F of the Rule 6 letter: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the Land Rights Tracker - updated Schedule of Progress regarding Protective Provisions and Statutory Undertakers - Guide to the Application including an up-to-date schedule of documents to be certified - summary of progress in securing other consents and licences • any other information requested by the ExA for this deadline 	
7.	<p>Publication of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the ExA’s written questions (ExQ1) 	Friday 9 May 2025
8.	<p>Deadline 2</p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • comments on submissions for deadline 1 • responses to the ExA’s written questions (ExQ1) 	Wednesday 28 May 2025

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • updated statements of common ground in clean and tracked changes versions • the applicant's updated documents – clean version and version showing tracked changes since the last submitted version: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the draft Development Consent Order - the Explanatory Memorandum - the Book of Reference - the Statement of Reasons - the Land Rights Tracker - Schedule of Progress regarding Protective Provisions and Statutory Undertakers - Guide to the Application including an up-to-date schedule of documents to be certified - summary of progress in securing other consents and licences • Any other information requested by the ExA for this deadline 	
9.	<p>Time reserved for hearings and an accompanied site Inspection (if required), including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue specific hearings • Compulsory acquisition hearing • Open floor hearing 	W/C 16 June 2025
10.	<p>Deadline 3</p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • comments on submissions for deadline 2 • updated statements of common ground in clean and tracked changes versions • written summaries of oral submissions made at hearings held during the w/c 16 June 2025 • the applicant's updated documents – clean version and version showing tracked changes since the last submitted version, including where relevant: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the draft Development Consent Order - the Explanatory Memorandum - the Book of Reference - the Statement of Reasons - the Land Rights Tracker - Schedule of Progress regarding Protective Provisions and Statutory Undertakers 	Wednesday 25 June 2025

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - updated Guide to the Application including an up-to-date schedule of documents to be certified - summary of progress in securing other consents and licences <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • any other information requested by the ExA for this deadline 	
11.	<p>Publication of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the ExA's second written questions (ExQ2) (if required) 	Wednesday 2 July 2025
12.	<p>Deadline 4</p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • responses to the ExA's second written questions (ExQ2) • comments on submissions for deadline 3 • updated statements of common ground in clean and tracked changes versions • the applicant's final documents – clean version and version showing tracked changes since the version submitted with the application: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the draft Development Consent Order in the statutory instrument template with the statutory instrument template validation report - the Explanatory Memorandum <p>(Please note the final documents referred to above should include a consolidated tracked change version showing the differences between the version submitted with the application and the final version as well as a tracked change version showing changes since the last submitted version).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the applicant's updated documents – clean version and version showing tracked changes since the last submitted version: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the Book of Reference - the Statement of Reasons - the Land Rights Tracker - Schedule of Progress regarding Protective Provisions and Statutory Undertakers - updated Guide to the Application including an up-to-date schedule of documents to be certified 	Wednesday 16 July 2025

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - summary of progress in securing other consents and licences • any other information requested by the ExA for this deadline 	
13.	<p>Publication by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the ExA's schedule of proposed changes to the draft Development Consent Order (if required) • the Report on Implications for European Sites (if required) 	Wednesday 23 July 2025
14.	<p>Deadline 5</p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • comments on submissions for deadline 4 • comments on the ExA's schedule of changes to the draft Development Consent Order (if required) • comments on the Report on Implications for European Sites (if required) • final statements of common ground in clean and tracked changes versions • the applicant's final documents – clean version and version showing tracked changes since the last submitted version: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the Book of Reference - the Statement of Reasons - the Land Rights Tracker - Schedule of Progress regarding Protective Provisions and Statutory Undertakers - updated Guide to the Application including an up-to-date schedule of documents to be certified - summary of progress in securing other consents and licences • any other information requested by the ExA for this deadline 	Thursday 7 August 2025
15.	<p>Deadline 6</p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • summary statements from parties regarding matters that they have previously raised during the examination that have not been resolved to their satisfaction 	Tuesday 19 August 2025

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • comments on submissions for deadline 5 • any other information requested by the ExA for this deadline 	
16.	The ExA is under a duty to complete the Examination of the application by the end of the period of six months.	Friday 19 September 2025

Submission times for Deadlines

The time for submission of documents at any deadline in the timetable is 23:59 on the relevant deadline date, unless instructed otherwise by the ExA.

