



Planning Inspectorate

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

Case ref: EN010168

Date: 20 May 2026

Dear Sir/Madam

Planning Act 2008 (Section 89) and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 (Rules 8(3) and 9)

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

Procedural Decision Amending the Examination Timetable

We write to inform you of a procedural decision made by the Examining Authority (ExA) to amend the examination timetable. The amended timetable is set out in **Annex A** but in summary:

- Creates a new Deadline 2A for affected persons and interested parties to request (and register) to speak at a compulsory acquisition hearing 1 (CAH1) and at open floor hearing 2 (OFH2); and
- Creates a new entry at Deadline 5 for affected persons and interested parties to request a further CAH and OFH later in the examination, noting that the weeks commencing 14 and 21 September have already been reserved for hearings (if required) in the timetable.

If you have any questions about the content of this letter, please contact the case team on the details above.

Yours faithfully

Janine Laver

Lead Member of the Examining Authority

Annex A – Amended Examination Timetable

Amended Examination Timetable

The Examining Authority (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 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

Items in a **grey highlight** indicate that the deadline/event has passed. Items shown covered in underlined *italics* are the inserted amendments.

Item	Matters	Date
1.	<p>Procedural deadline A Deadline for receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any written submissions on the examination procedure, including any submissions about the draft examination timetable Requests by interested parties (IPs) to speak at the preliminary meeting, including which agenda items you wish to speak on, points you wish to make and why these need to be made orally rather than in writing Requests by IPs to speak at Open Floor Hearing 1 (OFH1) on Tuesday 21 April 2026 Requests by IPs to participate in Issue Specific Hearing 1 (ISH1) on Wednesday 22 April 2026 Comments on relevant representations (RRs), as requested in Annex F of the Rule 6 letter Applicant's submission of an amended Land Rights and Negotiations Tracker and submission of a spreadsheet version of the Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment Appendix, as requested in Annex F of the Rule 6 letter Suggestions from IPs for locations for site inspections (accompanied or unaccompanied), including justification, and whether such locations can be seen from public land or require private access, for consideration by the ExA 	Monday 9 March 2026
2.	<p>Procedural deadline B</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The applicant's draft itinerary for an ASI for consideration by the ExA (if subsequently required) 	Wednesday 1 April 2026
3.	Preliminary meeting	Tuesday 21 April 2026 (10:00am)

4.	Open floor hearing 1 (OFH1)	Tuesday 21 April 2026 (2:00pm)
5.	Issue specific hearing 1 (ISH1) ISH1 relating to the scope of development, including (but not limited to): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The draft Development Consent Order (dDCO) • Site selection, alternatives and design evolution • Generating capacity 	Wednesday 22 April 2026 (10:00am)
6.	Publication by the ExA of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The examination timetable (Rule 8 Letter) 	As soon as possible following the preliminary meeting
7.	Deadline 1 For receipt by the ExA of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notification by any statutory parties who have not submitted a RR of their wish to be considered as an IP by the ExA • Comments on RRs (if these have not been provided at procedural deadline A) • Written representations (WRs) and summaries for any that exceed 1500 words • Local impact reports (LIRs) from any local authorities • Comments on the applicant's draft itinerary for the ASI • The applicant's updated documents if any revisions have been made, as set out in Annex F of the Rule 6 Letter • Any further information requested by the ExA under rule 17 of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 	Friday 1 May 2026
8.	Deadline 1A For receipt by the ExA of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post preliminary meeting and hearing submissions, including written summaries of any oral cases, and responses to any hearing action points arising from OFH1 and ISH1 	Friday 8 May 2026
9.	Deadline 2 For receipt by the ExA of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comments on WRs • Comments on LIRs • Initial statements of common ground (SoCGs), in line with the detail requested in Annex F of the Rule 6 Letter 	Friday 22 May 2026

