

Application for a Development Consent Order for the proposed Lime Down Solar Park

Planning Inspectorate Reference Number: EN010168

Notification of Hearings under Rule 13(6) Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 and sections 91 and 93 of the Planning Act 2008

1. Notice is hereby given that, at the dates, times and locations set out below, the following Hearings will be held by the Examining Authority (on behalf of the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero (the "Secretary of State")) for the examination of the application made by Lime Down Solar Park Limited (Company Number 13211532), whose registered office is Unit 25.7 Coda Studios, 189 Munster Road, London, England SW6 6AW ("the Applicant") for a Development Consent Order ("DCO") under the Planning Act 2008 ("the Application").
2. The Application was submitted to the Secretary of State via the Planning Inspectorate on 19 September 2025 and accepted for examination on 17 October 2025. The reference number applied to the Application by the Planning Inspectorate is **EN010168**.
3. The Examining Authority was appointed on 07 November 2025 to examine the Application. An additional member of the Examining Authority was appointed on 09 January 2026.
4. Issue Specific Hearings will be held at the dates, times and location set out in the table below.

Hearing	Date	Time	Venue and joining details
Issue Specific Hearing 5 (ISH5) on environmental matters, including, but not necessarily limited to, landscape and visual impacts, cultural heritage, and hydrology, flood risk and drainage	Tuesday 15 September 2026	Registration and seating available at venue from: 09:00 Virtual registration process from: 09:00 Hearing starts: 09:30	The National Self Build & Renovation Centre, Lydiard Fields, Great Western Way, Swindon, SN5 8UB and By virtual means using Microsoft Teams
Issue Specific Hearing 6 (ISH6) on environmental matters, including, but not necessarily limited to, Traffic and Transportation	Wednesday 16 September 2026	Registration and seating available at venue from: 09:00 Virtual registration process from: 09:00 Hearing starts: 09:30	Full instructions on how to join online or by telephone will be provided in advance to those who have pre-registered
Issue Specific Hearing 7 (ISH7) on environmental matters, including, but not necessarily limited to, outline management and mitigation plans	Thursday 17 September 2026	Registration and seating available at venue from: 09:00 Virtual registration process from: 09:00 Hearing starts: 09:30	

5. Interested Parties wishing to speak at the Hearing(s) listed above should notify the Planning Inspectorate in writing by **Monday 07 September 2026** via this link:



6. If you require assistance with registering your attendance, please contact the Case Team at limedown@planninginspectorate.gov.uk or by calling 0303 444 5000. The Planning Inspectorate reference for the Application (**EN010168**) should be quoted in any correspondence.
7. The Hearings will also be held as virtual events, and it will be possible to join them via any standard internet browser or alternatively by telephone dial-in. Full instructions on how to join online or by telephone will be provided in advance to those who have pre-registered to speak. Live streams will also be provided for each Hearing for those who wish to watch but not speak. The link for this will be available on the day at:
<https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010168>
8. Further information regarding the Hearings, the examination of the Application, the full timetable, how and when to register to speak at the Hearings, and how and when to make written submissions will also be available on the project page of the Planning Inspectorate's website (link above), or by contacting the Planning Inspectorate (details above).
9. Please note that Hearings will be recorded, and the recordings will be published on the project page of the Planning Inspectorate's website as soon as practicable after each Hearing has taken place.
10. A further week of hearings has been reserved in the timetable for the week commencing 21 September 2026. If the ExA resolve to hold further hearings during that week, it will issue a separate rule 13 hearing notification letter during the week commencing 24 August 2026. Any further Hearings (if required) will be publicised as required by the Planning Inspectorate and by the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010.
11. If any Hearing is no longer required then notification that a particular date is no longer required will be published as soon as practicable on the Planning Inspectorate's project webpage, providing reasonable notice to interested parties of the decision to cancel them.

Summary of the Scheme

12. The Application is for development consent to construct, operate, maintain and decommission a solar photovoltaic (PV) electricity generating facility with a capacity of over 100 megawatts (MW) and export connection to the National Grid. The Scheme comprises:
- Five solar array sites, Lime Down A, B, C, D, E (collectively the Solar PV Sites) located in Wiltshire 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 PV Sites will include solar panels, conversion units, inverters, and up to four 132kV substations located in Lime Down A, C, D and E. There will be one 400kV substation located within Lime Down D;
 - One Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) area, located within Lime Down D;
 - A Cable Route Corridor within which underground export connection cables would be located to connect the Solar PV Sites to the National Grid at the existing Melksham Substation, as well as connecting each of the Solar PV Sites; and

- 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 Scheme is located largely within the administrative area of Wiltshire Council, with small areas of existing highway within the administrative area of South Gloucestershire Council. The Solar PV Sites are located across several parishes:

- Lime Down A is located within the civil parish of Sherston, approximately 300 metres south of Sherston;
- Lime Down B is located within the civil parish of Norton, approximately 3 km southwest of Malmesbury;
- Lime Down C is located across the civil parishes of Sherston, Luckington, Hullavington, and Norton, approximately 830 metres east of Luckington;
- Lime Down D, which incorporates the proposed BESS area, is located across the civil parishes of Norton and Hullavington, approximately 480 metres west of Corston and 700 meters north of Hullavington; and
- Lime Down E is located within the civil parish of St Paul Malmesbury Without, approximately 150 metres northwest of Rodbourne.