Publication dates

All information received will be published on the [project webpage](#) as soon as practicable after the deadlines for submissions.

Report on the Implications for European Sites (RIES)

Where an applicant has provided a No Significant Effects Report or a habitats regulations assessment (HRA) Report with the application, the ExA may decide to issue a RIES during the examination. The RIES is a factual account of the information and evidence provided to the ExA on HRA matters during the Examination up to the date of the publication of the RIES, for the purposes of enabling the Secretary of State, as competent authority, to undertake its HRA. It is not the ExA's opinion on HRA matters. Comments on the RIES will be invited by the ExA and any received will be taken into account as part of the ExA's Recommendation to the Secretary of State. The ExA may also raise questions in the RIES to confirm or clarify matters that remain outstanding.

The Secretary of State may rely on the consultation on the RIES to meet its obligations under Regulation 63(3) of The Habitats Regulations 2017 and/ or Regulation 28 of The Offshore Marine Regulations.

Notification of initial hearings

The Examining Authority (ExA) provides notice of the following initial hearings:

Date	Hearing	Start time	Venue and Joining details
Wednesday 19 March 2025	Open floor hearing	Registration and seating available at venue from: 1.15pm Virtual Registration Process from: 1.30pm Hearing starts: 2.00pm	Doncaster Racecourse, Bawtry Road, Doncaster, DN2 6BB 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
Thursday 20 March 2025	Issue specific hearing 1 (dDCO)	Registration and seating available at venue from: 9.15am Virtual Registration Process from: 9.30am Hearing starts: 10.00am	Doncaster Racecourse, Bawtry Road, Doncaster, DN2 6BB 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
<p>NOTE: If any of the above hearings are no longer required then notification that a particular date is no longer required will be published as soon as practicable on the project webpage, providing reasonable notice to interested parties of the decision to cancel them.</p>			

You must register by completing the [Event Participation Form](#) by Wednesday 5 March 2025 if you intend to participate in any of the hearings and provide all the information requested (see below).

If you simply wish to observe any of the hearings then you do not need to register as you will be able to either:

1. watch a livestream of the event - a link to the livestream will be made available on the [project webpage](#) shortly before the event is scheduled to begin, or
2. watch the recording of the event which will be published on the project webpage shortly after the event has finished

Alternatively, you can attend the physical hearing at the venue to observe the proceedings. However, to ensure there is adequate seating capacity at the venue we request that you register your attendance to **observe only** by **Wednesday 5 March 2025** using the [Event Participation Form](#). Please note that it may not be possible to participate on the day if you have not registered your wish to speak by **Wednesday 5 March 2025**.

Any request to participate in a hearing **must include** the following information:

- name and unique reference number (found at the top of any letter or email from the Planning Inspectorate)
- email address (if available) and contact telephone number
- name and unique reference number of any person/organisation that you are representing (if applicable)
- for blended events, confirmation of whether you will participate virtually or in-person
- confirmation of the hearing(s) you wish to participate in, the agenda item(s) on which you wish to speak and/or brief details of the topic(s) that you would like to raise
- for compulsory acquisition hearings, the plot number(s) of the relevant land provided in the Book of Reference and the Land Plans, and
- the examination library reference number (with paragraph / page number where appropriate) of any documents you wish to refer to

Requests to participate should be made using the [Event Participation Form](#) on or before **procedural deadline A**.

Please contact the Case Team using the contact details at the top of this letter if you require any support or assistance to attend any of the hearings, either virtually or in person.

Hearing agendas

High-level agendas for these hearings have been published alongside this notification on the [project webpage](#) to help inform your decision about whether to register to participate.

