



Hearing Transcript

Project:	Green Hill Solar Farm
Hearing:	Issue Specific Hearing 5 (ISH5) - Part 1
Date:	11 March 2026

Please note: This document is intended to assist Interested Parties.

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The video recording published on the Planning Inspectorate project page is the primary record of the hearing.

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1

00:00:07.140 --> 00:00:11.120

Well, good morning, everybody. Um, it is now

2

00:00:11.180 --> 00:00:14.320

ten AM and time for this hearing to

3

00:00:14.360 --> 00:00:18.260

begin. Um, could I just confirm that everybody in the room

4

00:00:18.320 --> 00:00:22.060

can hear clearly? I'm seeing a couple of nods from the

5

00:00:22.100 --> 00:00:25.790

back. Thank you. Um, and could we have an indication from,

6

00:00:26.060 --> 00:00:29.120

people online that they can, hear

7

00:00:29.160 --> 00:00:38.480

proceedings?

8

00:00:46.180 --> 00:00:49.980

I'm not seeing anybody put a hand up or any acknowledgement online that they

9

00:00:50.040 --> 00:00:52.940

can, hear.

10

00:00:53.440 --> 00:00:54.420

Oh, we're getting thumbs up.

11

00:00:54.460 --> 00:00:56.600

Okay. All right. Thank you.

12

00:00:58.780 --> 00:01:02.739

Um, and can I confirm with the case manager that the

13

00:01:02.840 --> 00:01:06.520

live streaming and recording of this event has commenced?

14

00:01:06.530 --> 00:01:10.470

Thank you. Seeing thumbs up. Um, so I

15

00:01:10.480 --> 00:01:14.220

would like to welcome you all to this issue-specific

16

00:01:14.280 --> 00:01:17.320

hearing, which we will refer to as

17

00:01:17.440 --> 00:01:20.640

ISH5 on various

18

00:01:20.820 --> 00:01:24.700

environmental matters for the Green Hill Solar

19

00:01:24.800 --> 00:01:27.580

Farm project. Uh, my name is Mark

20

00:01:27.600 --> 00:01:31.260

Harrison. I am a chartered town

21

00:01:31.360 --> 00:01:34.920

planner and examining inspector with the Planning

22

00:01:34.980 --> 00:01:38.560

Inspectorate. I have been appointed by the

23

00:01:38.620 --> 00:01:42.320

Secretary of State to be the lead member of the

24

00:01:42.360 --> 00:01:45.820

panel comprising the examining authority

25

00:01:46.300 --> 00:01:49.900

that will be examining this application.

26

00:01:50.040 --> 00:01:53.860

I am now going to ask my colleagues and fellow panel

27

00:01:53.940 --> 00:01:57.860
members of the examining authority, one of whom is joining

28
00:01:57.900 --> 00:02:01.360
us online, to introduce themselves.

29
00:02:02.620 --> 00:02:05.020
Good morning. My name's Rebecca Norman.

30
00:02:05.080 --> 00:02:07.800
I'm a chartered town planner and examining inspector.

31
00:02:07.880 --> 00:02:09.570
I've been appointed a member of...

32
00:02:09.581 --> 00:02:13.040
as a panel member of the examining authority and will be leading the discussion

33
00:02:13.080 --> 00:02:16.880
later on agenda item three point two.

34
00:02:19.060 --> 00:02:20.820
Good morning. My name is Catherine Beebee.

35
00:02:20.860 --> 00:02:23.580
I'm a town planner and an examining inspector.

36
00:02:23.600 --> 00:02:27.200
I've been appointed as a panel member of the examining authority.

37
00:02:27.240 --> 00:02:30.780
I will be leading the discussion later on agenda items three point three and three

38
00:02:30.900 --> 00:02:33.480
point four.

39
00:02:34.280 --> 00:02:38.000
So our role is to examine the application and

40

00:02:38.100 --> 00:02:42.040
to report to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and

41

00:02:42.100 --> 00:02:45.640
Net Zero with a recommendation as to whether or

42

00:02:45.720 --> 00:02:49.040
not the development consent order should be made.

43

00:02:49.900 --> 00:02:53.760
At this point, I'd also like to introduce, members

44

00:02:53.940 --> 00:02:57.440
of the Planning Inspectorate's case team who are here

45

00:02:57.500 --> 00:03:01.470
supporting us today. You may have already spoken with them

46

00:03:01.500 --> 00:03:05.390
on arrival. We have Ryan Sedgman, who is

47

00:03:05.440 --> 00:03:08.680
case manager for this project, and also Sam

48

00:03:08.800 --> 00:03:12.240
Stevens, who is case officer, sitting at the back of the

49

00:03:12.320 --> 00:03:16.020
room. Um, we also had another case

50

00:03:16.100 --> 00:03:20.020
officer, Gerwyn Rigby, online to assist with

51

00:03:20.100 --> 00:03:23.940
the initial virtual registrations.

52

00:03:23.980 --> 00:03:27.720
In addition, technicians from the audio-visual

53

00:03:27.860 --> 00:03:31.480
company Event Video and TM Services

54

00:03:32.020 --> 00:03:35.920

are in attendance solely for the purpose of managing the

55

00:03:35.960 --> 00:03:39.680

recording and live streaming for this hearing.

56

00:03:41.160 --> 00:03:44.780

I'll now deal with a couple of housekeeping matters for

57

00:03:44.800 --> 00:03:48.720

those attending in person. Um, could we ask, please, that

58

00:03:48.760 --> 00:03:52.440

everyone set all devices and phones to

59

00:03:52.580 --> 00:03:53.680

silent?

60

00:03:54.980 --> 00:03:58.960

Um, toilets are located immediately outside

61

00:03:59.260 --> 00:04:02.900

the doors to this room, on the, the

62

00:04:02.960 --> 00:04:06.720

right-hand side. And there is no planned

63

00:04:06.940 --> 00:04:10.820

fire alarm test today, so if the fire alarm

64

00:04:10.840 --> 00:04:14.540

does sound, please leave the building via the

65

00:04:14.660 --> 00:04:18.041

marked fire exits at the rear of this room

66

00:04:18.579 --> 00:04:21.899

and go to the assembly point, which is the hotel car

67

00:04:22.000 --> 00:04:23.860
park.

68
00:04:25.820 --> 00:04:29.340
So in terms of agenda and logistics,

69
00:04:30.360 --> 00:04:33.880
this hearing will follow the agenda that was published on the

70
00:04:33.920 --> 00:04:37.320
National Infrastructure Planning website on the third of

71
00:04:37.460 --> 00:04:41.000
March, which has an examination library

72
00:04:41.080 --> 00:04:44.940
reference of EV twelve zero zero

73
00:04:45.140 --> 00:04:49.020
one. Um, it'd be helpful to have a copy of that in

74
00:04:49.160 --> 00:04:52.820
front of you. And also, if I could perhaps

75
00:04:52.920 --> 00:04:56.620
ask the applicant's team, if they could just

76
00:04:56.680 --> 00:05:00.660
arrange for the agenda to be displayed on screen as a

77
00:05:00.720 --> 00:05:03.720
reminder for people. Thank you.

78
00:05:05.320 --> 00:05:09.020
Um, the agenda is for guidance only,

79
00:05:09.440 --> 00:05:13.200
and we may add other considerations or issues as we

80
00:05:13.240 --> 00:05:17.100
progress. Um, we will conclude the hearing as soon as

81

00:05:17.200 --> 00:05:20.980

all relevant contributions have been made and all questions

82

00:05:21.100 --> 00:05:25.070

asked and responded to. Um, however, if

83

00:05:25.080 --> 00:05:28.640

the discussions can't be concluded, then it may be necessary

84

00:05:29.260 --> 00:05:33.100

for us to prioritize certain matters or defer other

85

00:05:33.140 --> 00:05:36.850

matters, to, to later,

86

00:05:37.140 --> 00:05:40.760

questions in writing. Likewise, if you cannot

87

00:05:40.860 --> 00:05:44.800

answer any of the questions being asked or need a bit of time

88

00:05:44.980 --> 00:05:48.730

to get information requested together, then,

89

00:05:48.940 --> 00:05:52.500

could you please indicate that you need, to respond in

90

00:05:52.540 --> 00:05:56.420

writing. Uh, today's hearing is being

91

00:05:56.440 --> 00:06:00.340

undertaken in a hybrid way, meaning, some of you are present with

92

00:06:00.380 --> 00:06:03.880

us at the hearing venue, and some of you are joining us

93

00:06:03.920 --> 00:06:07.832

virtually using Microsoft Teams. We will make sure

94

00:06:08.472 --> 00:06:12.432
that however you have decided to attend today, you will be given a

95
00:06:12.492 --> 00:06:15.872
fair opportunity to participate.

96
00:06:15.932 --> 00:06:19.592
And the meeting is being both live-streamed and

97
00:06:19.612 --> 00:06:23.562
recorded. Uh, for those people participating

98
00:06:23.612 --> 00:06:27.192
or observing via Microsoft Teams, in order to

99
00:06:27.212 --> 00:06:31.092
minimize background noise and disturbance, could you please

100
00:06:31.132 --> 00:06:34.152
ensure that you stay on mute unless you are

101
00:06:34.272 --> 00:06:38.232
speaking. Um, and if you are online and wish

102
00:06:38.292 --> 00:06:41.732
to speak, could you please indicate that to

103
00:06:42.172 --> 00:06:46.092
us by raising a virtual hand? Um, we'll keep an

104
00:06:46.132 --> 00:06:49.352
eye on the screen for virtual hands being up.

105
00:06:49.432 --> 00:06:52.382
Um, but please be patient as we may not get to you

106
00:06:52.412 --> 00:06:56.072
immediately, but we will invite you to speak at the

107
00:06:56.112 --> 00:06:59.892
appropriate time. Um, I would also remind everyone that the

108

00:06:59.972 --> 00:07:03.652
chat function on Microsoft Teams is switched off

109

00:07:03.752 --> 00:07:07.652
for this event. And a recording

110

00:07:07.692 --> 00:07:11.392
of today's hearing will be made available on the Green

111

00:07:11.492 --> 00:07:15.372
Hill Solar Farm part of the National Infrastructure

112

00:07:15.472 --> 00:07:19.132
Planning website as soon as practicable after the

113

00:07:19.172 --> 00:07:22.912
hearing has finished. And with that in mind,

114

00:07:23.452 --> 00:07:26.872
please could you speak clearly into, the

115

00:07:26.942 --> 00:07:30.892
microphone, stating your name, and who you are

116

00:07:30.932 --> 00:07:34.472
representing each time, before you speak,

117

00:07:34.512 --> 00:07:37.972
please. Um, if you are not at a table with a

118

00:07:38.012 --> 00:07:41.852
microphone, there is also a roving microphone that our

119

00:07:42.112 --> 00:07:44.532
case team at the back of the room have.

120

00:07:44.592 --> 00:07:48.432
So please, wait for one of those to be brought to you before you

121

00:07:48.572 --> 00:07:49.792
speak.

