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All interested parties, statutory parties and
any other person invited to the preliminary
meeting

Your Ref:

Our Ref: EN010157

Date: 29 July 2025

Dear Sir/ Madam

Planning Act 2008 – Section 89 and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 – Rules 8 and 9

Application by RWE Renewables UK Solar and Storage Limited for an order granting development consent for Peartree Hill Solar Farm

Examination timetable and other procedural decisions

This letter (the rule 8 letter) provides important information about the examination of this application. It follows consideration of all submissions received, including in relevant representations, at procedural deadline A, and at the preliminary meeting.

The examination timetable

We have made a procedural decision about the way the application will be examined. The final examination timetable is attached at **annex A** to this letter.

The examination timetable replaces the draft timetable that was included in our [rule 6 letter](#). In finalising the examination timetable, we have considered requests and suggestions made orally or in writing to the preliminary meeting. A list of the main changes we made to the draft examination timetable is set out at **annex B** to this letter.

Please note that the examination timetable contains a number of deadlines for receipt of information by the Planning Inspectorate. All deadlines are at 23:59 on the date specified. Please ensure submissions arrive by the deadline. If you do not make your submissions by the dates specified in the timetable, we may disregard them.

We request that all interested parties make their submissions using the [‘Have your say’ page](#) on the project webpage on or before the applicable deadline. **Annex D** to this letter provides further information about using the ‘Have your say’ page.

If we consider it necessary to vary the examination timetable during the examination, notification will be sent to interested parties, statutory parties and other persons invited to the preliminary meeting. The changes will be published on the [project webpage](#).

As explained in the [rule 6 letter](#) and at the preliminary meeting, the examination will principally be a written process supplemented as necessary by hearings and site inspections. More information about the examination process is provided in the rule 6 letter and in the Planning Inspectorate’s [advice pages](#).

Written representations

All interested parties are now invited to submit written representations and any comments on the relevant representations already submitted. These should be submitted by **deadline 1** in the examination timetable, which is **Wednesday 27 August 2025**.

Written representations can cover any relevant matter and are not restricted to the matters set out in our initial assessment of principle issues or to the content of our written questions (see next heading below).

Any person, other than the applicant, who submits a written representation must identify those parts of the application with which they agree and those parts with which they do not agree, explaining the reasons why. Interested parties should also provide with their written representations any data, methodology and assumptions used to support their submissions to avoid delays in the examination (see paragraph 009 of the [government’s guidance on the examination stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects](#) for further information about written representations).

We have requested further types of written submissions at various points in the examination (see **annex A**).

Any written representations and any further written submissions requested during the examination, that exceed 1500 words, should also be accompanied by a summary which should not exceed 10% of the original text. The summary should set out the key facts of the written submission and must be representative of the submission made.

Representations **must not include hyperlinks** to documents/ evidence hosted on third party websites. See the Planning Inspectorate’s [Advice for members of the public: Advice for submitting representations or comments](#).

Examining Authority’s written questions

We have prepared our [first written questions](#) (ExQ1) about the application and the representations received so far.

Responses to ExQ1 must be provided by **deadline 1** in the examination timetable, which is **Wednesday 27 August 2025**.

If you require an editable Microsoft Word version of ExQ1, please [contact the Case Team](#) using the contact details at the top of this letter.

Other procedural decisions made by the Examining Authority

Annex B to this letter contains important details and clarifications about other procedural decisions we made at, or following, the preliminary meeting.

Changes to land interests

When the applicant becomes aware that there has been a change in ownership, or a new interest, in relevant land, it is requested to make the relevant person aware that they can make a request to me to become an interested party under Section 102A of the Planning Act 2008 by contacting the Case Team. The applicant should provide confirmation that relevant persons have been informed of their rights in an update to the Book of Reference.

Format of examination events

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 when we provide formal notification of each hearing in advance of it taking place.

Managing examination correspondence

The Examining Authority draws your attention to the Planning Inspectorate's guidance on the use of artificial intelligence (AI). If you have chosen to use AI please mark your document as required. [View: use of artificial intelligence in casework evidence](#).

Given the volume and frequency of letters that 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 from the Planning Inspectorate 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 webpage](#).

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 D** to this letter.

There is also a function on the right-hand side of the project webpage called 'E-mail updates'. This provides you with an opportunity to register to receive automatic e-mail updates at key stages during the examination.

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 webpage](#).

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

Alex Hutson

Lead member of the Examining Authority

Annexes

- A** Examination timetable
- B** Other procedural decisions made by the Examining Authority
- C** Examination documents
- D** Information about the 'Have your say' tab

This communication does not constitute legal advice.
Please view our [Privacy Notice](#) before sending information to the Planning Inspectorate.