For issue specific hearings and compulsory acquisition hearings, the ExA will publish a detailed draft agenda on the project webpage at least five working days in advance of the hearing date. However, the actual agenda on the day of each hearing may be subject to change at the discretion of the ExA. For open floor hearings an agenda may not be published.

Procedure at hearings

The examination of the application will principally be a written process supplemented where necessary by various types of hearings. See the Planning Inspectorate's advice for members of the public: [The stages of the NSIP process and how you can have your say](#) for more information.

The Planning Inspectorate's advice for members of the public provides important information about hearing procedures:

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

The procedure to be followed at hearings is set out in Rule 14 of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010. The ExA is responsible for the oral questioning of a person giving evidence and the process affords very limited scope to allow cross-questioning between parties.

Hearing livestream and recording

A link to a livestream for each hearing will be made available on the [project webpage](#) shortly before any hearing is due to open. The livestream is available to anybody who wishes to observe a hearing in real time.

All hearings are recorded, and the recordings will be made available on the [project webpage](#) as soon as practicable after the close of the hearing. The recordings allow any member of the public who is interested in the application and the examination to find out what has been discussed.

Other Procedural Decisions made by the Examining Authority

The Examining Authority (ExA) has made the following procedural decisions:

1. Statements of Common Ground (SoCG)

In relation to some of the principal issues identified in **Annex C** to this letter, the ExA would be assisted by the preparation of SoCGs between the applicant and certain interested parties. The draft Examination Timetable at **Annex D** to this letter therefore establishes **deadline 1 (Wednesday 30 April 2025)** for submission of SoCGs.

The aim of a SoCG is to agree factual information and to inform the ExA and all other parties by identifying where there is agreement and where the differences lie **at an early stage** in the examination process. It should provide a focus and save time by identifying matters which are not in dispute or need not be the subject of further evidence. It can also usefully state where and why there may be disagreement about the interpretation and relevance of the information. Unless otherwise stated or agreed, the SoCG should be agreed between the applicant and the other relevant interested party or parties, and submitted **by the applicant**.

SoCGs are requested to be prepared between the applicant and:

Party(ies)	Topics to include but not limited to:
City of Doncaster Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scope of EIA topics and issues carried through to the assessment, and the appropriateness of the assessment methodologies used • planning policy • the need and principle of the proposed development and the examination of alternatives • air quality and health • noise and vibration • ground conditions and land contamination • land use and agriculture • landscape and visual receptors • biodiversity, ecology and the natural environment • design including effect on trees, woodland and hedgerows • water resources, flood risk and drainage • construction effects on people and communities • employment and other socioeconomic factors • historic environment including archaeology • traffic, transport and public rights of way • glint and glare • an assessment of the proposed development's cumulative and in-combination effects with other nearby major developments • mitigation measures including an assessment of their likely effectiveness, ongoing monitoring

	<p>procedures and how mitigation will be secured within the DCO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • any other relevant matters
Environment Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scope of EIA topics and issues carried through to the assessment, and the appropriateness of the assessment methodologies used • water environment effects, including flood risk and effects on flood alleviation and storage schemes, watercourses, waterbodies and drainage matters • adequacy of the Flood Risk Assessment and the approach to flood risk modelling and effects on flood risk management assets • compliance with the Water Environment (Water Framework Directive) (England and Wales) Regulations 2017 • biodiversity and fisheries • land contamination and groundwater, including source protection zones, groundwater dependent ecosystems and existing landfill • waste management • environmental permits, consents and licences • mitigation and enhancement measures including likely effectiveness, monitoring procedures and method for securing such measures within the dDCO • protective provisions • compulsory acquisition affecting Environment Agency interests • any other matters
National Highways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scope of EIA topics and issues carried through to the assessment, and the appropriateness of the assessment methodologies used • highways and transport implications • effectiveness of proposed mitigation and monitoring measures and method for securing such measures within the dDCO
Natural England, Yorkshire Wildlife Trust and The Burnet Heritage Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scope of EIA topics and issues carried through to the assessment, and the appropriateness of the assessment methodologies used • adequacy of survey and EIA methodology including assessment of cumulative and in-combination effects • effects on habitats, species and nationally designated sites • effects on European sites, functionally linked land and features relevant to Habitat Regulations Assessment, assessment methodology and conclusions

