

27 January 2025

To: Secretary of State for the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero

By email to [limedown@planninginspectorate.gov.uk](mailto:limedown@planninginspectorate.gov.uk)

Dear Sir or Madam

**Lime Down Solar Park – The Planning Inspectorate Reference EN010168**

**Notice of proposed application for a Development Consent Order pursuant to Section 46 of the Planning Act 2008 ('2008 Act')**

Lime Down Solar Park Limited ('the Applicant') is seeking development consent to construct, operate, maintain and decommission a solar and energy storage project with grid connection infrastructure located entirely within the administrative boundary of Wiltshire Council ('the Lime Down Solar Park').

The Lime Down Solar Park will cover a combined area of approximately 2,835 hectares and will consist of the following sites:

- Lime Down A, B, C, D, E: five solar array sites located in Wiltshire currently comprising 878 hectares which lie to the north of the M4, southwest of Malmesbury, between the villages of Alderton, Luckington, Sherston, Foxley, Norton, Corston, Startley, Upper Seagry, Lower Stanton St Quintin and Hullavington.
- The solar array sites will include solar panels, conversion units, inverters, and up to five 33Kv substations in Lime Down A to E and up to three 132 kV substations in Lime Down A, C and E. There will be one 400kV substation located within Lime Down D.
- One or two Battery Energy Storage System ('BESS') areas, both of which will be located within Lime Down D.
- A cable route search area has been identified for the underground electricity cables connecting the Lime Down A to E solar array sites, substations and the BESS to the National Grid at the existing Melksham Substation, currently comprising 1,947 hectares.
- Associated infrastructure, mitigation and enhancement measures, and other ancillary works, for example, fencing, security, local grid connections, temporary access roads, permanent means of access, highway works, temporary works compounds and work sites.

The five solar array sites are located across several parishes:

- Lime Down A is located within the civil parish of Sherston, approximately 735 metres to the southeast of Sherston;

- Lime Down B is located within the civil parish of Norton approximately 3.9km to the west of Malmesbury;
- Lime Down C is located within the civil parishes of Luckington, Hullavington and Sherston, and Norton approximately 3.3km to the south of Sherston;
- Lime Down D, which incorporates the proposed BESS areas, is located in the civil parishes of Norton, and Hullavington approximately 4km to the southwest of Malmesbury; and
- Lime Down E is located within the civil parish of St Paul Malmesbury Without, approximately 4.4km to the south of Malmesbury.

Lime Down Solar Park is an Environmental Impact Assessment ('EIA') development for the purposes of the Infrastructure Planning ('Environmental Impact Assessment') Regulations 2017. This means that the proposed works involved constitute development for which an EIA is required the proposed application for a DCO will therefore be accompanied by an Environmental Statement. The Environmental Statement will provide a detailed description of Lime Down Solar Park and its likely significant environmental effects. Information compiled so far about Lime Down Solar Park's likely significant environmental effects is set out for consultation in a Preliminary Environmental Information Report ('PEIR') and summarised in a Non-Technical Summary ('NTS').

The proposed DCO will, among other things, authorise:

- Construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of the solar Photo Voltaic electricity generating station and associated development including grid connection and energy storage facility;
- Compulsory acquisition of land, including interests in land, rights over land and imposition of restrictions, powers to override, suspend or extinguish rights over land and powers for the temporary use of land;
- The application, modification and/or disapplication of legislation including legislation relating to compulsory purchase and landlord and tenant; and
- Such ancillary, incidental and consequential provisions, licenses, property rights, permits and consents as are necessary and/or convenient.

### **Notice under section 46 of the 2008 Act**

Please treat this letter as notice to the Planning Inspectorate, under section 46 of the 2008 Act, of the Applicant's proposed application in relation to Lime Down Solar Park and please find enclosed:

1. Example covering letter to statutory consultees under section 42 of the 2008 Act and Regulation 13 of the 2017 Regulations;
2. Example covering letter to land interests under section 44 of the 2008 Act;
3. Copy of the notice publicising the application under section 48 of the 2008 Act. The notice is published in:

<b>Newspaper</b>	<b>Dates</b>
Wiltshire Gazette and Herald	16 January 2025 23 January 2025
Wiltshire Times	17 January 2025 24 January 2025
London Gazette	24 January 2025
The Guardian	22 January 2025

## **Consultation materials**

In accordance with section 46 of the 2008 Act, the documents listed as points 4-7 below are available to consultees free of charge during the consultation between 29 January – 19 March 2025 at the community access points detailed in the section 48 notice, and on the project website document library <https://www.limedownsolar.co.uk/> pursuant to the Applicant's duty to consult under section 42 and 44 of the 2008 Act:

4. Notice publicising the proposed DCO application under section 48 of the 2008 Act;
5. The PEIR;
6. A non-technical summary of the PEIR; and
7. Additional documents including the Project Information Booklet, Consultation Feedback form, maps and plans and the Statement of Community Consultation ('SoCC').

Hard copies of the SoCC, PEIR, and PEIR NTS will be available for inspection free of charge from 29 January until 19 March 2025 at the community access points detailed in the section 48 notice. Hard copies of the Consultation Leaflet, Project Information Booklet and the Consultation Feedback Form will be available to take away from the community access points free of charge.

Requests for a printed hard copy of the PEIR will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. To cover printing and postage costs, a charge of up to £4,874.00 may apply. (The charge will be calculated based on cost per individual volume requested as follows: Volume 1 – Main Report, £896.00; Volume Two – Figures, £700.00 and Volume Three – Appendices, £3,278.00).

**Responses to this consultation must be received no later than 23:59 on 19 March 2025.** Responses received after this time may not be considered.

If you would like further information about this letter, the consultation, or Lime Down Solar Park, please contact the project team by using one of the contact methods provided below:

**Emailing:** [info@limedownsolar.co.uk](mailto:info@limedownsolar.co.uk)

**Calling our Freephone:** [0808 175 6656](tel:0808 175 6656)

**Writing to us at:** FREEPOST LIME DOWN SOLAR (no stamp or further details required)

**Visiting our website at:** [www.limedownsolar.co.uk/](http://www.limedownsolar.co.uk/)

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Will Threlfall', is written over a horizontal line.

Will Threlfall  
Project Manager  
On behalf of Lime Down Solar Park Limited