

Application by Green Hill Solar Farm Limited for an Order Granting Development Consent for the proposed Green Hill Solar Farm

Agenda for Issue Specific Hearing 2 (ISH2):

Hearing	Date and Time	Location
Issue Specific Hearing 2 Environmental Matters	Tuesday 9 December 2025 Seating available from 09:30 Hearing Starts at 10:00 Online Registration Process from 09:30	Blended event at Hilton Northampton, 100 Watering Lane, Collingtree, Northampton NN4 0XW and by virtual means using Microsoft Teams Full instructions on how to join online or by phone will be provided in advance to those who have pre- registered

# Agenda items

- 1. Welcome, introductions, arrangements for the Hearing
- 2. Purpose of Issue Specific Hearing 2
- 3. Matters for discussion at this Hearing

Agenda for Issue Specific Hearing 2 – Environmental Matters				
3.1	Introduction to agenda item 3			
3.2	Effects for Ecology and Biodiversity			
	<b>Documents</b> that may be referred to during the discussion of this item: [APP-056], [APP-171], [REP1-023], [REP1-033], [REP1-137], [REP1-142], [REP1-143].			
	The ExA will ask the applicant to provide an update with regard to ecology and biodiversity matters since ISH1, including:			
	a) Effects on internationally designated sites and protected species, including bats			
	b) Effects on trees and hedgerow, including ancient woodland buffer zones			

The ExA will invite interested parties (IPs) to comment on the applicant's position in respect of ecology and biodiversity effects.

The ExA will then ask any questions it may have in respect of the oral and written cases made by the applicant and other IPs.

#### 3.3 Effects for water environment and flood risk

**Documents** that may be referred to during the discussion of this item: [APP-107], [REP1-023], [REP1-053], [REP1-143].

The ExA will ask the applicant to provide an update with regard to water environment and flood risk matters, including:

- a) Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) safety and drainage
- b) Off-site flood risk in Grendon
- c) Off-site flood risk in Lavendon

The ExA will invite interested parties (IPs) to comment on the applicant's position in respect of water environment and flood risk effects.

The ExA will then ask any questions it may have in respect of the oral and written cases made by the applicant and other IPs.

# 3.4 Effects for Landscape (including Design and Glint and Glare)

**Documents** that may be referred to during the discussion of this item: [APP-042], [APP-045], [APP-052], [APP-078], [APP-079], [APP-082], [APP-083], [APP-155] to [APP-165] (inclusive), [APP-193] to [APP-195] (inclusive), [APP-198] to [APP-200] (inclusive), [APP-202] to [APP-209] (inclusive), [APP-212] to [APP-216] (inclusive), [APP-219], [APP-220], [APP-259] to [APP-4288] (inclusive), [APP-308] to [APP-400] (inclusive), [APP-560], [APP-572], [AS-001], AS-002], [REP1-029], [REP1-031], [REP1-039] to [REP1-042] (inclusive), [REP1-107] to [REP1-116] (inclusive), [REP1-137], [REP1-151], [REP2-005] to [REP2-042] (inclusive) and [REP2-054].

The ExA will ask the applicant to provide an update with regard to landscape, design and glint and glare matters since ISH1, including:

- a) Progress on discussions regarding viewpoints and photomontages, and
- b) Progress on the matters under discussion detailed in the draft Statements of Common Ground and any remaining areas of disagreement, including the assessment of likely effects

The ExA will invite IPs to comment on the applicant's position in respect of landscape, design and glint and glare matters.

The ExA will then ask any questions it may have in respect to the oral and written cases made by the applicant and other IPs.

## 3.5 Effects for Traffic and Transport

**Documents** that may be referred to during the discussion of this item: [APP-151], [REP1-031], [REP1-145], [REP1-147]

The ExA will ask the applicant to provide an update with regard to traffic and transport matters since ISH1, including:

- a) Progress on discussions with National Highways
- b) Safety of accesses to the proposed development
- c) HGV delivery arrangements during construction
- d) Effects on public rights of way, including on promoted routes such as the Three Shires Way

The ExA will invite IPs to comment on the applicant's position in respect of traffic and transport effects.

The ExA will then ask any questions it may have in respect of the oral and written cases made by the applicant and other IPs.

# 4. Any Other Business

The ExA may extend an opportunity for the applicant, IPs and other persons to raise matters relevant to topics covered in ISH2 that they consider should be examined.

# 5. Review of matters and actions arising

The ExA will discuss how any actions arising from the discussion are to be addressed by the applicant, IPs or other persons following ISH2. A written action list will be published if required.

# 6. Close of Hearing

#### **Attendees**

Based on all written submissions received up to and including deadline 2, the ExA would find it helpful if the following parties could attend this hearing:

Agenda Item 3.2 Ecology and Biodiversity	Agenda Item 3.3 Water environment and flood risk	Agenda Item 3.4 Landscape, Design and Glint and Glare		
<ul> <li>Applicant, including a representative with expertise in ecology and biodiversity</li> <li>Any local authority with an interest in the agenda item</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Applicant, including a representative with expertise in water environment and flood risk matters</li> <li>Any local authority with an interest in the agenda item</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Applicant, including representatives with expertise in landscape and visual, design and glint and glare matters</li> <li>North         Northamptonshire         Council</li> <li>West Northamptonshire         Council</li> <li>Milton Keynes City         Council</li> </ul>		
Agenda Item 3.5				
Traffic and Transport				
<ul> <li>Applicant, including a representative with expertise in traffic and transport matters</li> <li>National Highways</li> <li>Any local authority with an interest in the agenda item</li> </ul>				

However, this 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.

The ExA has sought to provide sufficient detail to assist the parties to prepare for the hearing. The details set out above are indicative and the ExA may find it necessary to include additional agenda items or to amend the order in which the items are dealt with.

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 <u>project webpage</u> 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.

## **Timing**

The ExA will keep to the agenda as much as possible. This hearing is not expected to go beyond 15:00.

Anyone who is not able to provide all their oral submissions by the close of the hearing should follow it up in writing.

## **Registration Process**

Parties who have registered to speak (both in person and virtually) will receive a 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 **10:00** those attending virtually should join promptly at **09:30** to ensure that all virtual attendees can complete the registration process in good time.

### **Procedure at ISH**

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 puts its case.