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> land use, agriculture and socioeconomics including the effect on soils and best and most versatile agricultural land mitigation and enhancement measures, including likely effectiveness, monitoring procedures and method for securing such measures within the dDCO including the outline soils resource management plan
Historic England	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> scope of EIA topics and issues carried through to the assessment, and the appropriateness of the assessment methodologies used consultation adequacy existing environment assessment methodology assessment findings approach to mitigation Outline Written Scheme of Investigation effectiveness of proposed mitigation and monitoring measures and method for securing such measures within the dDCO
Network Rail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the effect on existing railway infrastructure and services with particular reference to level crossings compulsory acquisition affecting Network Rail land and assets protective provisions
Northern Powergrid (Yorkshire)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> effect on existing apparatus connection matters compulsory acquisition affecting Northern Powergrid land and assets protective provisions
National Grid Electricity Transmission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> effect on existing apparatus any connectivity issues compulsory acquisition affecting National Grid Electricity Transmission protective provisions
South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> approach to assessment of effects on battery safety including methodology employed and assessment of significance of effects

All of the SoCGs listed above should cover the articles and requirements in the draft Development Consent Order. Any interested party seeking that an article or requirement is reworded should provide the form of words which are being sought.

Where a particular SoCG cannot be agreed between the parties by **deadline 1**, or if any local authority position needs to be signed off at a higher level, draft versions of that SoCG are requested to be submitted **by the applicant at deadline 1**. The position of the relevant Interested Parties should then be

confirmed in the course of the examination. The draft Examination Timetable makes provision for updated SoCGs to be submitted at various deadlines with final versions by **deadline 6**.

The content of SoCGs will help to inform the ExA about the need to hold any issue specific hearings during the examination, and to enable the ExA and the applicant to give notice of such hearings at least 21 days in advance of them taking place.

2. Accompanied Site Inspection – suggested locations

The draft Examination Timetable at **Annex D** to this letter includes a date reserved for an accompanied site inspection (ASI) during the **week commencing 16 June 2025**.

The ExA requests that interested parties submit suggested locations for the ExA to visit as part of an ASI by **procedural deadline A (Wednesday 5 March 2025)**. The request must include:

- sufficient information to identify the location
- the issues to be observed at the location
- information on whether the site can be accessed via public land
- the reason why the location has been suggested

Interested parties should be aware that ASIs are not an opportunity to make any oral representations to the ExA about the proposed development.

However, participants may be invited by the ExA to indicate specific features or sites of interest.

The applicant is requested to prepare a draft itinerary for the ASI to be submitted by **deadline 1 (Wednesday 30 April 2025)**. This should include:

- relevant locations referred to in the relevant representations received
- any other locations at which the applicant has predicted likely significant environmental effects, and
- the locations suggested by interested parties submitted by **procedural deadline A (Wednesday 5 March 2025)**.

Comments by interested parties on the applicant's draft itinerary must be submitted by **deadline 2 (Wednesday 28 May 2025)**.

The ExA will consider each suggested site location, including those provided in the applicant's draft itinerary, to determine if it could be viewed from public land on an unaccompanied basis or if it is necessary to view it on an accompanied basis. The ExA will also consider if it would be appropriate to make arrangements for access only to be provided to specific sites such that they could be inspected as part of an unaccompanied site inspection on an access required basis.

The ExA will publish its final itinerary at least five working days before the date of the ASI (if held).

3. Land Rights Tracker

The ExA notes the submission of the Schedule of Negotiations and Powers Sought [[APP-021](#)].

However, the ExA wishes to take this data a stage further with the capture and manipulation of all non-agreed land rights at the outset of the examination in a simple, usable table. The aim is to make the process of reporting on the applicants' on-going discussions with affected persons and others much easier, and to enable us to provide that information to the Secretary of State in a more efficient way.