122
00:07:51.392 --> 00:07:55.172
A li- a link to the Planning Inspectorate's privacy

123
00:07:55.252 --> 00:07:58.352
notice was provided in the notification for this

124
00:07:58.412 --> 00:08:02.272
hearing. Um, so we assume that everybody here today

125
00:08:02.312 --> 00:08:05.282
has familiarized themselves with this document.

126
00:08:05.372 --> 00:08:08.252
Um, and indeed, I know many of you have been to the previous hearing

127
00:08:08.292 --> 00:08:12.132
sessions. Um, and that just establishes how the personal

128
00:08:12.152 --> 00:08:15.872
data of our customers is handled in accordance with the

129
00:08:15.892 --> 00:08:19.012
principles set out in data protection laws.

130
00:08:19.112 --> 00:08:22.992
Um, but please do speak to the case manager if you have any
questions

131
00:08:23.072 --> 00:08:26.312
about this. Um, so

132
00:08:26.552 --> 00:08:30.532
timings-wise, we'll, we'll see how we progress through the day,

133
00:08:30.612 --> 00:08:34.393
but obviously we will have a lunch break and also a short

134
00:08:34.492 --> 00:08:38.472

break at mid-morning. Um, I think we indicated on the agenda

135

00:08:38.533 --> 00:08:42.262

that we aim to close the hearing by no later than three PM, but we're

136

00:08:42.293 --> 00:08:45.812

not necessarily, really strictly tied to

137

00:08:45.892 --> 00:08:46.872

that.

138

00:08:47.912 --> 00:08:51.612

Um, and a couple of brief words, about the purpose of

139

00:08:51.652 --> 00:08:55.612

this issue-specific hearing. Um, so

140

00:08:55.692 --> 00:08:59.072

as you will no doubt know, the examination of this NSIP

141

00:08:59.092 --> 00:09:02.392

application, is primarily being

142

00:09:02.452 --> 00:09:06.311

conducted in written form, which was explained by us

143

00:09:06.432 --> 00:09:10.341

in more detail at the preliminary meeting back on the twenty-first of

144

00:09:10.392 --> 00:09:12.892

October, twenty twenty-five.

145

00:09:13.972 --> 00:09:17.192

Um, the purpose of today's hearing is for the examining

146

00:09:17.252 --> 00:09:20.992

authority to hear evidence concerning a

147

00:09:21.052 --> 00:09:24.892

range of environmental matters in relation to the Green Hill

148

00:09:25.032 --> 00:09:28.852

Solar Farm application. Um, and it follows on

149

00:09:28.992 --> 00:09:32.792

from ISH1, which was held on the twenty-second of

150

00:09:32.832 --> 00:09:35.672

October, twenty twenty-five, and

151

00:09:35.852 --> 00:09:39.272

ISH2, held on the ninth of

152

00:09:39.312 --> 00:09:43.072

December, twenty twenty-five. Uh, the matters for

153

00:09:43.132 --> 00:09:46.932

discussion during the course of ISH5, have

154

00:09:46.972 --> 00:09:50.352

been, selected by the examining authority

155

00:09:50.912 --> 00:09:54.392

based on our consideration, of the

156

00:09:54.412 --> 00:09:58.242

application documentation and submissions made throughout the

157

00:09:58.312 --> 00:10:01.792

examination by interested parties.

158

00:10:02.872 --> 00:10:06.592

Um, so, when you are answering the examining authority's questions,

159

00:10:06.712 --> 00:10:10.552

please ensure that you provide as succinct an answer as

160

00:10:10.612 --> 00:10:14.212

possible. Um, if any questioning is deserving of a

161
00:10:14.452 --> 00:10:17.992
yes/no type answer, then please respond in, in that

162
00:10:18.052 --> 00:10:21.982
way, followed by any amplification, as

163
00:10:22.012 --> 00:10:24.091
may be necessary. Thank

164
00:10:24.172 --> 00:10:27.712
you. So moving on to

165
00:10:27.892 --> 00:10:31.872
introductions. Um, I'm now going to ask those

166
00:10:31.932 --> 00:10:35.372
of you who are participating or likely to participate in

167
00:10:35.412 --> 00:10:37.992
today's meeting to introduce

168
00:10:38.092 --> 00:10:41.172
yourselves. Um, when I state your

169
00:10:41.292 --> 00:10:44.912
organization's name, could you introduce

170
00:10:44.992 --> 00:10:48.722
yourself stating your name, who you represent, and

171
00:10:48.812 --> 00:10:52.492
which agenda item or items you wish to speak

172
00:10:52.592 --> 00:10:55.652
on. Um, if you are not representing an

173
00:10:55.692 --> 00:10:59.272
organization, just please confirm your name and

174
00:10:59.372 --> 00:11:03.092

summarize your interest in the application and let us know the

175

00:11:03.112 --> 00:11:06.912

agenda item or items that you might want to speak about.

176

00:11:08.052 --> 00:11:11.572

Um, and please could everybody just state how you wish to be

177

00:11:11.612 --> 00:11:14.412

addressed by us, i.e., Mr, Mrs,

178

00:11:15.232 --> 00:11:16.652

Ms, et cetera.

179

00:11:18.012 --> 00:11:21.912

Um, so if I start with the applicant and any

180

00:11:21.952 --> 00:11:25.772

of their advisors, I presume, Ms.

181

00:11:25.792 --> 00:11:29.732

Brodrick, that you will probably be taking the lead and obviously bringing

182

00:11:29.812 --> 00:11:32.752

in different members of, of the team on different

183

00:11:32.762 --> 00:11:36.732

topics. Um, just like we have on previous hearings, we'll take a break

184

00:11:36.752 --> 00:11:40.632

between agenda items to allow for the team to switch over

185

00:11:40.692 --> 00:11:44.312

who's sit-sitting at the table, and invite up--

186

00:11:44.752 --> 00:11:48.372

invite you to introduce speakers before each agenda item.

187

00:11:48.452 --> 00:11:52.012

Um, but I presume you're probably going to introduce, those who are gonna be

188

00:11:52.072 --> 00:11:55.412
speaking for the first item on, landscape matters at this

189

00:11:55.512 --> 00:11:56.132
stage.

190

00:11:58.052 --> 00:12:01.612
Good morning. Claire Brodrick. Um, I'm a partner at Pinsent Masons

191

00:12:01.692 --> 00:12:04.752
LLP on behalf of the applicant, Greenhill Solar Farm

192

00:12:04.912 --> 00:12:08.772
Limited. Um, as you have set out, I'm joined by various

193

00:12:08.812 --> 00:12:10.932
members of the applicant's team today.

194

00:12:11.032 --> 00:12:14.642
Um, and for the purposes of, the introductions I

195

00:12:14.672 --> 00:12:18.604
will, um-Let those who will be speaking to agenda item

196

00:12:18.684 --> 00:12:21.384
three point two introduce themselves.

197

00:12:21.464 --> 00:12:25.404
Um, if anybody else is required to contribute to that agenda item, then

198

00:12:25.504 --> 00:12:28.724
they can, they can obviously introduce themselves at that point in

199

00:12:28.804 --> 00:12:32.004
time. Um, I will firstly, let,

200

00:12:33.564 --> 00:12:36.044

Mr. Chris Jackson introduce himself, and then we

201

00:12:36.064 --> 00:12:40.024

do have some people who are joining virtually who are speaking to this agenda item.

202

00:12:40.044 --> 00:12:42.784

Thank you.

203

00:12:43.884 --> 00:12:45.964

Good morning. Chris Jackson on behalf of the applicant.

204

00:12:46.064 --> 00:12:49.864

Um, I'm director of landscape architecture at Landplan, responsible for the

205

00:12:50.464 --> 00:12:53.944

landscape visual impact assessment as well as the

206

00:12:54.004 --> 00:12:57.104

environmental master plan, the LEMPs.

207

00:12:57.124 --> 00:12:58.904

Thank you.

208

00:13:00.444 --> 00:13:03.844

Uh, Claire Broderick, the applicant, and we also have, two members of the

209

00:13:03.884 --> 00:13:07.764

applicant's team who are available to answer any questions relating

210

00:13:07.824 --> 00:13:11.684

to glint and glare, which was obviously also, listed for this agenda

211

00:13:11.744 --> 00:13:15.484

item. So I will just let, Ms. Alexandra Clacy introduce

212

00:13:15.544 --> 00:13:18.504

herself. Thank you.

213

00:13:18.524 --> 00:13:22.024

Good morning. Uh, Alexandra Clacy, here to be referred to as, Ms.

214

00:13:22.084 --> 00:13:24.664

Clacy, on behalf of the applicant. Um, like Ms.

215

00:13:24.684 --> 00:13:28.324

Broderick said, I'll be speaking on agenda three point two

216

00:13:28.624 --> 00:13:30.584

as part of the glint and glare team.

217

00:13:30.604 --> 00:13:34.244

I'm a senior environmental engineer on the team. Thank you.

218

00:13:36.204 --> 00:13:38.844

Uh, Claire Broderick for the applicant, and we also have Mr.

219

00:13:38.884 --> 00:13:42.384

Malcolm Spaven, who is available to speak on aviation

220

00:13:42.444 --> 00:13:44.414

matters if required. I will let Mr.

221

00:13:44.444 --> 00:13:47.504

Spaven introduce himself.

222

00:13:47.544 --> 00:13:51.234

Good morning. Malcolm Spaven from Aviatica, aviation

223

00:13:51.324 --> 00:13:52.364

consultant for the

224

00:13:52.404 --> 00:13:55.444

applicant.

225

00:13:56.424 --> 00:13:57.724

Uh, Claire Broderick of the applicant.

226

00:13:57.764 --> 00:14:01.284

I'll conclude introductions there, but if, if anybody else needs to

speaking, then

227

00:14:01.324 --> 00:14:04.044

they can introduce themselves then. Thank you.

228

00:14:06.064 --> 00:14:07.924

Thank you very much.

229

00:14:09.444 --> 00:14:13.344

Um, and just before moving on from, from the applicant's team, again, as

230

00:14:13.364 --> 00:14:16.984

with previous hearings, have you got somebody within the team who can

231

00:14:17.064 --> 00:14:21.004

capture any, action points that might crop up during the course

232

00:14:21.044 --> 00:14:22.494

of the hearing?

233

00:14:22.564 --> 00:14:25.044

Uh, Claire Broderick for the applicant. Um, yes, my colleague, Ms.

234

00:14:25.104 --> 00:14:28.924

Dablin, can, record the actions, during the hearing.

235

00:14:28.984 --> 00:14:32.884

Um, I will just also add before we hand over, which we've mentioned

236

00:14:32.924 --> 00:14:36.904

to the case team, but, Mr. Jackson is only available until midday, so

237

00:14:36.964 --> 00:14:40.844

if we could deal with any items relating to, change two as

238

00:14:40.884 --> 00:14:44.144

part of agenda item three point two, then he will be available to answer

239

00:14:44.504 --> 00:14:46.984
questions on that. Thank you.

240

00:14:47.024 --> 00:14:50.984
Yeah. Thank you. The case team had made us aware of that, so, yeah,
we'll make

241

00:14:51.024 --> 00:14:54.944
sure that's, the approach we take.