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comments from any party on any other submissions received at deadlines 1 and 1A The applicant's updated documents if any revisions have been made, as set out in Annex F of the Rule 6 Letter Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 	
10.	<p><u>Deadline 2A</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Requests from Affected Persons (APs) (defined in section 59(4) of the Planning Act 2008) to be heard at a compulsory acquisition hearing (CAH)</u> <u>Requests from IPs to be heard at a further OFH</u> 	<u>Monday 1 June 2026</u>
11.	<p>Publication by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ExA's first written questions (ExQ1) 	Monday 1 June 2026
12.	Accompanied Site Inspection (ASI1)	Thursday 11 June 2026
13.	<p>Deadline 3</p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Responses to ExQ1 Comments on initial SoCGs Comments from any party on any other submissions received at deadline 2 The applicant's updated documents if any revisions have been made, as set out in Annex F of the Rule 6 Letter Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 	Monday 15 June 2026
14.	Compulsory Acquisition Hearing (CAH1)	Tuesday 30 June 2026 (9:30am)
15.	Open Floor Hearing (OFH2)	Tuesday 30 June 2026 (2:00pm)
16.	Issue Specific Hearing (ISH2)	Wednesday 1 July 2026 (9:30am)
17.	Issue Specific Hearing (ISH3)	Thursday 2 July 2026 (9:30am)
18.	Issue Specific Hearing (ISH4)	Friday 3 July 2026 (9:30am)
19.	Deadline 4	Friday

	<p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post hearing submissions, including written summaries of any oral cases, and responses to any hearing action points. • Comments on responses to ExQ1 • Comments from any party on any other submissions received at deadline 3 • Requests from Affected Persons (defined in section 59(4) of the Planning Act 2008) of wish to be heard at a further compulsory acquisition hearing (CAH) • The applicant's updated documents if any revisions have been made, as set out in Annex F of the Rule 6 Letter • Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 	10 July 2026
20.	<p>Publication by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ExA's second written questions (ExQ2) 	Monday 27 July 2026
21.	<p>Deadline 5</p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responses to ExQ2 • Comments from any party on any other submissions received at deadline 4 • The protective provisions that parties propose to be included in the development consent order but have not been agreed by the applicant • <u>Requests by APs and IPs for a further CAH and/or OFH</u> • The applicant's updated documents if any revisions have been made, as set out in Annex F of the Rule 6 Letter • Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 	Friday 7 August 2026
22.	<p>Deadline 6</p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comments on responses to ExQ2 • Comments from any party on any other submissions received at deadline 5 • The applicant's updated documents if any revisions have been made, as set out in Annex F of the Rule 6 Letter 	Friday 21 August 2026

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 	
23.	<p>Publication by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Report on the Implications for European Sites (RIES) and any associated questions (if required) The ExA's commentary on, or schedule of changes to, the dDCO (if required) 	Friday 28 August 2026
24.	Dates reserved for hearings and further ASI (if required)	Weeks commencing 14 and 21 September 2026
25.	<p>Deadline 7</p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Post hearing submissions, including written summaries of any oral cases, and responses to any hearing action points. Comments from any party on any other submissions received at deadline 6 Comments on the RIES and responses to any associated questions within the RIES (if issued by ExA) Comments on the ExA's commentary on, or schedule of changes to, the dDCO (if issued by ExA) Applicant's closing statement with summary of areas of disagreement IPs closing statement(s) (if desired) regarding matters that they have previously raised during the examination and which have not been resolved to their satisfaction Any further information requested by the ExA under rule 17 of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 <p>Final updated documents (in clean and tracked versions):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Signed SoCGs and a list of matters not agreed where SoCGs could not be finalised dDCO to be submitted by the applicant in the statutory instrument (SI) template with the SI template validation report Book of reference (BoR) and schedule of changes to BoR Land Rights and Negotiations Tracker Guide to the Application 	Friday 2 October 2026

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Statement and other documents including management plans/ control documents • Any signed and dated section 106 agreements together with CIL compliance schedule 	
26.	Deadline 8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any further information requested by the ExA under rule 17 of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 	Friday 16 October 2026
27.	Close of examination See '*Note about the close of examination date'.	Wednesday 21 October 2026

***Note about the close of examination date**

The ExA is under a duty to complete the examination of the application by the end of the period of 6 months beginning with the day after the close of the preliminary meeting. The ExA may however decide to close the examination earlier than the date specified in the examination timetable above if it considers that the application and relevant matters have been examined adequately.

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 SoS, 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 SoS may rely on the consultation on the RIES to meet its obligations under regulation 63(3) of The Habitats Regulations 2017 and/ or Regulation 28 of The Offshore Marine Regulations.