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For Information - To all Interested Parties

Case ref: EN010168

By email only

Date: 16 July 2026

Dear Sir/ Madam

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

Planning Act 2008 – Section 89(3); The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 - Rules 8(3) and 9; The Infrastructure Planning (Compulsory Acquisition) Regulations 2010 – Regulations 7, 8, 9 10, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16

Change Request – Notice of variation to the examination timetable and receipt of relevant representations and written representations

On Monday 15 June 2026 (at deadline 3 of the examination), the applicant notified the Examining Authority (ExA) of its intention to make a request for changes to the application for the Lime Down Solar Project [[REP3-134](#)]. The ExA responded to that notification on 22 June 2026 [[PD-011](#)] setting out the potential implications for the examination timetable and the consultation requirements.

The applicant's formal change request was submitted on 24 June 2026, and in line with Regulation 6 of The Infrastructure Planning (Compulsory Acquisition) Regulations 2010 (CA Regulations), the ExA issued a procedural decision on 6 July 2026 to accept the proposed changes to the application into the examination [[PD-012](#)].

As noted within that procedural decision, the ExA considered that there was sufficient time within the remainder of the examination for the proposed changes to be properly and fairly examined, including the opportunity for written submissions and any oral representations to be made at any hearings, if required. Specifically, the ExA stressed the importance of keeping to the timescales set out in Table 5.1 of the applicant's Change Application and Consultation Report [[CR1-045](#)], which includes the opportunity for interested parties (IPs) to submit both relevant representations (RRs) and written representations (WRs) on the change application by deadline 6 on 21 August 2026.

In accordance with Rules 8(3) and 9 of the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010, the ExA hereby takes a procedural decision to amend the examination timetable to make express provision for the submission of RRs and WRs on the proposed provisions to compulsorily acquire additional land, and for oral examination if required, pursuant to Regulations 7, 8, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 of the CA Regulations.

The amended timetable is set out in **Annex A** and the following variations have been made:

- The existing **deadline 6** on **Friday 21 August 2026** now includes the closing date for submission of RRs and WRs to be made on the changed application. Deadline 6 now also includes the opportunity for any IPs and/ or additional affected persons (APs) to request to speak about the changed application at an Open Floor Hearing (OFH), a Compulsory Acquisition Hearing (CAH) or an Issue Specific Hearing (ISH) in relation to ISHs that have already been held.

Item 27 of the timetable clarifies that time has been reserved during the week of 21 September 2026 for those hearings to take place (if required).

- A new **deadline 6A** on **Monday 24 August 2026** has been added for the applicant's submission of the Certificate of Compliance pursuant to Regulation 9 of the CA Regulations.
- A new **deadline 6B** on **Wednesday 2 September 2026** has been added for comments on any RRs and WRs made at deadline 6 in relation to the changed application.

Advice on submitting representations

Existing and additional IPs are invited to submit RRs and WRs on the changed application. However, please note that Regulations 10 and 13 of the CA Regulations provides that RRs and WRs must relate only to the '*proposed provision*'¹, meaning those representations should be confined to the matters of additional land or rights sought to be compulsorily acquired by the changed application, and to the effects of the proposed development on, or to the taking of, the proposed additional land or rights.

Representations that repeat representations already made, that relate to the application more broadly, or to matters other than the proposed provision itself will not be accepted or considered by the ExA, as the existing examination procedures already provide a full process for the receipt and consideration of such information.

However, and for the avoidance of doubt, any additional APs can submit WRs on any relevant matter and the proposed development as a whole, should they wish to.

Additional APs are persons with an interest in the land that is subject to the applicant's '*proposed provision*', and which is deemed to constitute additional land for the purposes of the CA Regulations, as set out in the Change Application and Consultation Report [\[CR1-045\]](#) in the [Examination Library](#).

¹ '*proposed provision*' is defined in Regulation 2 of the CA Regulations – it means a compulsory acquisition request in respect of additional land

Any person who submits a WR must identify those parts of the application with which they agree and those parts with which they do not agree, explaining the reasons why. Further guidance on making a WR can be found [here](#). WRs should be submitted through the '[have your say](#)' page on the project website.