242

00:14:54.984 --> 00:14:58.034
All right, if I could turn now to the,

243

00:14:59.244 --> 00:15:01.913
organizations and individuals who have

244

00:15:01.944 --> 00:15:05.693
given notice of their intention to, speak or, or

245

00:15:05.704 --> 00:15:09.524
potentially participate, perhaps, starting

246

00:15:09.544 --> 00:15:13.024
with North Northamptonshire Council.

247

00:15:13.104 --> 00:15:16.724
Uh, sir, thank you very much. Uh, my name is Gary Grant.

248

00:15:16.784 --> 00:15:19.824
Uh, I'm a barrister. I'm a member of King's Chambers.

249

00:15:19.884 --> 00:15:23.824
Uh, I'm instructed by North Northants Council,

250

00:15:24.244 --> 00:15:27.864
and, sir, would seek to make a contribution in relation to

251

00:15:27.944 --> 00:15:31.904
each of the agenda items today. And if I can, on this

252

00:15:31.964 --> 00:15:35.624
agenda item, introduce Mr. Mills to

253
00:15:35.684 --> 00:15:38.624
identify himself and, his area of

254
00:15:38.644 --> 00:15:42.484
expertise.

255
00:15:43.344 --> 00:15:47.164
Good morning. Uh, Ryan Mills, chartered landscape architect, on
behalf of

256
00:15:47.224 --> 00:15:51.144
North Northamptonshire Council and West Northamptonshire Council.

257
00:15:51.184 --> 00:15:54.564
I'll be dealing with agenda item three point two, landscape

258
00:15:54.584 --> 00:15:56.884
effects.

259
00:15:57.844 --> 00:15:59.484
Thank you.

260
00:16:00.624 --> 00:16:03.584
Um, turning to, West Northants

261
00:16:03.944 --> 00:16:04.984
Council.

262
00:16:07.324 --> 00:16:10.724
Good morning. I'm Nicky Scaife from West Northants Council.

263
00:16:10.824 --> 00:16:14.764
Um, we're joined online by colleagues from highways, drainage,

264
00:16:14.774 --> 00:16:17.904
and archeology, and as, as Ryan said,

265
00:16:18.544 --> 00:16:20.404

he's, he's adjoining for landscape.

266

00:16:21.104 --> 00:16:24.784

Not intending to speak on any items in particular, but will

267

00:16:24.844 --> 00:16:27.044

contribute as, as necessary. Thank

268

00:16:27.104 --> 00:16:29.724

you.

269

00:16:30.204 --> 00:16:33.844

Thank you. And for Milton Keynes City

270

00:16:33.924 --> 00:16:34.904

Council?

271

00:16:34.964 --> 00:16:36.744

Good morning. I'm Elizabeth Verdinum.

272

00:16:37.004 --> 00:16:39.594

I'm from Milton Scene, Milton Keynes City Council.

273

00:16:39.704 --> 00:16:43.084

Um, again, I'm not intending to speak on any items, but I can contribute as

274

00:16:43.124 --> 00:16:45.134

needed, and it's just me from Milton Keynes City

275

00:16:45.184 --> 00:16:47.564

Council.

276

00:16:49.044 --> 00:16:52.854

Great. Thank you. Uh,

277

00:16:52.854 --> 00:16:56.804

now turning to the, Stop Green Hill Solar,

278

00:16:57.404 --> 00:16:59.904

group. Um, who's, likely to be

279

00:17:00.484 --> 00:17:04.305

speaking for you during the course of today?

280

00:17:04.404 --> 00:17:08.305

Um, good morning. Uh, Philip Anthony, Stop Green Hill Solar,

281

00:17:08.744 --> 00:17:08.974

as

282

00:17:09.045 --> 00:17:14.045

appropriate.

283

00:17:16.144 --> 00:17:19.244

Sheena Howe, Stop Green Hill Solar.

284

00:17:19.344 --> 00:17:23.045

Um, as appropriate, but including, item three

285

00:17:23.164 --> 00:17:24.884

point three.

286

00:17:26.904 --> 00:17:30.274

Dr. Marie Midgley, Stop Hill, Green Hill Solar, as

287

00:17:30.304 --> 00:17:32.524

appropriate.

288

00:17:35.164 --> 00:17:38.324

Kay Brown, Stop Green Hill Solar. I'll be talking on,

289

00:17:38.944 --> 00:17:39.604

item three point

290

00:17:39.704 --> 00:17:43.364

four.

291

00:17:43.744 --> 00:17:45.684

Linda Tuohy, Stop Green Hill Solar.

292

00:17:45.844 --> 00:17:49.424

I may wish to contribute on items three point two, three point

293

00:17:49.544 --> 00:17:52.004

three, and three point four.

294

00:17:57.364 --> 00:18:00.844

Good morning, sir. Carly Tinkler, chartered landscape

295

00:18:00.944 --> 00:18:04.264

architect advising Stop Green Hill Solar.

296

00:18:04.333 --> 00:18:06.864

I'll be, contributing to item three point

297

00:18:07.004 --> 00:18:09.624

two.

298

00:18:10.624 --> 00:18:10.844

Thank

299

00:18:10.904 --> 00:18:17.664

you. So

300

00:18:17.674 --> 00:18:21.404

I think we had one or two people, on the original list

301

00:18:21.484 --> 00:18:25.464

who don't appear to be here today.

302

00:18:25.624 --> 00:18:26.134

Um,

303

00:18:28.224 --> 00:18:31.524

think, think the only other person that I've got as, possibly indicating they

304

00:18:31.584 --> 00:18:35.224

might have wanted to speak, might, might have been

305

00:18:35.384 --> 00:18:39.324

Serian Partridge, but I have a note from the case team that it, it might

306

00:18:39.384 --> 00:18:43.104

be a compulsory acquisition hearing to tomorrow that you might be

307

00:18:43.244 --> 00:18:47.214

more, likely to speak at. But obviously,

308

00:18:47.924 --> 00:18:49.974

f-feel free to contribute today if,

309

00:18:50.063 --> 00:18:52.044

uh-

310

00:18:52.064 --> 00:18:55.444

Hello. Yeah, sorry. I am here. Um, is it

311

00:18:55.504 --> 00:18:57.344

on?

312

00:18:59.344 --> 00:19:01.824

Right. Th-thank you.

313

00:19:01.864 --> 00:19:05.764

Hello. Yeah, I think as you said, it's more appropriate for

314

00:19:05.824 --> 00:19:09.164

tomorrow, but there may be some contributions,

315

00:19:10.444 --> 00:19:13.824

if I can comment today as well.

316

00:19:13.904 --> 00:19:16.284

Right. Thank you very much. We'll, we'll watch out.

317

00:19:16.364 --> 00:19:19.844

Um, if you just r-raise a hand at any point, and we'll, we'll try and keep an eye

318

00:19:19.884 --> 00:19:21.724

out.

319

00:19:23.424 --> 00:19:26.064

So Gary Grant, North, Northants Council.

320

00:19:26.124 --> 00:19:29.544

Sir, I should have made clear, in terms of other

321

00:19:29.604 --> 00:19:33.084

contributions through the day, I have,

322

00:19:33.384 --> 00:19:37.324

Nicola Thompson, who is, available to give contributions in

323

00:19:37.364 --> 00:19:40.814

relation to each of the items, and I have individuals who I will

324

00:19:40.824 --> 00:19:44.004

introduce at various stages un-under the various agenda

325

00:19:44.104 --> 00:19:47.334

items, some of whom are present and some of whom are online.

326

00:19:47.364 --> 00:19:49.024

But I should have made that clear earlier.

327

00:19:49.844 --> 00:19:53.244

Uh, thank, thank you. That's, that, that's fine.

328

00:19:53.264 --> 00:19:57.104

We-- Again, probably in the same way as, we'll let the applicant introduce

329

00:19:57.124 --> 00:20:00.964

their, people. We'll, we'll try and remember to, ask North,

330

00:20:00.984 --> 00:20:04.164

Northants before each item who it's going to be for, for your

331

00:20:04.464 --> 00:20:08.104

side. Right. So I think,

332

00:20:08.564 --> 00:20:12.124

that's, that's everybody that I've got on a, a list in front of

333

00:20:12.184 --> 00:20:15.784

me. Um, so just to check that there's nobody else,

334

00:20:16.304 --> 00:20:19.854

either in the room or online. Um, if there is

335

00:20:19.904 --> 00:20:23.844

anybody online who we've missed from the list, just put a, a virtual hand

336

00:20:23.964 --> 00:20:27.474

up. But I believe that is

337

00:20:28.444 --> 00:20:34.784

everyone.

338

00:20:37.024 --> 00:20:39.404

Thank you.

339

00:20:40.344 --> 00:20:44.164

Um, I mean, if, if anybody else, does decide that they wish to speak

340

00:20:44.204 --> 00:20:48.144

during the course of the hearing, for example, to make comments in

341

00:20:48.204 --> 00:20:52.184

response to representations made by other parties, you may

342

00:20:52.304 --> 00:20:55.584

do so. Um, just, raise your hand either

343

00:20:55.644 --> 00:20:59.424

physically or, virtually using the Raise Hand function in

344

00:20:59.464 --> 00:21:00.544

Microsoft Teams.

345

00:21:01.664 --> 00:21:02.644

Um, so

346

00:21:03.624 --> 00:21:07.344

just before we move on, are there any comments or questions

347

00:21:07.384 --> 00:21:09.964

anyone may, w-wishes to make under agenda item

348

00:21:10.024 --> 00:21:11.784

two?

349

00:21:12.764 --> 00:21:16.704

No, that's fine. Thank you. So that concludes that

350

00:21:16.764 --> 00:21:20.444

agenda item. So we turn now to the substance of the

351

00:21:20.504 --> 00:21:24.444

meeting, which is, agenda item three,

352

00:21:24.804 --> 00:21:27.824

and the, sub-matters

353

00:21:27.904 --> 00:21:31.464

underneath that. Um, I think the, the applicant

354

00:21:31.604 --> 00:21:35.493

alluded to it, but I did just have a little note under my introduction to

355

00:21:35.524 --> 00:21:39.144

this a-agenda item, that you'll have seen,

356

00:21:39.604 --> 00:21:43.164

that there is an agenda item three point five regarding

357

00:21:43.304 --> 00:21:46.744

the applicant's second change request.

358

00:21:46.844 --> 00:21:50.284
Um, but we do only intend under that

359
00:21:50.424 --> 00:21:54.264
item to cover any topics that have not already

360
00:21:54.284 --> 00:21:57.944
been dealt with under three point two to three point

361
00:21:58.124 --> 00:22:01.754
four. Um, so if you have anything related to the

362
00:22:01.824 --> 00:22:05.084
second change request on landscape,

363
00:22:05.204 --> 00:22:09.084
ecological, or traffic and transport type matters

364
00:22:09.164 --> 00:22:12.664
that you want to raise, please do so under the relevant

365
00:22:12.804 --> 00:22:16.444
items three point two, three point three, or three

366
00:22:16.584 --> 00:22:20.024
point four. Um, do not wait until

367
00:22:20.444 --> 00:22:24.164
item three point five at the end of, of this meeting,

368
00:22:24.504 --> 00:22:27.144
as we don't intend to return to any

369
00:22:27.524 --> 00:22:30.704
landscape, ecology, or traffic and transport

370
00:22:30.824 --> 00:22:34.624
issues. Um, hopefully that was clear on the agenda, but I just
thought I'd,

371
00:22:34.843 --> 00:22:38.533

just reinforce, that. Um,

372

00:22:38.764 --> 00:22:42.704

so with, with that in mind, I will now hand over to Mrs.