Examination Timetable

The 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 ExA may however decide to close the examination earlier and on the date specified in the timetable if it considers that the application and relevant matters have been examined adequately.

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	Event(s)	Date(s)
1.	Procedural deadline A Deadline for receipt by the ExA of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> written submissions about how the application should be examined, including the draft examination timetable requests to speak at the preliminary meeting and/ or attend at the venue in person requests to speak at open floor hearing 1 and/ or attend at the venue in person 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 any additional information as a result of the ExA's response to the applicant's notice of intention to make changes/ corrections to the application 	Tuesday 8 July 2025
2.	Preliminary meeting	Tuesday 22 July 2025 (morning)
3.	Open floor hearing 1	Tuesday 22 July 2025 (afternoon)
4.	Issue by the ExA of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the examination timetable (the rule 8 letter) the ExA's first written questions 	As soon as practicable after the preliminary meeting

Item	Event(s)	Date(s)
5.	<p>Deadline 1</p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • comments on relevant representations and additional submissions • responses to the ExA's first written questions • local impact reports from local authorities • written representations from interested parties and summaries of any that exceed 1500 words • written summaries of any oral representations made at open floor hearing 1 • applicant's draft itinerary for an accompanied site inspection (if necessary) • the applicant's updates – refer to Annex E of the rule 6 letter • responses to submissions received at procedural deadline A • any other information requested by the ExA for deadline 1 under Rule 17 of the Examination Procedure Rules 	Wednesday 27 August 2025
6.	<p>Deadline 2</p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • requests to be heard at a further open floor hearing • requests to be heard at an issue specific hearing • requests by affected persons (defined in s59(4) of the Planning Act 2008) to be heard at a compulsory acquisition hearing • the applicant's updates – refer to Annex E of the rule 6 letter • comments on the deadline 1 submissions and any other information requested by the ExA for deadline 2 	Wednesday 10 September 2025
7.	<p>Issue by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the ExA's second written questions • notification of an accompanied site inspection (if required) 	No later than Wednesday 24 September 2025

Item	Event(s)	Date(s)
8.	Deadline 3 For receipt by the ExA of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • responses to the ExA's second written questions • the applicant's updates – refer to Annex E of the rule 6 letter • comments on the deadline 2 submissions and any other information requested by the ExA for deadline 3 	Monday 6 October 2025
9.	Issue by the ExA of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • arrangements for an accompanied site inspection (if required) 	No later than Wednesday 15 October 2025
10.	Time reserved for hearing(s): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • issue specific hearing (if required) • compulsory acquisition hearing (if required) • open floor hearing (if required) Time reserved for an accompanied site inspection (if required)	w/c 20 October 2025
11.	Deadline 4 For receipt by the ExA of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the applicant's updates – refer to Annex E of the rule 6 letter • written summaries of oral submissions made at any hearings during w/c 20 October 2025 • comments on the deadline 3 submissions and any other information requested by the ExA for deadline 4 	Friday 31 October 2025
12.	Issue by the ExA of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Report on Implications for European Sites (if required) 	Friday 7 November 2025
13.	Issue by the ExA of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the ExA's third written questions (if required) • Publication of the ExA's schedule of changes to the draft Development Consent Order (if required) 	No later than Friday 14 November 2025

Item	Event(s)	Date(s)
14.	Deadline 5 For receipt by the ExA of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • responses to the ExA's third written questions (if required) • the applicant's updates – refer to Annex E of the rule 6 letter • comments on the deadline 4 submissions and any other information requested by the ExA for deadline 5 • Updates to documents as necessary arising from the applicant's first request for changes/ corrections to the application • comments on the Report on Implications for European Sites (if required) • comments on the ExA's schedule of changes to the draft Development Consent Order (if required) 	Friday 28 November 2025
15.	Deadline 6 For receipt by the ExA of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • closing summary statements from parties regarding matters that they have previously raised during the examination and that have not been resolved to their satisfaction • the applicant's closing summary statement • the applicant's final updates – refer to Annex E of the rule 6 letter • comments on the deadline 5 submissions and any other information requested by the ExA for deadline 6 	Thursday 18 December 2025
16.	Close of examination The ExA intends to close the examination on the date specified	Monday 22 December 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 Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.

Other procedural decisions made by the Examining Authority (ExA)

We have made a number of procedural decisions following the preliminary meeting:

1. Examination timetable

The applicant [\[PDA-001\]](#) suggested moving the date of deadline 2 in the draft examination timetable from Wednesday 10 September to Friday 12 September, to allow interested parties more time to comment on documents submitted at deadline 1. This was discussed at the preliminary meeting. No other interested parties raised the matter as a concern. After careful consideration, the ExA takes the view that there would be sufficient time provided to allow for detailed and informed responses to the information provided at deadline 1 in the period given. Accordingly, the ExA has not amended the date of deadline 2.