With that in mind, the ExA has made a Procedural Decision to request that the applicant completes and maintains a Land Rights Tracker. An example is shown in the figure below and will be sent to the applicant by the Case Team. In the example, the structure of the Land Rights Tracker would provide a comprehensive account of the status of non-agreed matters with Affected Persons.

The ExA recognises that the figure below is draft only and is not a statutory requirement. However, it is hoped that the applicant and affected persons will recognise that the purpose of the Land Rights Tracker is to simplify the whole examination, recommendation and decision-making process. The ExA requests that all parties therefore positively engage with the process.

The ExA requests that the Land Rights Tracker is submitted at **deadline 1 (Wednesday 30 April 2025) and should replace the** applicant's Schedule of Negotiations and Powers Sought document [[APP-021](#)] in order to avoid duplication. Further updates should be provided at **each deadline** and a final version must be submitted at **deadline 5 (Thursday 7 August 2025)**.

Should the applicant consider that the required information for the Land Rights Tracker can be captured in a different and more efficient way or by using different software, it may wish to discuss this with the Case Manager and update the ExA at the Preliminary Meeting.

The applicant can avoid submitting updates as stated above if there are no changes to the previous version.

4. Additional Submissions

Since the acceptance of the application, the following documents have been accepted into the examination:

Representation from Broadwalk Law UK LLP on behalf of Elba Securities Limited and Able UK Limited (AUK) dated 11 February 2025 [[AS-003](#)].

Examination Documents

The application documents and relevant representations can be inspected on the [project webpage](#).

How to stay up to date

All further documents submitted in the course of the examination will also be published under the [Documents tab](#) of the project webpage.

You can also sign up to get [email updates](#).

If you have any questions about the process, examination events or how to access the documents, you can email FenwickSolar@planninginspectorate.gov.uk or contact us on 0303 444 5000.

The Examination Library

For ease of navigation, please refer to the [Examination Library](#) (EL) which is accessible by clicking on the link under the documents tab. The EL is updated regularly throughout the examination.

The EL records and provides a hyperlink to:

- each application document
- each representation made to the examination
- each procedural decision made by the Examining Authority

Each document is given a unique reference which will be fixed for the duration of the examination. **Please quote the unique reference number from the EL when referring to any examination documents in any future submissions that you make.**

Information about the 'Have your say' page

The '[Have your say](#)' page is available on the [project webpage](#) .

You will need to enter your unique reference number ('Your ref' found at the top your postcard or email from the Planning Inspectorate). If you are making a submission on behalf of another person or organisation, and do not have your own unique reference number, then you should enter the unique reference number of the person or organisation you are representing. If you are not a registered interested party then it is at the discretion of the Examining Authority whether or not your submission is accepted.

Submissions will be published on the [project webpage](#) as soon as practicable following the close of the relevant deadline. For further information about publishing submissions please view our [Privacy Notice](#).

You will be able to submit a document (upload file), make a text representation or both. It is possible to upload multiple files for each individual submission item. Electronic attachments should be clearly labelled with the subject title and not exceed 50MB.

Submissions **must not include hyperlinks** to documents / evidence hosted on a third party website eg technical reports, media articles etc. See the Planning Inspectorate's advice for members of the public: [Advice for submitting representations or comments](#) for important information about making written submissions. All submissions must be made in a format that can be viewed in full on the National Infrastructure Planning website. Any submissions that exceed 1500 words should also be accompanied by a summary; this summary should not exceed 10% of the original text.

You should select the relevant deadline for your submission and then, on the next webpage, select the appropriate Submission item as described in the Examination Timetable at **Annex D** to this letter. Please ensure you make a separate submission for each Submission item and **do not duplicate your submission**. If you consider that your submission does not fit the description of any of the submission items then please select the submission item 'Other' and ensure that it is titled appropriately.

If you experience any issues when using the '[Have your say](#)' page please contact the Case Team using the contact details at the top of this letter and they will assist.