373

00:22:42.764 --> 00:22:46.564

Norman, who is leading on agenda item three

374

00:22:46.684 --> 00:22:49.764

point two, which is, effects for

375

00:22:49.924 --> 00:22:51.504

landscape.

376

00:22:52.384 --> 00:22:56.344

Thank you very much. Um, so if I hand directly over to

377

00:22:56.404 --> 00:22:59.674

the applicant, Ms. Broderick and Mr. Jackson, if you...

378

00:22:59.924 --> 00:23:02.864

Ha-have you prepared an update? Yep, I'll hand over to you then.

379

00:23:02.884 --> 00:23:05.024

Thank you very much.

380

00:23:05.124 --> 00:23:07.924

Uh, Claire Broderick, the applicant. Um, I'll hand over to Mr.

381

00:23:07.964 --> 00:23:10.944

Jackson to provide the update, on,

382

00:23:11.624 --> 00:23:15.304

landscape-related matters. I didn't know whether it would,

383

00:23:16.224 --> 00:23:20.144

be of assistance for us to quickly, summarize what change

384

00:23:20.344 --> 00:23:24.264

application two consists of just so that people are

385

00:23:24.304 --> 00:23:24.684

aware

386

00:23:25.504 --> 00:23:28.624

if they wanted to raise something that those were the matters under change

387

00:23:28.704 --> 00:23:32.584

application two. I'm happy to do that now or after the update, whichever is more

388

00:23:32.604 --> 00:23:33.014

helpful.

389

00:23:33.104 --> 00:23:36.694

Yeah. I, I think, probably if you could just, mention it,

390

00:23:37.004 --> 00:23:40.784

now, that would be very useful. Thank you.

391

00:23:40.904 --> 00:23:42.924

Uh, Claire Broderick for the applicant.

392

00:23:43.024 --> 00:23:46.854

Um, so the second change request was submitted on the seventeenth of

393

00:23:46.884 --> 00:23:50.834

February, two thousand and twenty-six, and was supported by,

394

00:23:51.044 --> 00:23:54.764

a change application and supporting environmental information report, and

395

00:23:54.784 --> 00:23:58.444

that can be found at CR two dash zero two

396

00:23:58.484 --> 00:24:02.364

four. Um, the change request comprises, four

397

00:24:02.424 --> 00:24:06.274

changes. Um, these proposed changes are refinements to scheme

398

00:24:06.724 --> 00:24:10.644

layout and design only. Um, the change request does not involve any

399

00:24:10.684 --> 00:24:14.024

increase or extension of the order limits, and does not,

400

00:24:14.344 --> 00:24:17.904

change or require any additional compulsory acquisition,

401

00:24:18.124 --> 00:24:21.844

powers in respect of new or existing plots of land or interest.

402

00:24:21.854 --> 00:24:25.554

So it's different, from change request number one in that, in that

403

00:24:25.564 --> 00:24:29.144

respect. Um, I'll briefly summarize the changes.

404

00:24:29.204 --> 00:24:32.558

Uh, change one--Comprises the provision of optionality

405

00:24:33.108 --> 00:24:36.928

to, allow for a four hundred KV substation to be

406

00:24:36.988 --> 00:24:40.688

located at Greenhill G site. Um, a

407

00:24:40.788 --> 00:24:44.328

detailed post-submission review of the scheme's electrical design,
was

408

00:24:44.388 --> 00:24:48.308

undertaken by the applicant, and that iden-identified the need for

409

00:24:48.348 --> 00:24:51.768

there to be flexibility to allow for either a one three two

410

00:24:51.808 --> 00:24:54.848

KV or a four hundred KV substation in that

411
00:24:54.888 --> 00:24:58.868
location. Um, the second change request

412
00:24:58.888 --> 00:25:02.348
relates to the provision of tree planting for Greenhill G.

413
00:25:02.448 --> 00:25:06.008
Um, following ongoing discussions with the landscape officer at Milton Keynes City

414
00:25:06.088 --> 00:25:09.768
Council, it's been agreed that woodland planting will be implemented to

415
00:25:09.808 --> 00:25:13.688
enhance screening between the fields known as GF12 and

416
00:25:13.728 --> 00:25:17.468
GF13, where the Three Shires Way intersects with Greenhill

417
00:25:17.548 --> 00:25:21.408
G off the A428. Um, the additional

418
00:25:21.448 --> 00:25:25.388
woodland planting in this area will be implemented under both design options.

419
00:25:25.428 --> 00:25:29.328
So, design option A is, in relation to

420
00:25:29.428 --> 00:25:33.248
a one three two KV substation, and, design option B is in

421
00:25:33.288 --> 00:25:37.148
relation to the four hundred KV substation that I mentioned in relation

422
00:25:37.308 --> 00:25:40.848
to, change number one. Um, so in either of those

423
00:25:40.888 --> 00:25:43.808

scenarios, that landscaping will be provided,

424

00:25:46.428 --> 00:25:48.308

for the plots that I've just mentioned.

425

00:25:48.388 --> 00:25:51.778

Um, additional woodland planting will also be provided to the south of

426

00:25:51.848 --> 00:25:55.708

field GF3, in the event that,

427

00:25:55.968 --> 00:25:59.348

option B, the four hundred KV substation,

428

00:25:59.828 --> 00:26:03.328

is selected, and that will also assist in providing habitat

429

00:26:03.408 --> 00:26:07.128

connectivity to the ancient woodland located to the west of Greenhill

430

00:26:07.248 --> 00:26:07.628

G.

431

00:26:08.668 --> 00:26:12.568

Uh, change, three, is to allow for optionality

432

00:26:12.668 --> 00:26:16.568

for up to four hundred KV cabling between the Greenhill Bird Site

433

00:26:16.628 --> 00:26:20.548

and Greenhill G, and optionality to allow for up to one

434

00:26:20.588 --> 00:26:24.208

three two KV cabling between Greenhill F and Greenhill

435

00:26:24.348 --> 00:26:28.048

G. Um, and those, that optionality is a consequence

436

00:26:28.148 --> 00:26:32.128

of the, change number one, which was the optionality to have an

437

00:26:32.188 --> 00:26:35.408

up to four hundred KV substation on Greenhill

438

00:26:35.728 --> 00:26:39.508

G, and the higher voltage connection

439

00:26:39.548 --> 00:26:43.538

that's required. Again, that change would only be implemented if the four

440

00:26:43.588 --> 00:26:46.697

hundred K substation was proceeded with.

441

00:26:46.768 --> 00:26:50.558

Um, the ES assessed the maximum design scenario as set out in

442

00:26:50.588 --> 00:26:54.508

table four point one of chapter four of the scheme description, which is Rep one

443

00:26:54.548 --> 00:26:57.548

dash zero three one, and the changes,

444

00:26:58.288 --> 00:27:01.728

required sit within the maximum parameters already assessed within the

445

00:27:01.828 --> 00:27:03.648

ES.

446

00:27:05.288 --> 00:27:08.948

If option B is progressed, the one three two KV substation on

447

00:27:08.988 --> 00:27:12.968

Greenhill F may be connected to the four hundred KV substation on Greenhill

448

00:27:13.128 --> 00:27:17.068

G, and to accommodate this, the cable connection between Greenhill F and

449

00:27:17.108 --> 00:27:21.008

Greenhill G will require e-elements of cabling to be up to one three two

450

00:27:21.128 --> 00:27:24.948

KV. Um, this change is to include a single one three two

451

00:27:24.988 --> 00:27:28.938

KV circuit together with three thirty-three KV circuits within

452

00:27:28.968 --> 00:27:32.788

the trench to enable the connection of panels, already

453

00:27:32.828 --> 00:27:36.608

set out, and the substation located within Greenhill F.

454

00:27:36.688 --> 00:27:40.648

Um, this all still accords with the maximum design parameters already set out

455

00:27:40.748 --> 00:27:43.968

in the concept design parameters and principles document, which is

456

00:27:44.188 --> 00:27:47.228

CR2-016.

457

00:27:48.628 --> 00:27:52.348

Uh, change request four, is in relation to

458

00:27:52.568 --> 00:27:52.868

a,

459

00:27:54.128 --> 00:27:58.068

request from the examining authority in their, schedule of changes to

460

00:27:58.108 --> 00:28:01.808

the draft DCO, which was PD dash one zero five,

461

00:28:01.928 --> 00:28:05.828

asking the applicant to consider whether, the panels in

462

00:28:05.948 --> 00:28:08.948
field AF twenty-nine could be removed.

463

00:28:09.028 --> 00:28:12.988
Um, the applicant has, taken those comments on board and

464

00:28:13.168 --> 00:28:15.548
has proposed the removal of the panels,

465

00:28:16.988 --> 00:28:20.868
within a, that field, and has updated the

466

00:28:20.908 --> 00:28:24.748
works plans, which are CR2 dash zero zero

467

00:28:25.008 --> 00:28:28.668
four. Um, on those updated work plans, you can see that work number

468

00:28:28.788 --> 00:28:32.688
one has been removed from field AF twenty-nine, and the area

469

00:28:32.748 --> 00:28:36.728
of work number 1D, which is the cabling that connects panels

470

00:28:36.748 --> 00:28:40.048
together, has been reduced to the northern section.

471

00:28:40.068 --> 00:28:43.788
Um, it's therefore not possible to remove this plot in its entirety
from the order

472

00:28:43.828 --> 00:28:47.708
limits because cabling is still required, and the remainder

473

00:28:47.748 --> 00:28:51.738
of the land is now proposed for biodiversity and mitigation and
enhancement works

474

00:28:52.128 --> 00:28:56.068

under works number six and nine. Um, AF twenty-nine is

475

00:28:56.108 --> 00:29:00.048

now being proposed, for ground nesting bird mitigation in the form

476

00:29:00.088 --> 00:29:04.008

of continued arable usage. Um, section five

477

00:29:04.108 --> 00:29:07.618

point five of the, report,

478

00:29:07.848 --> 00:29:11.428

supporting environmental report document sets out that in more

479

00:29:11.468 --> 00:29:15.068

detail. Um, overall the, applicant

480

00:29:15.088 --> 00:29:18.798

considers the proposed changes to be minor, a-and notes that

481

00:29:18.828 --> 00:29:21.428

obviously that, that change has been, accepted.

482

00:29:21.468 --> 00:29:25.158

So we've got further information if required, and,

483

00:29:25.408 --> 00:29:27.648

as you said, each of the topic,

484

00:29:29.468 --> 00:29:32.808

experts can speak to the particular, sections of the supporting

485

00:29:32.848 --> 00:29:36.588

informational, environmental information report, if required.

486

00:29:36.598 --> 00:29:40.168

Um, but that's a brief summary of change application two, and I'll now hand over to

487

00:29:40.208 --> 00:29:43.788

Mr. Jackson to provide the update on discussions with the local

authorities.