The applicant's change request application documents can be found in [examination library](#) references [CR1-001 to CR1-046]. The applicant has advised in [\[REP4-001\]](#) that it will provide consolidated versions of the relevant documents that include the proposed changes (for example the draft Development Consent Order, the explanatory memorandum, statement of reasons, funding statement, and any updated version of Environmental Statement chapters), at deadline 5 on **Friday 7 August 2026**.

If you have any questions on the matters addressed in this letter, please do not hesitate to contact the case team using the contact details at the head of this letter.

Yours faithfully,

Janine Laver

Lead member of the panel of Examining Authority

This communication does not constitute legal advice.

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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.	Procedural deadline A Deadline for receipt by the ExA of: - 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.	Procedural deadline B 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): • 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: • The examination timetable (Rule 8 Letter)	As soon as possible following the preliminary meeting
7.	Deadline 1 For receipt by the ExA of: • 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: • 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: • 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

	- 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.	Deadline 2A - Requests from Affected Persons (APs) (defined in section 59(4) of the Planning Act 2008) to be heard at a compulsory acquisition hearing (CAH) - Requests from IPs to be heard at a further OFH	Monday 1 June 2026
11.	Publication by the ExA of: The ExA's first written questions (ExQ1)	Monday 1 June 2026
12.	Accompanied Site Inspection (ASI1)	Thursday 11 June 2026
13.	Deadline 3 For receipt by the ExA of: - 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 For receipt by the ExA of:	Friday 10 July 2026

	• 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 APs (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	
20.	Publication by the ExA of: • The ExA's second written questions (ExQ2)	Monday 27 July 2026
21.	Deadline 5 For receipt by the ExA of: • 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 • Requests by APs and IPs for a further CAH and/or OFH • 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.	Deadline 6 <u>Closing date for RRs that concern the applicant's 'proposed provisions' for the compulsory acquisition of additional land (in accordance with Regulation 10 of the CA Regulations)</u> For receipt by the ExA of: • <u>WRs (including summaries of any that exceed 1500 words) from any IPs and any additional APs about the 'proposed provisions' for the compulsory acquisition of additional land (in accordance with Regulation 13 of the CA Regulations)</u>	Friday 21 August 2026

	• <u>Requests from any IPs and additional APs of their wish to speak at an OFH, pursuant to Regulation 16 of the CA Regulations</u> • <u>Requests from any additional APs of their wish to speak at a CAH, pursuant to Regulation 15 of the CA Regulations</u> • <u>Requests from any IPs and additional APs of their wish to be heard at an ISH, pursuant to Regulation 14 of the CA Regulations</u> • 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 • Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010	
23.	<u>Deadline 6A</u> <u>For receipt by the ExA of:</u> • <u>The applicant's Certificate of Compliance (in accordance with Regulation 9 of the CA Regulations)</u>	<u>Monday 24 August 2026</u>
24.	Publication by the ExA of: • 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
25.	<u>Deadline 6B</u> <u>For receipt by the ExA of:</u> • <u>Comments on RRs and WRs received at Deadline 6</u>	<u>Wednesday 2 September 2026</u>
26.	Dates reserved for Issue Specific Hearings, a Compulsory Acquisition Hearing and further ASI (if required)	Week commencing 14 September 2026
27.	Dates Reserved for Issue Specific Hearings, a Compulsory Acquisition Hearing <i>and the following</i> (if required): • <u>An OFH (if required) held under Regulation 16 of the CA Regulations</u> • <u>A CAH (if required) held under Regulation 15 of the CA Regulations</u> • <u>An ISH (if required) held under Regulation 14 of the CA Regulations</u>	Week commencing 21 September 2026

28.	Deadline 7 For receipt by the ExA of: • 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 Final updated documents (in clean and tracked versions): • 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 • Environmental Statement and other documents including management plans/ control documents • Any signed and dated section 106 agreements together with CIL compliance schedule	Friday 2 October 2026
29.	Deadline 8 • Any further information requested by the ExA under rule 17 of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010	Friday 16 October 2026
30.	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.