Lime Down
Solar Park

Consultation Report Appendices

Appendix F-2: Statutory Consultation under Section 47 of the Planning Act 2008

September 2025

Planning Inspectorate Reference: EN010168

Document Reference: APP/5.2

APFP Regulation 5(2)(q); Planning Act 2008; and Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations

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1 The Signpost

THE SIGNPOST

February 2025

THE MONTHLY MAGAZINE FOR LITTLE & GREAT SOMERFORD, STARTLEY, SEAGRY, RODBOURNE & CORSTON

Super Snowdrops Seagry Churchyard

Lime Down

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Public consultation

29 January - 19 March 2025

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2 The Sherston Cliffhanger

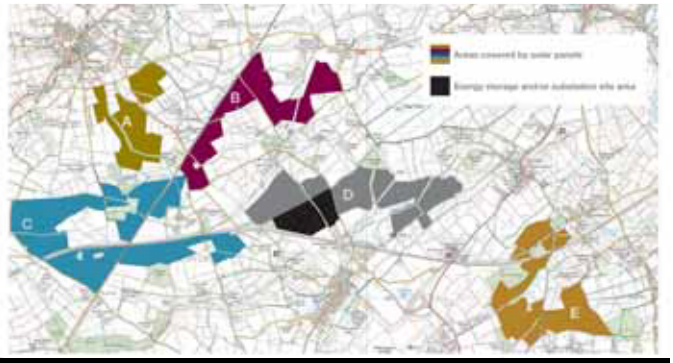
THE SHERSTON
CLIFFHANGER
FEBRUARY 2025
PUBLISHED BY SHERSTON PARISH COUNCIL
DELIVERED FREE

Have your say on the Lime Down Solar proposal

Lime Down Solar Park is a proposed utility-scale solar park and battery energy storage.

The project involves the installation of solar panels and an on-site battery energy storage facility, with an underground cable connection into the national grid at Melksham substation. Electricity generated would be made available for homes and businesses across the UK.

On the opposite page, we provide readers with an update from the developers, Island Green Power, and from Stop Lime Down, a campaign group against the development.



From Stop Lime Down

As many of you will know, Island Green Power (IGP) is proposing an enormous industrial-scale solar development covering 2,200 acres of agricultural land and biodiverse countryside. Spanning nine villages and 50 square kilometres, the proposal could include over one million solar panels, each 4.5 metres tall and a massive lithium battery storage facility with the entire area encircled by three-metre-high fencing and CCTV. The development would permanently alter our local landscape, potentially disrupt our roads during a lengthy construction phase and risk irreparable damage to our environment, heritage and local economy.

As Lime Down has been designated a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project, the decision process involves a Development Consent Order. This is not a done deal with the final decision unlikely before late 2026. This rigorous process provides opportunities for local residents to voice their concerns and participate in shaping the outcome.

IGP is about to hold a series of local statutory consultation meetings to share updates on its proposals. These sessions follow initial consultations in 2024, where IGP acknowledged that 88% of respondents opposed the project. Despite this opposition, IGP is pressing ahead and it is critical that we remain vigilant and strategic in our responses.

This period of statutory consultation is a crucial opportunity for our community to ask questions, share concerns, and show that we are fully engaged with this significant development proposal. A strong turnout will demonstrate the importance we place on safeguarding our countryside and heritage, while holding IGP accountable for addressing community concerns.

The team of volunteers at Stop Lime Down will be giving guidance about how and when individuals can best express their personal concerns, and on completing IGP's Feedback Questionnaire.

For further information about the dates and locations of the consultation meetings and to register your support for Stop Lime Down, please visit www.stoplimedown.com

Lime Down is the wrong size, wrong location and in the wrong ownership.

From Island Green Power

Island Green Power invites you to take part in the second-stage of public consultation on its refined plans for Lime Down Solar Park – the solar and energy storage park proposed on land in Wiltshire, plus associated infrastructure to connect it into Melksham substation.

The consultation began on Wednesday 29 January and runs until Wednesday 19 March.

Join us at any of the in-person or online information events we're holding to speak with the project team, find out more about our proposals and how you can provide us with your thoughts.

Event details

- Wednesday 5 February (6.30pm–8.00pm) – online webinar (Zoom)
- Friday 7 February (2.30pm–7.30pm) – Sherston Village Hall, SN16 0LQ
- Saturday 8 February (11.00am–3.00pm) – Hullavington Village Hall, SN14 6EB
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- Thursday 27 February (6.30pm–8.00pm) – online webinar (Zoom)

[redacted], Senior Project Development Manager at Island Green Power explained:

'After carrying out an initial stage of consultation last year, we've continued to refine our proposals for Lime Down taking into consideration feedback received and the findings from our ongoing environmental and technical studies. This next stage of 'statutory' consultation will give people the opportunity to provide their input and find out where we're proposing to locate equipment and biodiversity measures, provide more details on the proposed route for an underground cable connecting the project into the national grid at Melksham substation, and show how we are proposing to minimise impacts associated with the operation and decommissioning of the development. We're also asking for suggestions on community benefits that the project could incorporate into its design and provide through a fund.'