A map showing the location of the Scheme can be viewed on the Planning Inspectorate's website at the following link: [https://nsip-documents.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/published-documents/EN010168-002288-2.1%20Location%20Plan%20\(R%20Rev%202\).pdf](https://nsip-documents.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/published-documents/EN010168-002288-2.1%20Location%20Plan%20(R%20Rev%202).pdf)

13. Development consent is required to the extent that development is or forms part of a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) pursuant to sections 14(1)(a), 15(1) and 15(2) of the Planning Act 2008. It is for this reason that the Scheme falls within the remit of the Secretary of State's decision-making powers.
14. The DCO, if granted, would authorise the compulsory acquisition of land, interests in land and rights over land, and the powers to use land permanently and temporarily. The DCO would also authorise alterations to the layout of streets, the construction of accesses to the Scheme, the temporary stopping up or management of the public rights of way, street works, removal of hedgerows and the application and disapplication of legislation.

Application form and accompanying documents

15. The Application documents (including maps and plans, the Environmental Statement and the draft Order (the "Application Documents")), can be viewed and downloaded free of charge in the Documents section on the project page of the Planning Inspectorate's website: <https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010168/documents>
16. An electronic copy of the Application Documents can be supplied free of charge on a USB memory stick. To request a USB, please email info@limedownsolar.co.uk, write to **FREEPOST LIME DOWN SOLAR** (free of charge; no need for a stamp) or telephone **0808 175 6656** (free of charge).

17. The following public locations have public internet access which can be used to access the Application Documents electronically via the Planning Inspectorate's website:

Venue and address	Opening times*
Corsham Library Springfield Community Campus Beechfield Road Corsham, Wiltshire SN13 9DN T: 01249 468 490	Mon: 09:00 – 19:00 Tues: 09:00 – 17:00 Weds: 09:00 – 17:00 Thurs: 09:00 – 17:00 Fri: 09:00 – 19:00 Sat: 09:00 – 17:00 Sun: not staffed*
Melksham Library Melksham Community Campus Market Place Melksham, Wiltshire SN12 6ES T: 01225 702 039	Mon: 09:30 – 19:00 Tues: 09:30 – 17:00 Weds: 09:00 – 17:00 Thurs: 09:00 – 19:00 Fri: 09:00 – 17:00 Sat: 09:00 – 17:00 Sun: not staffed*
Malmesbury Library 24 Cross Hayes Malmesbury, Wiltshire SN16 9BG T: 01666 823 611	Mon: 14:00 – 19:00 Tues: 09:30 – 17:00 Weds: 09:30 – 17:00 Thurs: closed Fri: 09:30 – 19:00 Sat: 09:00 – 13:00 Sun: closed
Chippenham Library Timber Street Chippenham, Wiltshire SN15 3EJ T: 01249 650 536	Mon: 10:00 – 19:00 Tues: 09:00 – 17:00 Weds: 09:00 – 13:00 Thurs: 09:00 – 19:00 Fri: 09:00 – 19:00 Sat: 09:00 – 17:00 Sun: closed
Yate Library Unit 44, Yate Shopping Centre West Walk Yate, Bristol BS37 4AX T: 01454 868 006	Mon: 10.00 – 17.00 Tues: 10.00 – 17.00 Weds: not staffed* Thurs: 10.00 – 17.00 Fri: 10.00 – 17.00 Sat: 09.30 – 12.30 Sun: not staffed*
<i>*Opening hours can change, and documents may only be available for viewing on a computer during staffed hours. This table therefore lists staffed opening hours only, when it is possible to request assistance from a member of the library team to provide access to the computer. We recommend contacting the venues prior to visiting to confirm opening hours and document availability.</i>	

18. The full suite of Application Documents can be made available in hard copy format on request. Given the size and format of the Application documents, a full suite of documents may cost up to £5,000. For any bespoke document requests, please contact the Applicant using the contact details at the bottom of the notice, who will provide the cost. Copies of individual documents are also available on request, and a reasonable copying charge may apply.

19. If you require alternative methods for inspection of the Application Documents (for example in large print, audio or braille formats), please contact the Applicant by telephone **0808 175 6656** or email **info@limedownsolar.co.uk**.

Contacting the Applicant

20. To contact the Applicant for further information or queries about the Application, please call **0808 175 6656** (free of charge); write to: **FREEPOST LIME DOWN SOLAR** (no stamp or further details required); email: **info@limedownsolar.co.uk** or visit **www.limedownsolar.co.uk**.