

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

Agenda for issue specific hearing 9 (ISH9) dealing with the draft Development Consent Order (dDCO)

Hearing	Date and Time	Location
Issue specific hearing 9 on the draft Development Consent Order and any other matters	Wednesday 23 September 2026 Hearing starts at 2:00pm Registration and seating available at venue from 1:30pm and virtual registration process from 1:30pm And if required on Thursday 24 September 2026 Registration and seating available at venue from: 09:00am Virtual registration process from: 09:00am Hearing recommences: 09:30am	The National Self Build & Renovation Centre, Lydiard Fields, Great Western Way, Swindon, SN5 8UB and By virtual means using Microsoft Teams

Agenda Items

Item	Matters to be covered
Item 1	Welcome, housekeeping, purpose of the hearing, participant introductions
Item 2	Main discussion points 2.1. Article 2 - Interpretation Definition of 'maintain' and whether the wording is precise enough in light of responses in [REP5-097] and [REP6-067]. 2.2. Article 6 – Disapplication and modification of legislation, etc

	○ The implications of retaining Article 6(4): Regulation 3(2) of The Environmental Impact Assessment (Agriculture) (England) (No.2) Regulations 2006 2.3. Articles 8 to 16 (in relation to Streets) ○ Consent and dispute resolution mechanisms ○ Local Highway Authority and National Highways Protective Provisions 2.4. Article 17 – Discharge of Water ○ Clarification on the scope of this article in relation to national highways’ drains 2.5. Article 37 – Consent to Transfer the Benefit of the Order ○ Clarification on subsection (3)(b) and the management and monitoring of Work No. 9. 2.6. Articles 40 and 41 – Felling and Lopping of Trees and Removal of Hedgerows and Trees Subject to Tree Preservation Order ○ Clarification on some outstanding matters relating to the powers and controls in these articles and the associated Schedule 12 2.7. Schedule 2 - Requirements ○ Requirement 2: Consideration of whether the construction phasing plan should require approval from the local planning authority ○ Requirement 3: Consideration of insertion of National Highways as a consultee for any amendments to approved documents ○ Requirement 5: Consideration of the suggested insertion of Work No. 5a and associated text suggested by National Highways ○ Requirement 15: Consideration of the relationship between this requirement, the protected provisions for the local highway authority, and the procedure for discharge of requirements in Schedule 16 ○ Requirement 20: Further consideration of the lack of decommissioning bonds and the decommissioning terms more generally. 2.8. Schedule 13 – Documents and Plans to be Certified Justification for not including the Arboricultural Impact Assessment and Arboricultural Method Statement as standalone certified documents
Item 3	Protective Provisions

	The ExA will invite the applicant to provide an update on protective provisions in Schedule 15. The ExA will also invite statutory undertakers and other parties that would benefit from the protective provisions to comment on their outstanding issues, the steps/ redrafting required to address those issues, and the implications if the applicant's draft protected provisions are retained in the recommended DCO submitted to the Secretary of State.
Item 4	Other matters not covered in Items 2 and 3 above The ExA will provide an opportunity for interested parties (IPs) to comment on other aspects of the dDCO that were not covered in items 2 and 3 above.
Item 5	Review of the issues and actions arising
Close of hearing	

Purpose of the issue specific hearing

The main purpose of ISH9 is to undertake a final examination of the dDCO Articles and Schedules informed by the written submissions in the examination and oral representations made at previous issue specific hearings.

Discussions at the hearing will be held without prejudice to the ExA's final recommendations about whether or not the dDCO should be made.

The ExA has sought to provide sufficient detail to assist the parties to prepare for the hearing, although the agenda provided above is indicative and may be subject to change on the day. The latest dDCO will be referred to during the hearing [\[REP6-005\]](#) (clean version) and [\[REP6-006\]](#) (tracked change version).

Attendees

The ExA would find it particularly helpful if the following parties could attend this hearing in person or virtually:

- Applicant
- Wiltshire Council
- Stop Lime Down
- Any Statutory Undertaker who wishes to discuss protective provisions, but in particular the following parties who have outstanding objections to the applicant's draft protective provisions in Schedule 15 of the dDCO:
 - National Highways
 - Network Rail
 - National Grid Electricity Transmission PLC
 - National Gas Transmission PLC
 - Exolum Pipeline System Ltd

The above list is not a closed list and does not indicate that other parties will not be able to contribute. All IPs are invited to attend and make oral representations on the matters set out in the agenda, subject to the ExA's ability to control the hearing.

Anyone wishing to attend the hearing in person, who has not already advised the case team of this, should do so as soon as possible.

The event will be livestreamed and a link for watching the livestream will be posted on the [project webpage](#) of the National Infrastructure Planning website closer to the hearing date. IPs and members of the public who wish to observe the hearing can therefore view and listen to the hearing using the livestream, or view and listen to the recording, after it has concluded.

Registration process

Parties who have registered to speak (both in person and virtually) will receive a virtual joining instruction email shortly before the hearing which will include a link to the virtual event on Microsoft Teams, and a telephone number should they need to participate by telephone. To enable the hearing to start on time at **2:00pm** those attending virtually should join promptly at **1:30pm** to ensure that all virtual attendees can complete the registration process in good time.

For those parties who simply wish to observe the hearing, they should log into the livestream link, which will be posted on the [project webpage](#) of the National Infrastructure Planning website.

Procedure at the issue specific hearing

Guidance under the Planning Act 2008 and the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 provides that it is for the ExA to probe, test and assess the evidence through direct questions of persons making oral representations at hearings. Questioning at the hearing will be led by the ExA. Cross questioning of a person giving evidence by another person will only be permitted if the ExA decides it is necessary to ensure representations are adequately tested or that an IP has had a fair chance to put its case.

Any questions about this hearing

Please contact the Case Team if you have any questions regarding the arrangements for the hearing or how to participate.

Email - limesdown@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Telephone - 0303 444 5000

Post Hearing Submissions and Closing Statements

The ExA draws your attention to **deadline 7** in the examination timetable (**Friday 2 October 2026**) and requests that full summaries of all oral submissions given at the hearing by those who made them are submitted at that deadline. In addition, anyone who is unable to complete all of their oral submission during the hearing should follow it up in writing at that deadline.

Finally, **deadline 7** is also the time for any IP to submit a closing statement into the examination. Any statutory undertaker intending to submit a closing statement may wish to append a copy of the protective provisions that they consider should be included in the development consent order but have not been agreed by the applicant.