



Planning Inspectorate

Application by Lime Down Solar Park Limited for an order granting development consent for the Lime Down Solar Project

Notification of the date, time and venue for Issue Specific Hearing 1 on Wednesday **22 April 2022** was provided in Annex E of the [Rule 6 letter](#) dated 9 February 2026.

Hearing	Date and Time	Location
<p>Issue specific hearing 1 (ISH1)</p> <p>Scope of the development</p>	<p>22 April 2026</p> <p>Hearing starts at 10:00am</p> <p>Registration and seating available at venue from 9:00am and virtual registration process from 9:00amRegistration</p> <p>Registration will close at 9:45am:45pm9 to facilitate a prompt start at 2:00pmstart at 10:00am</p>	<p>Need Community & Arts Centre, Borough Parade, Chippenham, SN15 3WL</p> <p>and</p> <p>by virtual means using Microsoft Teams</p> <p>Full instructions on how to join online or by telephone will be provided in advance to those who have pre-registered</p>

Agenda for Issue Specific Hearing 1 (ISH1)

Item 1	Welcome, opening remarks and introductions
Item 2	<p>Purpose of ISH1 and how it will be conducted</p> <p>The Examining Authority (ExA) will explain the purpose of the hearing, including that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> it is for the ExA to explore the overarching guiding principles that underpin the development proposal, its main components, aims and objectives, and the operation of the draft Development Consent Order (dDCO) this is specifically a high level hearing, and not an in depth scrutiny of any particular element of the development and its impacts. The applicant will be expected to focus on the matters in agenda items 3 to 6, and can expect to be questioned on them

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the hearing is subject to the powers of control of the ExA, as set out in the Planning Act 2008 and supporting legislation the ExA will invite parties to speak and will ask questions at relevant points on the agenda and when it otherwise considers it necessary all comments, questions and answers are to be directed to the ExA and not directly to any other party
Discussion Points	
Item 3	<p>Scope of the Proposed Development</p> <p>The Applicant shall take up to 10 minutes to provide an overview of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the proposal's key components the approach to site selection and the extent of the order limits the rationale for the scale of the proposed development, including the need case and any associated benefits an explanation of how it considers that the development proposal complies with the relevant National Policy Statements and other important and relevant matters
Item 4	<p>The draft Development Consent Order (dDCO)</p> <p>4.1 The Applicant shall take up to 10 minutes to provide an overview of each part of the dDCO [APP-016] and explain the approach taken to include/ explain the extent of the associated development and how this is defined and meets with the guidance for associated development. The ExA is likely to ask questions in respect of Articles, Schedules and Requirements of the dDCO.</p> <p>4.2 Applicant to explain how it has identified land needed for the proposed development, the different powers of acquisition and possession of land included in the dDCO and how the Applicant expects the dDCO to provide them with the powers needed to secure the delivery of the proposed development.</p> <p>4.3 Applicant to explain how the rights of statutory undertakers and potentially affected person(s) and with a registered legal interest in the land, or any part of the land, affected by the application, have been considered.</p>
Item 5	<p>Alternatives</p> <p>The Applicant shall take up to 10 minutes to provide an overview of how reasonable alternatives, including locations and alternative technologies, have been considered and how these have informed and shaped the proposed development.</p>
Item 6	<p>Electricity Generation and Grid Connection</p> <p>6.1 Applicant to provide an explanation of the status of the grid connection agreement, with evidence of timing, future consents or</p>

	<p>licences and any detail of any potential impediments to connection, or the timing of delivery/ completion.</p> <p>6.2 Applicant to provide information with regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the capacity of the local grid connection • the lower and upper limits of solar panel output • the proportion of the solar panel areas that is attributable to overplanting • likely generating capacity over time • likely solar panel efficiency over time • details of panel replacement over the course of the operation up to final decommissioning <p>6.3 Applicant to explain the role of the storage capacity of the Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) and its relationship with the generating station (solar farm), importation of electricity from the grid to the BESS (such as for grid balancing purposes), and any connection limitation to the grid.</p>
Item 7	Review of the issues and actions arising
Item 8	Close of Hearing (no later than 3pm)

Agenda Caveat

Please note that the above agenda is indicative and may be amended by the ExA at the start of the hearing. The ExA has sought to provide sufficient detail in this agenda to assist the parties to prepare for the hearing. However, the ExA may raise issues that are not listed on the agenda in the course of the discussion.

Conduct and Management of the Hearing

The ExA will be directing its questions to the applicant on the matters as set out in this agenda, and there will be limited time available for Interested Parties (IPs) to make submissions on the items in the agenda.

However, this does not mean that IPs will not be able to contribute, rather active participation by IPs is at the discretion of the ExA. As noted in our letter dated 2 April 2026 and published on the [project page](#) of the National Infrastructure Planning website, due to venue capacity, only participants who registered to speak or observe in person before Procedural Deadline A at 23:59 on 9 March 2026, will be permitted entrance into the venue.

If any IP intends to make lengthy or detailed comments on any of the agenda items or in response to the applicant's submissions at the hearing, they can be submitted in writing at **deadline 1A (Friday 8 May 2026)**.

Oral submissions on other subject matters or from IPs who have not been invited to speak by the ExA may only be heard at the discretion of the ExA, who may decide that such matters are not heard at this time in the interests of relevance, efficiency or fairness. Any lack of discussion of a particular issue at a hearing does not preclude further examination of that issue, including the asking of written questions by the ExA.

The event will be livestreamed, and recorded. A link for watching the livestream will be posted on the [project page](#) of the National Infrastructure Planning website closer to the hearing date. Therefore, if any IPs and other members of the public wish to observe the hearing only they can do so using the livestream. Alternatively, they can view and listen to the recording in their own time after the event.