488

00:29:43.808 --> 00:29:46.388

Thank you.

489

00:29:46.628 --> 00:29:49.168

Chris Jackson on behalf of the applicant.

490

00:29:49.238 --> 00:29:52.578

Um, I'm gonna talk under the progress of matters under discussion, details in the

491

00:29:52.628 --> 00:29:54.738

draft statements of common ground, and any remaining areas of

492

00:29:54.788 --> 00:29:58.588

disagreement. The wide

493

00:29:58.608 --> 00:30:01.638

applicant team discusses the statement of common ground at regular monthly meetings

494

00:30:01.788 --> 00:30:04.938

with the host local authorities. The most recent meeting of those took place for

495

00:30:04.968 --> 00:30:08.008

the week commencing second of March with North Northamptonshire and West

496

00:30:08.088 --> 00:30:11.498

Northamptonshire Councils. All councils are currently reviewing the statements of

497

00:30:11.528 --> 00:30:15.248

common ground following the applicant's submission at deadline five.

498

00:30:15.268 --> 00:30:18.188

The applicant has organized a meeting with Milton Keynes City Council for the

499

00:30:18.228 --> 00:30:20.908

seventeenth of March to discuss outstanding statement of common ground

500

00:30:20.948 --> 00:30:24.668

matters. The applicant has been positively engaged with

501

00:30:24.708 --> 00:30:27.978

landscape representatives and officers of host authorities throughout the course of

502

00:30:28.048 --> 00:30:31.928

pre-submission, post-submission, and examination, resulting in methodology

503

00:30:31.968 --> 00:30:35.718

and implementation being agreed within the draft statements of common ground. This

504

00:30:35.728 --> 00:30:39.068

has left only a few remaining matters in discussion with North Northants and West

505

00:30:39.128 --> 00:30:43.028

Northants councils on landscape matters which relate to embedded mitigation

506

00:30:43.648 --> 00:30:46.218

assessment outcomes and cumulative effects.

507

00:30:46.228 --> 00:30:49.478

The applicant's landscape architect spoke with the landscape consultant appointed

508

00:30:49.488 --> 00:30:53.378

by West Northants and North Northants on the fifth of March to set up a meeting to

509

00:30:53.388 --> 00:30:56.888

discuss the matters still under discussion.

510

00:30:56.928 --> 00:31:00.708

A meeting was held with officers from MK, Milton Keynes Council, sorry,

511

00:31:00.788 --> 00:31:04.448

apologies, Milton Keynes City Council on the twenty-eighth of January to progress a

512

00:31:04.488 --> 00:31:07.128

statement of common ground. Unfortunately, this meeting was deferred due to

513

00:31:07.168 --> 00:31:10.078

officers being unable to provide comments at the statement of common ground at that

514

00:31:10.128 --> 00:31:13.458

time. A subsequent meeting has been arranged for the twelfth of

515

00:31:13.508 --> 00:31:17.488

February. However, this was further deferred with no date arranged as of yet for

516

00:31:17.528 --> 00:31:21.048

the following meeting. However, written comments were provided on the draft

517

00:31:21.088 --> 00:31:24.608

statement of common ground at deadline five.

518

00:31:24.668 --> 00:31:28.108

Additional viewpoints were requested by Milton Keynes Landscape Officer have been

519

00:31:28.188 --> 00:31:31.588

submitted at deadline five. This is Rep five zero nine

520

00:31:31.628 --> 00:31:34.908

four, Rep five zero nine five, and

521

00:31:35.408 --> 00:31:39.338

CR two zero one nine, and option B in relation to

522

00:31:39.348 --> 00:31:41.468

change request to CR two

523

00:31:42.368 --> 00:31:45.188
zero two zero.

524

00:31:53.328 --> 00:31:54.688
Uh, Claire Potik for the applicant.

525

00:31:54.728 --> 00:31:58.708
Um, I'll just give a brief, summary of, updates on glint and

526

00:31:58.748 --> 00:32:02.668
glare matters. Um, so since ISH two, the

527

00:32:02.708 --> 00:32:05.588
applicant has consulted with West Northamptonshire Council and North

528

00:32:05.628 --> 00:32:08.928
Northamptonshire Council regarding the potential impact of glint and
glare on local

529

00:32:09.028 --> 00:32:12.988
roads. Um, the applicant submitted two further reports to address
the

530

00:32:13.028 --> 00:32:16.948
council's concerns. Uh, these are the glint and glare technical
note, which was

531

00:32:16.988 --> 00:32:20.948
Rep two dash zero five four, which related to

532

00:32:20.988 --> 00:32:24.788
r- local roads within, West Northamptonshire, and the

533

00:32:24.828 --> 00:32:28.628
North Northamptonshire local highways glint and glare report, which
was Rep

534

00:32:28.768 --> 00:32:32.308
four dash zero two six. Um, the

535

00:32:32.348 --> 00:32:36.338
councils have reviewed the respective, reports, and we understand that

536
00:32:36.348 --> 00:32:39.648
they're content that there are no significant effects predicted towards local

537
00:32:39.708 --> 00:32:43.588
roads. As such, there are no current matters, still under discussion

538
00:32:43.947 --> 00:32:47.568
or remaining areas of disagreement in the statements of common ground in relation

539
00:32:47.628 --> 00:32:50.928
to these, the matters relating to glint and glare.

540
00:32:52.428 --> 00:32:52.608
Thank

541
00:32:52.668 --> 00:32:58.728
you.

542
00:32:58.808 --> 00:33:01.308
Thank you very much. That was helpful.

543
00:33:01.428 --> 00:33:05.358
Um, so we'll turn now, to the other people

544
00:33:05.368 --> 00:33:09.108
who've indicated that they want to speak, starting with the councils, and Mr.

545
00:33:09.128 --> 00:33:12.928
Grant and Mr. Mills, did you have any comments or anything you wanted to say?

546
00:33:13.008 --> 00:33:16.328
Uh, Gary Grant, North-Northants Council.

547
00:33:16.388 --> 00:33:20.148

Um, madam, yes, please, very shortly.

548

00:33:20.218 --> 00:33:24.088

Um, really, the... I, I know you'll have seen revision B to

549

00:33:24.128 --> 00:33:27.038

the, statement of common ground on landscape matters

550

00:33:28.168 --> 00:33:32.008

a-and the threads move towards LVIA

551

00:33:32.128 --> 00:33:35.408

fifteen and the scheme duration

552

00:33:35.868 --> 00:33:38.827

point, which is being identified

553

00:33:38.988 --> 00:33:42.828

there. Um, that is, by way of status, a matter

554

00:33:42.968 --> 00:33:45.808

continuing to be under discussion.

555

00:33:45.818 --> 00:33:49.468

Um, but noted before I introduce, the, the

556

00:33:49.548 --> 00:33:53.168

landscape expert, the contents of what is said

557

00:33:53.228 --> 00:33:56.648

currently by, the, the

558

00:33:56.708 --> 00:34:00.648

promoter by reference to, the period

559

00:34:00.768 --> 00:34:04.628

being not uncommon. Uh, madam,

560

00:34:04.748 --> 00:34:08.528

I say this in response to that. Firstly, as has been set

561

00:34:08.649 --> 00:34:12.109
out originally, reliance is placed

562

00:34:12.169 --> 00:34:15.968
upon, the EN one and EN

563

00:34:16.169 --> 00:34:20.028
three references that you've been previously given so far as the

564

00:34:20.069 --> 00:34:23.868
typical period and in terms of the longer

565

00:34:23.928 --> 00:34:27.629
period for a scheme of this sort. You are

566

00:34:27.649 --> 00:34:31.508
reminded of that. Uh, secondly,

567

00:34:31.808 --> 00:34:35.748
you are taken to ver- relevant parts of guidance which

568

00:34:35.808 --> 00:34:36.728
makes clear

569

00:34:37.609 --> 00:34:37.948
that

570

00:34:38.768 --> 00:34:42.028
each scheme needs to be justified in its own

571

00:34:42.169 --> 00:34:45.669
terms. Um, that applies at two levels.

572

00:34:45.728 --> 00:34:49.669
One, in relation to, this scheme needs to

573

00:34:49.748 --> 00:34:52.908
justify the extended period beyond the

574

00:34:52.948 --> 00:34:56.598

typical identified, in,

575

00:34:57.118 --> 00:35:00.748

the, policy references. And secondly, one m-

576

00:35:00.928 --> 00:35:04.788

needs to understand why a sixty-year

577

00:35:04.888 --> 00:35:08.498

period is being taken in the atypical circumstances

578

00:35:08.968 --> 00:35:11.658

indicated in the examples given.

579

00:35:13.108 --> 00:35:16.988

So that's at two levels. Um, a-and in relation

580

00:35:17.088 --> 00:35:20.728

to that, the difference between the

581

00:35:20.768 --> 00:35:24.508

parties goes to materiality of the difference

582

00:35:24.608 --> 00:35:28.368

between forty years and sixty years in the

583

00:35:28.428 --> 00:35:32.308

context of a difference of planning judgment as to what the

584

00:35:32.328 --> 00:35:35.928

position is at the end of establishment of the

585

00:35:36.028 --> 00:35:39.688

fabric, which is, in the view of the, of the local

586

00:35:39.708 --> 00:35:43.408

authorities, changing the character, of the area

587

00:35:43.828 --> 00:35:45.528

cumulatively.

588

00:35:46.508 --> 00:35:47.028

Um, so

589

00:35:48.808 --> 00:35:52.268

we would suggest you're not greatly assisted by looking at those other

590

00:35:52.288 --> 00:35:55.708

examples, and what is said in the statement of common ground at the ma- at the

591

00:35:55.788 --> 00:35:57.588

moment simply doesn't help

592

00:35:57.648 --> 00:36:00.058

you. Um,

593

00:36:00.928 --> 00:36:04.748

that, I think, provides a sufficient clarification of where

594

00:36:05.928 --> 00:36:09.828

the, North Northants Council are heading so far as that point

595

00:36:09.848 --> 00:36:13.168

is concerned, and I'll now hand over to Mr.

596

00:36:13.208 --> 00:36:17.088

Mills to give the, the landscape context to that and the discussions to

597

00:36:17.148 --> 00:36:19.508

date.

598

00:36:21.508 --> 00:36:24.768

Thank you. Uh, Ryan Mills for North Northants and West Northants

599

00:36:24.888 --> 00:36:28.488

Council. Um, in- as Mr. Jackson said, we're in

600

00:36:28.528 --> 00:36:31.708

discussions about the statement of common ground, and those matters

still under s-

601

00:36:31.728 --> 00:36:35.638

discussion. Um, I'll just go through what those matters are now just

602

00:36:35.808 --> 00:36:37.578

briefly, just so we're aware of what they are.

603

00:36:37.608 --> 00:36:41.508

So we have item ten point two, which is in regards to embedded

604

00:36:41.528 --> 00:36:45.288

design mitigation, and, c- we consider as a council the

605

00:36:45.328 --> 00:36:48.468

effectiveness of planting and reducing the character effects has been

606

00:36:48.548 --> 00:36:52.368

overstated. Um, item thirteen point two

607

00:36:52.508 --> 00:36:56.440

point two In regards to residual landscape effects, we

608

00:36:56.480 --> 00:37:00.419

consider those effects on site E and site F have been understated

609

00:37:01.020 --> 00:37:04.840

within the one kilometer study area, specifically at construction and year one.