He added: 'We want to encourage as many people as possible to participate and have their say. Continued engagement with local communities is crucial in helping us deliver a renewable energy project that makes an important contribution to the future energy needs of the country while also respecting the priorities of communities neighbouring the development.'

People wishing to receive updates about the project and the consultation direct should register on at: www.limedownsolar.co.uk

For further information about the project, please contact the Community Relations Team on:

- Freephone: 0808 175 6656
- Email: info@limedownsolar.co.uk
- Post: FREEPOST Lime Down Solar

3 Hullavington News

HULLAVINGTON

Photo Credit: Bev Hobbs

London Trip 2025

Photo Competition winner

FEBRUARY 2025 – MARCH 2025

*Hullavington News is **FREE**! - Please take a copy*

(and don't forget one for your less able neighbours - help share our news!)

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4 Wiltshire Times Front Page

Wiltshire Times

5 Wiltshire Times Advert

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6 Wiltshire Gazette and Herland Front Page

DEVIZES EDITION

Gazette & Herald

gazetteandherald.co.uk

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2025 BRINGING HOME THE NEWS SINCE 1816 £1.70

7 Wiltshire Gazette and Herald Advert

8 Wiltshire Gazette and Herland Front Page (2)

DEVIZES EDITION

Gazette & Herald

gazetteandherald.co.uk

THURSDAY, JANUARY 23, 2025 BRINGING HOME THE NEWS SINCE 1816 £1.70

DEVIZES EDITION

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10 Swindon Advertiser Front Page

Swindon Advertiser

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Lime Down
Solar Park

Public consultation

29 January – 19 March 2025

Island Green Power invites you to take part in a second stage of public consultation on plans for Lime Down Solar Park – the solar and energy storage park proposed on land in Wiltshire, plus associated infrastructure to connect it into Melksham substation.

Visit our website to find out more about what we're consulting on and how you can take part.

Scan the QR code here to access our project website

[redacted]

Contact us

Email: **info@limedownsolar.co.uk**

Freephone: **0808 175 6656**

Freepost: **FREEPOST Lime Down Solar**

Website: **www.limedownsolar.co.uk**

Come along to an event

Join us at any of the in-person or online information events we're holding to speak with the project team, find out more about our proposals and how you can provide us with your thoughts.

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ESTABLISHED 1981

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Covering Melksham and the surrounding villages

Issue No. 877
Thursday
13th February 2025

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16 Press Release – 28 January 2025

EMBARGOED UNTIL 11.59PM TUESDAY 28 JANUARY 2025

29 January 2025

Consultation launched on updated plans for Lime Down Solar Park

Island Green Power has launched a second stage of consultation on its plans for Lime Down Solar Park – a new renewable solar energy and storage development proposed in Wiltshire.

Starting today, 29 January 2025, the consultation will run for seven weeks before closing on 19 March 2025. During this time, the developer is inviting feedback from local communities near the site, as well as those from the wider area, for their views on the updated proposals.

The refined plans cover a total development area of 878 hectares. Of this, 53 per cent will be utilised for solar panels and associated infrastructure, to support the generation of renewable energy.

The remaining 47 per cent of the land available for the development has been allocated for environmental purposes, including mitigation measures, biodiversity net gain initiatives, ecological enhancements and offsets, all contributing to deliver significant environmental benefits to the local area.

This second stage of consultation follows an initial consultation held early last year. During the first stage, Island Green Power presented its preliminary study area for the proposed solar development, alongside broad corridors in which an underground cable could be routed to connect the solar park to the national grid at Melksham substation.

The plans now being consulted on have been informed by the findings from extensive environmental studies as well as feedback received during the first consultation.

[redacted] Senior Project Development Manager at Island Green Power explained:

"Following our initial round of consultation and as part of our ongoing commitment to sensitive design and responding to people's feedback, we have refined our proposals in several ways.

"Nearly half of the area originally proposed for the solar park will now be used for solar development, with the remainder allocated to environmental improvements

that benefit local biodiversity and ecology. This ensures the design is sensitive to the landscape and key features that people have highlighted as important, such as the Fosse Way.

"We have also carefully considered ways to minimise the impact of the battery storage component by co-locating it within the solar development areas and increasing the distance between this equipment and nearby residences and communities.

"We're really grateful to everyone who has shared their views and contributed to helping shape the Project so far. Projects like Lime Down Solar are vital to enabling the transition from fossil fuel to low carbon energy, and we're committed to delivering a scheme that makes a meaningful contribution to both local and national energy needs. I'd encourage people to find out more about how our proposals have evolved and come along to the events we're holding to speak with myself and the wider team."

Full details of the updated proposals being consulted on, including maps and plans, as well as details of the consultation events taking place can be found on the Project website at: www.limedownsolar.co.uk.

Information about the consultation and where information can be found has also been advertised in the local press, with leaflets having been sent to over 14,000 homes and business.

Anyone wishing to receive updates about the Project and the consultation direct are encouraged to register their details on the Project website.

