

**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 4 (ISH4):**

<b>Hearing</b>	<b>Date and Time</b>	<b>Location</b>
<b>Issue Specific Hearing 4 Environmental Matters</b>	<p><b>Tuesday 10 March 2026</b></p> <p>Seating available from 09:30am</p> <p><b>Hearing Starts at 10:00am</b></p> <p>Online Registration Process from 09:30am</p>	<p><b>Blended event at Hilton Northampton, 100 Watering Lane, Collingtree, Northampton NN4 0XW</b></p> <p><b>and by virtual means using Microsoft Teams</b></p> <p>Full instructions on how to join online or by phone will be provided in advance to those who have pre-registered</p>

**Agenda items**

**1. Welcome, introductions, arrangements for the Hearing**

**2. Purpose of Issue Specific Hearing 4 (ISH4)**

ISH4 is being held for the benefit of particular parties (see “Attendees” section) to hear evidence relating to matters in respect of the following topics previously covered during ISH1, ISH2 and ISH3:

- Landscape (including design and glint and glare)
- Ecology and biodiversity
- Traffic and transport
- Built heritage and archaeology
- Other matters; and
- The provisions of the draft Development Consent Order

The giving of evidence at this hearing will be led by the Examining Authority (ExA), through the ExA’s asking of questions of the applicant and relevant other interested parties (IPs), informed by the cases that have been made by parties up to and inclusive of the written and oral submissions made by examination deadline 5 (26 February 2026).

### 3. Matters for discussion at this Hearing

#### Agenda for Issue Specific Hearing 4 – Environmental Matters

##### 3.1 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.

##### 3.2 Effects for Ecology and Biodiversity

**Documents** 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 Traffic and Transport

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

	<p>The ExA will ask the applicant to provide an update with regard to traffic and transport matters since ISH1, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Progress on discussions with National Highways</li> <li>b) Safety of accesses to the proposed development</li> <li>c) HGV delivery arrangements during construction</li> <li>d) Effects on public rights of way, including on promoted routes such as the Three Shires Way</li> </ul> <p>The ExA will invite IPs to comment on the applicant's position in respect of traffic and transport effects.</p> <p>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.</p>
<p><b>3.4</b></p>	<p><b>Effects for Built Heritage and Archaeology</b></p> <p><b>Documents</b> that may be referred to during the discussion of this item: [APP-015], [APP-049], [APP-110] to [APP-149] (inclusive), [APP-406] to [APP-422] (inclusive).</p> <p>The ExA will ask the applicant to give a ten-minute summary of its case with regard to built heritage and archaeology, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Effects on the setting of designated heritage assets</li> <li>b) Effects on buried archaeological remains</li> </ul> <p>The ExA will invite IPs (five-minutes each IP) to comment on the applicant's position in respect of effects for built heritage and archaeology.</p> <p>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.</p>
<p><b>3.5</b></p>	<p><b>Other Matters</b></p> <p>Documents that may be referred to during the discussion of this item: [APP-047], [APP-057], [APP-060], [APP-097] to [APP-108] (inclusive), [APP-232], [APP-258], [APP-531] to [APP-533] (inclusive), [APP-550], [APP-563], [APP-566], [APP-571].</p> <p>If not addressed under earlier items, the ExA may ask further questions of the applicant and other IPs in relation to the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Effects for agriculture</li> <li>b) Hydrology, flood risk and drainage</li> <li>c) BESS</li> </ul>
<p><b>3.6</b></p>	<p><b>The provisions of the draft Development Consent Order (dDCO)</b></p>

#### 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 ISH4 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 ISH4. A written action list will be published if required.

## **6. Close of Hearing**

### **Attendees**

As was explained by the ExA in its notification for ISH4 [[PD-013](#)] this hearing is purely being held further to: the ExA's acceptance of the applicant's first change request (examination library references [CR1-001] to [CR1-040] inclusive) and there potentially being new IPs and/or affected persons resulting from amendments to the proposed Order Limits and land rights.

The involvement of any new IPs in this examination would postdate the holding of ISH1 to ISH3 (inclusive) and where ISH have already been held Regulation 14(2) of the Infrastructure Planning (Compulsory Acquisition) Regulations (2010) (as amended) sets out that the ExA must arrange for another ISH to be held. The holding of ISH4 will therefore enable any new IPs to have the opportunity to participate in an ISH with the applicant and the ExA covering matters previously discussed at ISH1 to ISH3.

All other IPs can attend ISH4. However, under the provisions of Section 94 of the PA2008 all other IPs should note that the ExA will not allow them to restate evidence they have previously given during the course of ISH1 to ISH3.

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.

### **Timing**

The ExA will keep to the agenda as much as possible. 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 put its case.