610

00:37:06.560 --> 00:37:10.500

Item thirteen point four point two, which is the combined presence of

611

00:37:10.600 --> 00:37:14.590

multiple sites, we as the councils are, believe this

612

00:37:14.640 --> 00:37:18.500

is likely to give rise to significant adverse effects at the local study area

613

00:37:18.560 --> 00:37:22.390

at year one and year fifteen, so in the long term.

614

00:37:22.420 --> 00:37:23.980

And then finally item fifteen,

615

00:37:25.340 --> 00:37:27.280

which is in regards to the, duration.

616

00:37:27.300 --> 00:37:31.260

The council considers, due to the long-term impacts on landscape

617

00:37:31.360 --> 00:37:34.940

character and visual amenity that a forty-year

618

00:37:34.980 --> 00:37:38.840

operational period would be pr-preferable to a proposed sixty-year

619

00:37:38.920 --> 00:37:42.240

duration when those impacts would last longer.

620

00:37:42.820 --> 00:37:44.760

Thank you.

621

00:37:47.000 --> 00:37:49.500

Thank you very much. That's helpful. Mr. Grant.

622

00:37:49.960 --> 00:37:52.340

Gary Grant, North Northants Council.

623

00:37:52.420 --> 00:37:56.160

Um, it's appreciated, madam, that there's no cultural

624

00:37:56.220 --> 00:37:59.450

heritage, section identified

625

00:37:59.500 --> 00:38:02.930

today. That, that's not a problem from this

626

00:38:02.960 --> 00:38:06.920

perspective, but the point, the overriding point with respect

627

00:38:06.980 --> 00:38:10.350

to the duration factors into all of the environmental

628

00:38:10.420 --> 00:38:14.280

considerations, including the answers given to the lead inspector

629

00:38:14.320 --> 00:38:18.180

on the first set of hearings in relation to scope for mitigation.

630

00:38:18.200 --> 00:38:22.180

It's a factor to be taken into account in terms of, the duration of

631

00:38:22.240 --> 00:38:23.800

the proposal.

632

00:38:24.960 --> 00:38:28.520

Thank you very much. Uh, Ms. Brodrick and Mr.

633

00:38:28.560 --> 00:38:31.620

Jackson, I'll just see if the other councils wish to make any comments first and

634

00:38:31.640 --> 00:38:35.600

then let you come back as a whole. Yeah. Um, so for, Mrs.

635

00:38:35.680 --> 00:38:39.040

Scaife, did you have any comments you wanted to make at this stage?

636

00:38:39.120 --> 00:38:43.020

Um, just, just in respect of landscape matters, it's a similar position

637

00:38:43.080 --> 00:38:47.040

for West Northants Council in terms of, the

638

00:38:47.260 --> 00:38:51.120

embedded design mitigation, the cumulative, the

639

00:38:51.140 --> 00:38:54.940

assessment outcomes and the cumulative impacts of the, the scheme
and the, the

640

00:38:54.960 --> 00:38:57.620

forty to sixty year issue. Thank you.

641

00:38:57.680 --> 00:39:01.620

Thank you very much. And Ms. Burdigham, were there any comments from
you?

642

00:39:01.679 --> 00:39:05.000

Um, just to agree that we've got the viewpoints that were submitted
at deadline

643

00:39:05.040 --> 00:39:08.280

five, and our landscape architect is currently reviewing them, and
we'll have a

644

00:39:08.380 --> 00:39:12.340

update in the XQ3 response and the

645

00:39:12.380 --> 00:39:15.640

statement of common ground. Or the next submission of the statement
of common

646

00:39:15.660 --> 00:39:16.540

ground.

647

00:39:17.620 --> 00:39:20.020

Thank you very much.

648

00:39:26.480 --> 00:39:29.400

Uh, Ms. Brodrick or Mr. Jackson, are there any points there that you
wanted to come

649

00:39:29.440 --> 00:39:30.680

back on?

650

00:39:32.400 --> 00:39:34.280

Uh, Claire Brodrick for the applicant.

651

00:39:34.360 --> 00:39:38.080

Um, we've obviously discussed the, operational

652

00:39:38.500 --> 00:39:42.380

period at, previous issue-specific hearings, so I'm not

653

00:39:42.500 --> 00:39:46.160

proposing to go over those, arguments,

654

00:39:46.480 --> 00:39:50.000

again other than just to reiterate that obviously the applicant has fully

655

00:39:50.020 --> 00:39:53.300

assessed the implications of a sixty-year,

656

00:39:53.740 --> 00:39:57.160

scheme, and that its position is that the, you

657

00:39:57.200 --> 00:39:58.040

know,

658

00:39:58.920 --> 00:40:02.720

the need for that renewable energy over a sixty-year period is

659

00:40:02.760 --> 00:40:04.190

justified and there isn't anything

660

00:40:05.000 --> 00:40:08.840

specific about the location of this particular scheme that would

661

00:40:08.900 --> 00:40:12.720

warrant a reduced, operational period, and notes that the

662

00:40:12.740 --> 00:40:16.460

Secretary of State has been minded to grant a sixty-year period on other

663

00:40:16.480 --> 00:40:20.440

schemes, again, when there was no specific reason to impose a shorter

664

00:40:20.960 --> 00:40:24.620
timeframe. I'll hand over to Mr. Jackson, to see if he just wants to

665

00:40:24.660 --> 00:40:28.110
comment on, the points that have been raised in terms of the

666

00:40:28.180 --> 00:40:31.380
outstanding, matters under discussion.

667

00:40:31.400 --> 00:40:33.260
Thank you.

668

00:40:35.100 --> 00:40:36.760
Chris Jackson on behalf of the applicant.

669

00:40:36.800 --> 00:40:37.660
Um,

670

00:40:39.280 --> 00:40:41.060
madam, not, not really at th- at this stage.

671

00:40:41.100 --> 00:40:43.680
I think there's an ongoing dialogue between myself and Mr.

672

00:40:43.720 --> 00:40:46.830
Mills a-as well as, officers at, at Milton Keynes City

673

00:40:46.900 --> 00:40:50.480
Council. Um, whilst we recognize there are still some areas

674

00:40:50.560 --> 00:40:54.420
of, discussion and matters under discussion between us, I think

675

00:40:54.460 --> 00:40:58.400
we're, we're, actively seeking to, to refine those where

676

00:40:58.460 --> 00:41:02.440
possible and, and trying to sort of whittle down to the, the matters
that will

677

00:41:02.500 --> 00:41:06.340

likely remain either in disagreement or, discussion

678

00:41:06.720 --> 00:41:10.600

continuing for the examination period. Thank you.

679

00:41:12.379 --> 00:41:16.240

Thank you.

680

00:41:27.140 --> 00:41:33.940

So,

681

00:41:35.300 --> 00:41:38.260

in terms of obviously we're coming towards the end of the examination, have you got

682

00:41:38.280 --> 00:41:39.500

meetings set up,

683

00:41:41.140 --> 00:41:43.840

how, how much further engagement is likely to be

684

00:41:44.000 --> 00:41:45.740

undertaken?

685

00:41:46.460 --> 00:41:48.100

Chris Jackson on behalf of the applicant.

686

00:41:48.160 --> 00:41:51.220

Um, conversations have been undertaken between myself and Mr.

687

00:41:51.240 --> 00:41:54.860

Mills last week, which included, an email

688

00:41:54.900 --> 00:41:58.880

exchange between us where we have identified the remaining matters

689

00:41:58.920 --> 00:42:02.460

under discussion, and we've sought to

690

00:42:02.640 --> 00:42:05.420

refine those down into a, to a more fine-grained

691

00:42:05.720 --> 00:42:09.260

level. Uh, apologies, it's, it's probably

692

00:42:09.360 --> 00:42:13.260

more, a lack of my availability today th-than anything else

693

00:42:13.280 --> 00:42:16.860

that, that's led to that. But Mr. Mills and myself have discussed of
intending to

694

00:42:16.900 --> 00:42:20.300

have that follow-up meeting within March, if not early April.

695

00:42:20.340 --> 00:42:22.520

So as soon as practicable. Thank you.

696

00:42:22.540 --> 00:42:30.700

Thank

697

00:42:30.760 --> 00:42:31.060

you.

698

00:42:32.340 --> 00:42:36.160

Um, so now if we turn to, representatives from Stock

699

00:42:36.240 --> 00:42:39.500

Green Solar, I'd got Mr. Anthony down first.

700

00:42:39.520 --> 00:42:42.720

Did you want to say anything at this stage?

701

00:42:42.860 --> 00:42:42.870

Um-

702

00:42:42.900 --> 00:42:44.660

Or did Mr. Tinkler want to-

703

00:42:44.880 --> 00:42:44.890

I-

704

00:42:44.890 --> 00:42:45.340

-come in first?

705

00:42:45.360 --> 00:42:48.160

Yes. I'm going to ask Mr. Tinkler.

706

00:42:48.200 --> 00:42:49.240

Okay. Thank you very

707

00:42:49.280 --> 00:42:54.420

much.

708

00:42:56.288 --> 00:42:59.828

Good morning, madam. Uh, Carly Tinkler, Miss Carly Tinkler,

709

00:42:59.908 --> 00:43:03.508

CMLI, landscape advisor to Stop Green Hills

710

00:43:03.608 --> 00:43:07.348

Solar. Um, I've prepared a short

711

00:43:07.388 --> 00:43:11.107

note, if it's okay just to read from that, because it summarizes my

712

00:43:11.188 --> 00:43:14.808

current position, which is slightly posi-different from the

713

00:43:14.848 --> 00:43:18.108

position that I set out in my note, in my deadline five

714

00:43:18.188 --> 00:43:21.788

note. Um, I'll submit this as a note for deadline

715

00:43:21.968 --> 00:43:25.948

six, and I think it also addresses one of your ExQ

716

00:43:25.968 --> 00:43:26.368

three

717

00:43:26.808 --> 00:43:30.288

questions.

718

00:43:32.708 --> 00:43:36.548

At deadline five, we submitted comments, Rep

719

00:43:36.708 --> 00:43:40.628

five one two one, on the applicant's deadline

720

00:43:40.808 --> 00:43:44.608

four submission, applicant responses to Stop Green Hills

721

00:43:44.688 --> 00:43:47.568

Solar, Rep four 0 two

722

00:43:47.588 --> 00:43:51.468

one. The note explained my position on landscape and

723

00:43:51.548 --> 00:43:55.268

visual effects and set out residual matters agreed and not

724

00:43:55.328 --> 00:43:58.908

agreed. At that point, the matters

725

00:43:58.948 --> 00:44:02.928

remained as per my written representation landscape report and

726

00:44:02.968 --> 00:44:06.428

appendices Rep one one nine five

727

00:44:06.948 --> 00:44:10.868

and Rep one one nine three respectively and summarized in later

728

00:44:10.908 --> 00:44:11.888

responses.