The applicant [\[PDA-001\]](#) suggested moving the date of deadline 3 in the draft examination timetable from Monday 6 October to Wednesday 8 October, to allow interested parties more time to respond to the ExA's second written questions (ExQ2), which would be issued no later than Wednesday 24 September. This was discussed at the preliminary meeting. No other interested parties raised the matter as a concern. After careful consideration, the ExA takes the view that there would be sufficient time provided to allow for detailed and informed responses to ExQ2 in the period given. Accordingly, the ExA has not amended the date of deadline 3. Notwithstanding this, the date of Monday 6 October for deadline 3 would ensure that the ExA has sufficient time to review submissions at this deadline, in order to adequately prepare for any hearings to be held in the week commencing 20 October 2025.

The ExA explained at the preliminary meeting that it intended to make some minor amendments to some aspects of the draft examination timetable. These are reflected in the final examination timetable and are as follows:

- Deadline 1 - provision made for responses to procedural deadline A submissions.
- Deadline 3 - the removal of the second bullet point, as requests for a further open floor hearing or a compulsory acquisition hearing are provided for at deadline 2, and, should any hearings be held, the ExA would set out in a notification letter matters around attendance.
- Addition of a new Item 12 to provide for the publication by the ExA of the Report on the Implications for European Sites (if required) on Friday 7 November 2025 rather than on Friday 14 November 2025, to allow interested parties a longer period to comment on it. Changes have been made to the numbering of subsequent items.
- Deadline 5 - provision made for updates to any documents as necessary arising from the applicant's first request for changes to the application, rather than at deadline 6 as initially suggested by the applicant. This was agreed by the applicant at the preliminary meeting.

2. Examining Authority's written questions

Our [written questions](#) (ExQ1) have been published alongside this rule 8 letter on 29 July 2025. Whilst most of our written questions are directed at specific parties, no other party

should feel inhibited or restricted in responding to any question we ask, even if it is directed elsewhere.

All relevant statutory parties are requested to check our written questions carefully in order that they may identify and respond to any questions posed to them.

For the avoidance of doubt, statutory parties are defined as the parties listed in schedule 1 to [The Infrastructure Planning \(Interested Parties and Miscellaneous Prescribed Provisions\) Regulations 2015](#). Statutory parties, including relevant local authorities, that have not already registered to become an interested party should consider notifying the ExA of their wish to be considered as an interested party, under Section 89(2A)(b) of the Planning Act 2008 (PA2008) as soon as possible.

3. Statements of common ground (SoCG)

The applicant is taking the lead in the preparation of SoCGs and it will aid the smooth running of the examination if all interested parties who are participating in the preparation of SoCGs liaise and co-operate with the applicant in respect of their production. We set out in **annex G** of our rule 6 letter the SoCGs we request are submitted during the examination of this application. Final signed versions of the SoCGs between the applicant and those parties listed below are requested to be submitted **by the applicant to deadline 6**:

- **East Riding of Yorkshire Council**
- **The Environment Agency**
- **Natural England**
- **National Highways**
- **Historic England**
- **Humberside Fire and Rescue Service**
- **Beverley and North Holderness Internal Drainage Board**
- **East Riding of Yorkshire and Kingston upon Hull Joint Local Access Forum**
- **Yorkshire Wildlife Trust**

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.

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

4. Local impact reports (LIR)

A LIR is a report in writing giving details of the likely impact of a proposed development on a local authority's area (or any part of that area). For more information about the

importance and content of LIRs see the Planning Inspectorate's [Advice for local authorities](#).

Local authorities, defined in section 56A of the Planning Act 2008, are invited to submit LIRs by **deadline 1**.

5. 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. They should inform them that information about how to do this can be found in the Planning Inspectorate's advice for members of the public: [Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects and the people and organisations involved in the process](#).

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.

6. Status of the applicant's examination documents

We request that the applicant provides, at each deadline, an updated 'Introduction to the application' document which provides a list of the most up-to-date status of the documents submitted, including which copies have been superseded in whole or in part. A final version must be submitted before the close of the examination. All examination documents submitted should include a version number and date.

7. Additional submissions

In addition to the documentation submitted by procedural deadline A and the acceptance of the additional submissions set out in **annex G** of the [rule 6 letter](#), we have exercised our discretion to accept the following additional submission:

- AS-014 – from The Coal Authority

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 [project mailbox email address](#) 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 the blue button 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 and submission made to the examination
- each procedural decision made by the Examining Authority

Each document is given a unique reference number 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 letter 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, for example technical reports, media articles and so on. 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 A** 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.