

Application for a Development Consent Order for the proposed Frodsham Solar project

Planning Inspectorate Reference Number: EN010153.

Notification of Hearings under Rule 13(6) Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010

1. Notice is hereby given that, at the dates, times and locations set out below, the following Hearings will be held by the Examining Authority (on behalf of the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero (the "Secretary of State")) for the examination of the application made by Frodsham Solar Limited (Company Number 14432433), whose registered office is 70 St Mary Axe, London, United Kingdom, EC3A 8BE ("the Applicant") for a Development Consent Order ("DCO") under the Planning Act 2008 ("the Application").

2. The Application was submitted to the Secretary of State via the Planning Inspectorate on 30 May 2025 and accepted for examination on 27 June 2025. The reference number applied to the Application by the Planning Inspectorate is EN010153. The Examining Authority was appointed on 05 August 2025 to examine the Application, and the Examination began on 02 December 2025.

Hearing	Date	Time	Venue
Compulsory Acquisition Hearing (CAH1)	Tuesday 24 February 2026	Registration and seating available at venue from: 09:00 Virtual Registration Process from: 09:15 Hearing starts: 09:30	Forest Hills Hotel Frodsham, Belmonte Road, Overton Hill, Frodsham, Cheshire, WA6 6HH 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
Issue Specific Hearing 2 (ISH2) • Fire risk, safety and security • Traffic and Transport • Non-motorised users and Public rights of way (PROW)	Tuesday 24 February 2026	Tuesday Registration and seating available at venue from: 13:00 Virtual registration process from: 13:15 Hearing starts: 13:00	Forest Hills Hotel Frodsham, Belmonte Road, Overton Hill, Frodsham, Cheshire, WA6 6HH 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
Issue Specific Hearing 2 (ISH2) - Continuation • Biodiversity and Ecology (including HRA aspects) • Green Belt • Ground conditions (agriculture, soils, land use, contaminated land, minerals) • Landscape and Visual (including good design) • Water Environment (water quality, resources, flooding, drainage) • Other planning matters	Wednesday 25 February 2026 and Thursday 26 February 2026 (continuation of relevant topics if required)	Wednesday Registration and seating available at venue from: 09:00 Virtual registration process from: 09:15 Thursday Registration and seating available at venue from: 09:00 Virtual registration process from: 09:15 Hearing starts: 09:30	Forest Hills Hotel Frodsham, Belmonte Road, Overton Hill, Frodsham, Cheshire, WA6 6HH 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

3. Interested Parties wishing to speak at the Hearing(s) listed above should notify the Planning Inspectorate in writing by 17 February 2026 via the Frodsham Solar page of the Planning Inspectorate's website: <https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010153>

4. If you require assistance with registering your attendance, please contact the Case Team at FrodshamSolarFarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk or by calling 0303 444 5000. The Planning Inspectorate reference for the Application (EN010153) should be quoted in any correspondence.

5. The Hearings will also be held as virtual events, and it will be possible to join them via any standard internet browser or alternatively by telephone dial-in. Full instructions on how to join online or by telephone will be provided in advance to those who have pre-registered to speak. Live streams will also be provided for each Hearing for those who wish to watch but not speak, the link for this will be available on the day at: <https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010153>

6. If a Hearing is no longer required, reasonable notice will be provided of the Planning Inspectorate's decision to cancel it by the posting of a banner on the Planning Inspectorate's project webpage for the Proposed Development.

7. Further information regarding the Hearings, the examination of the Application, the full timetable (and amendments), how and when to register to speak at the Hearings, and how and when to make written submissions will also be available on the project page of the Planning Inspectorate's website (link above), or by contacting the Planning Inspectorate (details above).

8. Please note that Hearings will be recorded, and the recordings will be published on the Frodsham Solar page of the Planning Inspectorate's website as soon as practicable after each Hearing has taken place.

9. Any further Hearings (if required) will be publicised as required by the Planning Inspectorate and by the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010.

Summary of the Proposed Development

10. The Application is for development consent to construct, operate, maintain and decommission a solar photovoltaic (PV) electricity generating facility with a capacity of approximately 147 megawatts (MW) of electricity as well as the storage of approximately 100 MW of electricity in a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS). It also includes infrastructure for connection to the local electricity distribution network as well as a private wire electricity connection that would enable local businesses to utilise the renewable energy generated.

11. Frodsham Solar (the "Proposed Development") is located approximately 500 metres to the north of Frodsham Town Centre within the administrative area of Cheshire West and Chester Council. A map showing the location of the Proposed Development can be viewed on the Planning Inspectorate's National Infrastructure Planning website at the following link: https://nsip-documents.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/published-documents/EN010153-000186-2.1%20Location%20Order%20Limits%20and%20Grid%20Coordinates%20Plans_PO2.pdf

12. Development consent is required to the extent that development is or forms part of a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) pursuant to sections 14(1)(a), 15(1) and 15(2) of the Planning Act 2008. It is for this reason that the Proposed Development falls within the remit of the Secretary of State's decision-making powers.

13. The DCO, if granted, would authorise the compulsory acquisition of land, interests in land and rights over land, and the powers to use land permanently and temporarily. The DCO would also authorise alterations to the layout of streets, the construction of accesses to the Proposed Development, the temporary stopping up or management of the public rights of way, street works, removal of hedgerows and the application and disapplication of legislation.

Application form and accompanying documents

14. The Application documents (including maps and plans, the Environmental Statement, Non-Technical Summary and the draft Order (the "Application Documents")), can be viewed and downloaded free of charge in the Documents section on the Frodsham Solar page of the Planning Inspectorate's website: <https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010153/documents>

15. An electronic copy of the Application Documents can be supplied free of charge on a USB memory stick. To request a USB, please email info@frodshamsolar.co.uk, write to FREEPOST FRODSHAM SOLAR (free of charge; no need for a stamp) or telephone 0808 175 4004 (free of charge). The documents can also be accessed electronically at the following public locations: Frodsham Library, Helsby Library and Ellesmere Port Library. Opening hours for those libraries can be found at the following link: <https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/libraries/find-a-library>

16. The full suite of Application Documents can be made available in hard copy format on request. Given the size and format of the Application documents, a full suite of documents may cost up to £5,000. For any bespoke document requests, please contact the Applicant using the contact details at the bottom of the notice, who will provide the cost. Copies of individual documents are also available on request, and a reasonable copying charge may apply.

17. If you require alternative methods for inspection of the Application Documents (for example in large print, audio or braille formats), please contact the Applicant by telephone 0808 175 4004 or email info@frodshamsolar.co.uk.

Contact us

18. Further information can be obtained from the Applicant using the contact details provided.

Email: info@frodshamsolar.co.uk

Freephone Information Line: 0808 175 4004

Freepost: FREEPOST FRODSHAM SOLAR