729

00:44:13.228 --> 00:44:16.948

Briefly, broadly, for reasons explained in my report and

730

00:44:16.988 --> 00:44:19.568

elsewhere, my position on the following matters is

731

00:44:19.608 --> 00:44:22.148

unchanged. I agree

732

00:44:23.168 --> 00:44:26.988

that for many receptors, visual effects would remain significant

733

00:44:27.048 --> 00:44:30.208

adverse for the duration of the operation.

734

00:44:30.268 --> 00:44:34.168

However, in my opinion, in several cases, levels of effects would

735

00:44:34.188 --> 00:44:37.748

be higher than assumed in the applicant's LVIA.

736

00:44:38.908 --> 00:44:42.408

I also agree that between years one and fifteen,

737

00:44:43.168 --> 00:44:46.648

indirect effects on the character of the landscapes within one

738

00:44:46.748 --> 00:44:48.628

kilometer of the site's boundaries

739

00:44:49.608 --> 00:44:52.888

would be significant adverse. However, in my

740

00:44:52.928 --> 00:44:56.808

opinion, levels of effects on the landscapes closest to the

741

00:44:56.868 --> 00:45:00.188

sites would be higher than assumed.

742

00:45:00.208 --> 00:45:03.648

I do not agree that at year fifteen and beyond, the

743

00:45:03.708 --> 00:45:07.448

indirect adverse effects on the character of the landscapes within one

744

00:45:07.548 --> 00:45:11.408
kilometer of the site's boundaries and closest to the sites

745
00:45:12.048 --> 00:45:15.348
would reduce to the point where they no longer breach the
significance

746
00:45:15.408 --> 00:45:19.228
threshold, remaining significant adverse until the end of the

747
00:45:19.268 --> 00:45:23.228
opera-- end of the project, and I do not agree

748
00:45:23.268 --> 00:45:26.788
that at year fifteen and beyond there would be significant

749
00:45:27.008 --> 00:45:30.938
beneficial effects on the site's landscape fabric or elements,

750
00:45:31.448 --> 00:45:35.128
and I do not agree that when the project was decommissioned there
would be

751
00:45:35.188 --> 00:45:37.708
long-term legacy landscape benefits.

752
00:45:39.448 --> 00:45:42.808
Another matter which remained unresolved at deadline five

753
00:45:43.308 --> 00:45:47.268
was that the applicant's LVIA did not assess direct effects on the

754
00:45:47.328 --> 00:45:51.168
overall character of the sites, only on the site's landscape

755
00:45:51.288 --> 00:45:55.208
fabric. Fabric is one of many aspects of overall

756
00:45:55.268 --> 00:45:58.268
landscape character, which include a variety of key

757

00:45:58.328 --> 00:46:02.058
characteristics, qualities, and natural, cultural, aesthetic, and

758

00:46:02.108 --> 00:46:05.948
perceptual factors. My own assessment concluded that

759

00:46:06.008 --> 00:46:09.808
direct effects on the overall character of the sites would be
significant adverse

760

00:46:09.848 --> 00:46:12.448
for the duration of the operation and could not be

761

00:46:12.488 --> 00:46:16.328
mitigated. However, the

762

00:46:16.408 --> 00:46:20.048
applicant's deadline five submission now confirms

763

00:46:20.408 --> 00:46:24.028
that there would indeed be direct significant adverse effects on the

764

00:46:24.068 --> 00:46:26.768
character of the sites for the duration of the operation.

765

00:46:27.968 --> 00:46:31.628
The comment is in Rep five 0 eight eight, applicant's

766

00:46:31.708 --> 00:46:35.428
comments on further commentary to ExA's second written questions,

767

00:46:35.948 --> 00:46:39.148
page fourteen of the PDF at item two point

768

00:46:39.348 --> 00:46:42.408
two, question two thirteen two, mitigation

769

00:46:42.488 --> 00:46:46.268
planting. It states, "The LVIA

770

00:46:46.348 --> 00:46:50.298

acknowledges that there would be an immediate change to the character of the

771

00:46:50.388 --> 00:46:53.948

sites themselves and that this would result in significant

772

00:46:54.148 --> 00:46:57.628

adverse effects." And it says, "It is fully

773

00:46:57.668 --> 00:47:01.308

acknowledged that the character of the site itself would be significantly

774

00:47:01.448 --> 00:47:05.228

adversely affected." I agree with this conclusion, but it was

775

00:47:05.308 --> 00:47:09.128

not made clear in the LVIA. There are other aspects of the

776

00:47:09.168 --> 00:47:13.047

applicant's LVIA with which I still do not agree, but those of most

777

00:47:13.068 --> 00:47:16.928

relevance are as set out above. Um, madam,

778

00:47:16.948 --> 00:47:20.348

would you like me to just speak quickly on glint and glare

779

00:47:20.948 --> 00:47:22.008

now? Would that help?

780

00:47:22.068 --> 00:47:24.628

Yes, if you've got any comments on that, that would be helpful. Thank you.

781

00:47:24.668 --> 00:47:24.968

Thank

782

00:47:25.028 --> 00:47:30.648

you.

783

00:47:34.508 --> 00:47:38.368

My opinion on this matter is set out in Stop Green Hills Solar's deadline

784

00:47:38.508 --> 00:47:42.268

four submission, Rep four 0 four four,

785

00:47:43.638 --> 00:47:47.078

under Q two thirteen ten, effect on local roads.

786

00:47:47.108 --> 00:47:50.688

This was for, West Northants Council,

787

00:47:51.408 --> 00:47:54.608

and this was about the local roads having been omitted from the glint and glare

788

00:47:54.648 --> 00:47:57.468

assessment. Um,

789

00:47:58.848 --> 00:48:02.268

Stop Green Hills Solar would like to draw the examining inspector's attention to

790

00:48:02.288 --> 00:48:06.178

Rep three one 0 one, which is our summary of

791

00:48:06.248 --> 00:48:10.208

oral submissions to ISH two, paragraphs fifty-four to

792

00:48:10.228 --> 00:48:14.018

sixty-six, which summarize the reasons, as

793

00:48:14.048 --> 00:48:17.868

explained in my written representation, why the applicant's

794

00:48:17.888 --> 00:48:21.678

recent assessment of glint and glare effects on local roads has concluded that

795

00:48:21.688 --> 00:48:25.568

receptors would only experience low levels of effects, and why

796

00:48:25.628 --> 00:48:29.448

generally, in my opinion, the applicant's glint and glare assessment

797

00:48:29.488 --> 00:48:30.268

is flawed.

798

00:48:31.088 --> 00:48:35.048

Regarding local roads specifically, the first paragraph of Rep

799

00:48:35.128 --> 00:48:39.088

two 0 five four, section one, Road Infrastructure, Local Roads,

800

00:48:39.648 --> 00:48:43.308

states that based on industry guidance, technical

801

00:48:43.408 --> 00:48:47.388

modeling is not recommended for local roads where traffic densities are likely to

802

00:48:47.408 --> 00:48:51.348

be relatively low. Firstly, the industry guidance

803

00:48:51.408 --> 00:48:55.258

is precisely that. There is no independent glint and glare assessment

804

00:48:55.348 --> 00:48:59.328

guidance Secondly, the qualifying note to

805

00:48:59.368 --> 00:49:02.848

the above sentence in terms of traffic densities being relatively

806

00:49:02.908 --> 00:49:06.748

low, which is also a criterion for assessing effects on

807

00:49:06.788 --> 00:49:10.688

safety of public right of way users as opposed to amenity, which is

808

00:49:10.728 --> 00:49:14.248

not assessed, is that therefore a glint and glare

809

00:49:14.488 --> 00:49:17.628

event would not result in large numbers of

810

00:49:17.688 --> 00:49:21.598

casualties, fatalities, unlike an air, rail,

811

00:49:21.648 --> 00:49:25.348

or major road accident. In my opinion,

812

00:49:25.428 --> 00:49:29.368

even one casualty, fatality should be of great concern,

813

00:49:29.408 --> 00:49:32.848

especially if the risks were identified but not mitigated.

814

00:49:33.528 --> 00:49:37.388

And just to add, madam, that, I understand that there is an
opposition group,

815

00:49:38.068 --> 00:49:41.148

which has appointed an expert on glint and glare

816

00:49:41.788 --> 00:49:45.388

to review, the, informal

817

00:49:45.488 --> 00:49:48.368

guidance which is being relied on here.

818

00:49:48.508 --> 00:49:52.288

Um, it's not been finished yet, but the

819

00:49:52.348 --> 00:49:56.288

person who's preparing it was responsible for producing all

820

00:49:56.328 --> 00:50:00.188

of the data that the informal guidance is based on.

821

00:50:00.228 --> 00:50:03.908

So, they know an awful lot more about the technical

822

00:50:04.028 --> 00:50:07.868

matters than I do. So madam, if it was available, before the

823

00:50:07.908 --> 00:50:11.868

close of the examination, if that's all right with, with you, I'd like to

824

00:50:11.908 --> 00:50:14.568

make that available. Thank you very much.

825

00:50:16.888 --> 00:50:20.688

Thank you very much, Ms. Tinker. Um, is there anyone from

826

00:50:20.808 --> 00:50:24.248

Stop Green Solar who wants to say anything before we move on to the applicant?

827

00:50:25.688 --> 00:50:29.528

Um, is it possible just to make, a, a low level comment

828

00:50:29.568 --> 00:50:33.008

about glint and glare as a general point of view about the effects on

829

00:50:33.048 --> 00:50:35.008

residential dwellings?

830

00:50:35.348 --> 00:50:37.728

Uh, Dr. Tuohy, can you just introduce yourself for the recording?

831

00:50:37.738 --> 00:50:37.868

Oh, sorry.

832

00:50:37.888 --> 00:50:38.548

Thank you.

833

00:50:38.648 --> 00:50:42.608

I'm, I'm Linda Tuohy. I'm, a resident of Walgrave and also a

834

00:50:42.648 --> 00:50:46.608

member of Stop Green Hill Solar. And I would, if possible, like to

just make

835

00:50:46.708 --> 00:50:50.548

a, a, a comment about the effects on residential dwellings, which I don't

836

00:50:50.608 --> 00:50:54.598

think has been, addressed and, in ways

837

00:50:54.608 --> 00:50:57.828

that I think it ought to be. Um, I just want to take a, a, a, a

838

00:50:58.248 --> 00:51:01.678

layperson's residential viewpoint, with, with a couple of

839

00:51:01.728 --> 00:51:04.748

examples from the northeast of Walgrave.