For further information please contact the Community Relations Team on:

- Freephone: 0808 175 6656
- Email: info@limedownsolar.co.uk
- Post: FREEPOST Lime Down Solar

ENDS

Notes to editors:

For more information contact [redacted] (Counter Context) on 0[redacted]@countercontext.com

About Lime Down Solar Park

Lime Down Solar Park is a proposed utility-scale solar park and battery energy storage located in Wiltshire.

As part of this latest consultation, Island Green Power is hosting a series of in-person and online events. Anyone with an interest in the project is encouraged to attend to learn more about the Project and how they can take part,

Event details

- **Wed 5 Feb** (18:30–20:00) – ONLINE WEBINAR (Zoom)

- **Fri 7 Feb** (14:30–19:30) – Sherston Village Hall, SN16 0LQ
- **Sat 8 Feb** (11:00–15:00) – Hullavington Village Hall, SN14 6EB
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The Project involves the installation of solar panels and an on-site battery energy storage facility, with an underground cable connection into the national grid at Melksham Substation. Electricity generated would be made available for homes and businesses across the UK.

If consented, the solar park could deliver up to 500 megawatts (MW) of renewable energy. This is equivalent to providing enough clean affordable electricity to power approximately 115,000 homes annually.

Because the amount of electricity Lime Down Solar Park could generate exceeds 50MW, the project is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP)

The development consenting regime for an NSIP comes under the Planning Act 2008. This means that Island Green Power must apply to the Planning Inspectorate for a for a Development Consent Order (DCO) to build, operate and decommission Lime Down Solar Park.

In the case of energy-related NSIPs, the Planning Inspectorate acts on behalf of the Secretary of State for Energy and Net Zero. The Planning Inspectorate will carry out an examination of the application and then make a final recommendation to the Secretary of State on whether to grant consent. The Secretary of State will make the final decision on whether to grant consent for Lime Down Solar Park.

Island Green Power expect the development process, including DCO submission and examination, to span two to three years. The aim is to submit the application for development consent to the Planning Inspectorate in Autumn 2025. Subject to obtaining consent, the earliest that construction would start is 2027.

While the DCO application will not be submitted to the local planning authority, Wiltshire Council and stakeholder groups will play a key role in the planning process and will be extensively consulted as the project progresses.

More information about Lime Down Solar Park is available at: www.limedownsolar.co.uk

For more information about the application process for NSIP Projects on the Planning Inspectorate website, please visit the PINS webpage linked here.

About Island Green Power

Lime Down Solar Park Limited is a 100% subsidiary of IGP UK Projects Limited, which is in turn a 100% subsidiary of Island Green Power's UK group holding company, Island Green Power Group Limited. All the companies are registered in England and Wales.

Established in 2013, Island Green Power (IGP) is a leading developer of renewable energy projects.

Over the last decade we have successfully delivered over 34 projects worldwide totalling more than one gigawatt of clean, renewable energy assets. This includes 17 projects in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

This includes the recently consented West Burton Solar Project, which will generate 480 MW of clean energy, enough to power 115,000 homes.

You can find out more about us at: [redacted]

17 Press Release – 04 March 2025

Lime Down
Solar Park

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

04 March 2025

Reminder to submit feedback on updated plans for Lime Down Solar Park

Island Green Power, the developer putting forward proposals for Lime Down Solar Park, is reminding local residents and wider stakeholders to provide feedback ahead of the close of the second stage of consultation on Wednesday 19 March 2025.

The second stage of consultation on plans for Lime Down Solar Park started on Wednesday 29 January 2025 and is currently running for seven weeks. Since the start of the consultation, the developer has held eight in person information events at venues located in the local community, and two online webinars.

The developer continues to invite feedback from local communities near the site, as well as those from the wider area, for their views on the updated proposals.

[redacted], Senior Project Development Manager at Island Green Power explained:

"We would like to thank everyone who has taken the time to engage with us and attend one of our in-person or online events. In total, we welcomed over 1,110 people to our events and received lots of useful comments and questions.

It's really important to us that as many people as possible share their thoughts on our proposals for Lime Down Solar Park. We want to make sure that those who live and work in the area have the opportunity to inform and influence the proposals we're developing.

We have already received a good amount of feedback, but if you haven't yet shared your views there is still time to do so before the consultation closes on 19 March 2025.

After the consultation closes, we will review all the feedback received and consider it as we continue to refine our proposals so we can finalise and submit an application for development consent to the Planning Inspectorate. We currently anticipate submitting our application in Autumn 2025."

Full details of the updated proposals being consulted on, including maps and plans, can be found on the Project website at: www.limedownsolar.co.uk.

Feedback can be provided via an online feedback form (via the Project website), by email (to info@limedownsolar.co.uk) or by post (via a printed feedback form, which can be requested by contacting the Community Relations Team) and returned to FREEPOST Lime Down Solar.

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The refined plans for the second stage of consultation cover a total development area of 878 hectares. Of this, 53 per cent will be utilised for solar panels and associated infrastructure, to support the generation of renewable energy.

The remaining 47 per cent of the land available for the development has been allocated for environmental purposes, including mitigation measures, biodiversity net gain initiatives, ecological enhancements and offsets, all contributing to deliver significant environmental benefits to the local area.

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