

Date: 25 February 2025
Our ref: 503506
Your ref: EN010152



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VIA WEBSITE ONLY

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Dear Rory Cridland,

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

Thank you for your consultation dated 18 February 2025.

Please accept this letter as Natural England's comments in relation to the contents of the Rule 6 letter. Natural England is an Interested Party (IP) within the examination of the Fenwick Solar Farm Project

1. Attendance of the Preliminary Meeting

Thank you for your invitation to the Preliminary Meeting on the 19 March 2025. Natural England will not be attending as we have no further comments to make on the procedural aspects of the examination.

2. Accompanied Site Inspections (ASI)

Natural England does not plan to attend any site inspections, noting we are not permitted to provide advice during these visits.

3. Compulsory Acquisition Hearings (CAH)

Natural England does not plan to attend any Compulsory Acquisition Hearings, as these fall outside of our remit.

4. Issue Specific Hearings (ISH)

Natural England will only attend hearings by exception, targeting those ISH that have the greatest likelihood of resolving significant environmental risks. In such instances our attendance will be virtual. We highlight that where Natural England does not attend hearings, this should not be construed as a lack of concern on outstanding issues.

Natural England would be pleased to respond to any questions from the ExA that arise from the hearings at a subsequent deadline.

5. Engagement with the Applicant

During the Examination Natural England will, where possible, engage with the Applicant to ensure issues are progressed. Due to the timing implications of multiple examinations, Natural England will focus our engagement on key issues where the proposals are being amended in response to concerns, or where new or updated assessments present an opportunity for issue resolution.

Natural England are currently engaging with the applicant to progress issues raised in our relevant representations, and a Statement of Common Ground will be submitted at Deadline 1.

Please let me know if you have any relevant questions in the meantime, via

consultations@naturalengland.org.uk

Yours sincerely

Alice Megaw

Yorkshire and Northern Lincolnshire Area Team
Natural England