840

00:51:04.828 --> 00:51:08.788

Um, there are many houses. There are, there are forty-five residential

841

00:51:08.848 --> 00:51:12.628

dwellings in, in Walgrave which were felt to be affected by site A,

842

00:51:12.668 --> 00:51:16.598

glint, glare. And of these, you know, forty-two out of

843

00:51:16.648 --> 00:51:19.708

forty-five would be affected by f-glare from fixed, and forty-three out of

844

00:51:19.748 --> 00:51:23.508

forty-five by tracking. And similarly, twenty of those around

845

00:51:23.568 --> 00:51:27.288

A2, nineteen of twenty would be affected by glare on

846

00:51:27.308 --> 00:51:31.208

fixed, and twenty on tracking. Um, I, I want to point

847

00:51:31.248 --> 00:51:34.648

out that it appears to me from my reading of the documents that they only

848

00:51:34.868 --> 00:51:38.568

consider the effect of glare on residential dwellings at ground

849

00:51:38.648 --> 00:51:42.128

fall, floor level, assuming that most time is spent

850

00:51:42.168 --> 00:51:45.988

downstairs. But these days, a lot of people work from home, and I would imagine

851

00:51:46.028 --> 00:51:49.368

that a lot of people's offices are upstairs in a spare bedroom.

852

00:51:49.378 --> 00:51:52.668

And therefore, I think it's completely, it's, it's

853

00:51:52.708 --> 00:51:55.708

disingenuous to only assess at ground floor.

854

00:51:55.728 --> 00:51:59.008

And the reason they wish to do that is then they can say that all existing

855

00:51:59.068 --> 00:52:02.608

hedgerows and vegetation is actually sufficient to

856

00:52:02.688 --> 00:52:06.568

screen. I just want to give one example, if you'll let

857

00:52:06.628 --> 00:52:10.568

me. Um, there's a residential dwelling, R11, which is out at

858

00:52:10.668 --> 00:52:13.868

New Lodge Barns. Um, and just very

859

00:52:13.908 --> 00:52:17.868

quickly, they, they, they also say that glare

860

00:52:17.888 --> 00:52:21.728

less than sixty minutes a day or for, no more than

861

00:52:21.768 --> 00:52:24.348

three months a year is not considered significant.

862

00:52:24.368 --> 00:52:28.328

But this particular property, if it was fixed panels, would

863

00:52:28.388 --> 00:52:32.278

have, a maximum twenty minutes a day between s-six and seven in the

864

00:52:32.368 --> 00:52:36.188

evening. And from another group of panels, but in the same time

865

00:52:36.268 --> 00:52:40.188

period from March to, to, September,

866

00:52:40.228 --> 00:52:44.048

so for quite a considerable length of time, they would have, twenty minutes a

867

00:52:44.148 --> 00:52:47.788

day from another set of panels and also,

868

00:52:48.188 --> 00:52:51.728

fifteen minutes a day in the morning, and,

869

00:52:52.248 --> 00:52:56.048

from A2. And if it was tracking panels,

870

00:52:56.088 --> 00:52:59.668

then, the effects are even worse and actually they have track...

871

00:52:59.678 --> 00:53:03.388

they have effects of glare during the winter months as well, from mid-August to

872

00:53:03.428 --> 00:53:07.048

late February. They could have glare for a maximum fifteen minutes

873

00:53:07.088 --> 00:53:10.568

between five and nine in the morning, as well as other things.

874

00:53:10.608 --> 00:53:14.487

Now, if you add those up, they do come to just less than sixty minutes a day, but

875

00:53:14.528 --> 00:53:17.908

they are considerably more than three months a year, and yet the

876

00:53:18.008 --> 00:53:21.768

applicant uses professional judgment always to

877

00:53:21.848 --> 00:53:25.828

say that that is not significant. Now, I would ask you, if you

878

00:53:26.028 --> 00:53:27.668

were a resident of R11

879

00:53:28.668 --> 00:53:32.508

and were op- on the road opposite A2 and had A on the

880

00:53:32.568 --> 00:53:36.518

other side up a few, a couple of fields away, whether you would consider

881

00:53:36.548 --> 00:53:39.228

those levels of glare to be

882

00:53:39.288 --> 00:53:43.148

insignificant. I wouldn't. And, they

883

00:53:43.188 --> 00:53:46.938

say that vegetation screening would, would be mitigation.

884

00:53:47.388 --> 00:53:49.708

Um, I don't agree. Thank

885

00:53:49.748 --> 00:53:51.508

you.

886

00:53:53.348 --> 00:53:55.628

Thank you very much, Dr. Tuohy.

887

00:53:56.568 --> 00:53:59.748

Uh, Ms. Broderick, did yourself, Mr.

888

00:53:59.788 --> 00:54:00.968

Jackson or-

889

00:54:00.988 --> 00:54:02.288

Landscape. Respond on landscape first-

890

00:54:02.308 --> 00:54:02.648

Yes

891

00:54:02.658 --> 00:54:03.118

... and then glint.

892

00:54:03.428 --> 00:54:05.408

Yeah. Um, or Ms. Clacy want to respond?

893

00:54:05.428 --> 00:54:09.348

If we take the landscape points first and then, any responses to the

894

00:54:09.388 --> 00:54:11.388

glint and glare, if that's okay.

895

00:54:12.588 --> 00:54:15.328

If there's anything you want to say.

896

00:54:18.768 --> 00:54:25.248

Chris

897

00:54:25.288 --> 00:54:26.668

Jackson on behalf of the applicant.

898

00:54:26.728 --> 00:54:30.708

Um, just like to take the opportunity to acknowledge the position taken

899

00:54:30.748 --> 00:54:34.688
by Ms. Tinker, in recognizing the, the position that we've

900
00:54:34.728 --> 00:54:38.268
established during the, the written reps and, and the course of the
examination,

901
00:54:38.288 --> 00:54:38.828
and, I

902
00:54:39.688 --> 00:54:43.278
confirm that the position and the, and the, the quotes made by, Ms.

903
00:54:43.288 --> 00:54:47.108
Tinker are representative of what we've discussed previously in, the

904
00:54:47.148 --> 00:54:49.368
ISH hearings. Thank you.

905
00:54:51.948 --> 00:54:53.468
Uh, Claire Broderick of the applicant.

906
00:54:53.528 --> 00:54:55.968
Um, and yes, I guess from our perspective,

907
00:54:57.608 --> 00:55:01.592
we've obviously been clear that there are, um-Residual impacts as a

908
00:55:01.632 --> 00:55:04.922
result of, of the scheme, and,

909
00:55:05.212 --> 00:55:08.892
NPS EN1 is, is quite clear in, in noting

910
00:55:08.972 --> 00:55:12.912
that for, large scale infrastructure projects of this nature that
there

911
00:55:12.992 --> 00:55:16.412
will, be landscape and visual effects.

912

00:55:16.512 --> 00:55:20.272

Um, it's just to res-estate, the point that the,

913

00:55:21.692 --> 00:55:25.372

scheme constitutes critical national priority infrastructure, and to

914

00:55:25.412 --> 00:55:29.322

refer to paragraph four point two point fifteen of,

915

00:55:29.412 --> 00:55:33.392

of NPS EN1. I'm referring to the, twenty

916

00:55:33.472 --> 00:55:37.332

twenty-three, versions of these documents because those are the ones

917

00:55:37.392 --> 00:55:40.452

that, s- continue to apply under the transitional provisions,

918

00:55:40.512 --> 00:55:43.772

so I'm referring to those paragraph numbers, just for

919

00:55:43.792 --> 00:55:45.742

clarity. Um, but,

920

00:55:46.752 --> 00:55:50.332

it, it, it states obviously that where you have CNP infrastructure, the

921

00:55:50.452 --> 00:55:54.432

need for the scheme, is considered to outweigh the residual impact.

922

00:55:54.472 --> 00:55:58.032

So I just reiterate the policy tests, that apply in

923

00:55:58.072 --> 00:56:01.892

respect of, residual impacts generally, but also

924

00:56:01.932 --> 00:56:05.772

specifically in relation to LVIA impacts, which

925

00:56:05.812 --> 00:56:06.952

are considered,

926

00:56:07.992 --> 00:56:10.812
typical for schemes of this nature.

927

00:56:10.872 --> 00:56:14.672
Um, in respect of glint and glare, points

928

00:56:14.712 --> 00:56:18.212
that have been raised, I note that, the

929

00:56:18.432 --> 00:56:21.442
reference was made to, the,

930

00:56:22.252 --> 00:56:26.192
glint and glare technical note which was REP two dash zero five
four, and

931

00:56:26.332 --> 00:56:29.832
it was, it was quoted obviously that, it is not,

932

00:56:30.932 --> 00:56:34.812
based on the current guidance that modeling is not recommended for
local roads.

933

00:56:34.852 --> 00:56:38.712
However, it then obviously goes on to say that at the request of,

934

00:56:38.992 --> 00:56:42.352
the councils, that modeling was undertaken.

935

00:56:42.392 --> 00:56:46.292
Um, and that report then sets out, the, the results of that

936

00:56:46.352 --> 00:56:50.112
modeling. So, that was the purpose of the report, was to

937

00:56:50.192 --> 00:56:53.512
undertake the modeling for local roads.

938

00:56:53.592 --> 00:56:53.782

Um,

939

00:56:54.952 --> 00:56:55.232

we

940

00:56:57.612 --> 00:57:00.072

also have a number of points that were raised in relation to the

941

00:57:00.932 --> 00:57:04.412

approach to methodology for, the consideration of

942

00:57:04.612 --> 00:57:07.072

residential dwellings under glint and glare.

943

00:57:07.152 --> 00:57:09.432

Um, I will hand over to,

944

00:57:11.332 --> 00:57:15.032

Ms. Clacy just to see whether she has anything she wants to add in respects

945

00:57:15.112 --> 00:57:18.992

to, the specific point about, consideration

946

00:57:19.032 --> 00:57:22.862

of ground floor versus, upper floors of residential

947

00:57:22.912 --> 00:57:25.912

properties. Thank you.

948

00:57:26.732 --> 00:57:30.412

Good morning. Uh, Alexandra Clacy speaking on behalf of the applicant.

949

00:57:30.492 --> 00:57:34.412

Um, not much to add from my side. Just want to say that,

950

00:57:35.092 --> 00:57:37.932

with respect to the, downstairs

951

00:57:38.532 --> 00:57:41.872

modeling, we're following industry

952

00:57:41.932 --> 00:57:45.571

guidance, with an absence of, UK

953

00:57:45.832 --> 00:57:49.212

legislation and standard methodology which we believe is reasonable.

954

00:57:49.292 --> 00:57:49.452

Um,

955

00:57:50.332 --> 00:57:52.472

and that's it. Thank you.

956

00:57:54.232 --> 00:57:56.832

Thank you very much.

957

00:58:14.172 --> 00:58:17.992

Okay. Thank you. Uh, before I move on to my questions, are there any further

958

00:58:18.052 --> 00:58:19.892

comments on any of these points

959

00:58:21.672 --> 00:58:23.632

or online?

960

00:58:25.932 --> 00:58:29.892

Nope. Um, okay. So, I acknowledge there's

961

00:58:29.912 --> 00:58:33.492

probably a little bit of overlap with some of my questions here from the questions

962

00:58:33.532 --> 00:58:37.292

in EXQ three, so apologies if, if it's something you're gonna deal with in writing

963

00:58:37.732 --> 00:58:41.492

as part of the, third round of questions, then do s- feel free to

964

00:58:41.552 --> 00:58:45.232
say. Uh, my first three questions have been, largely

965
00:58:45.332 --> 00:58:47.852
covered by the discussions we've just had.

966
00:58:47.952 --> 00:58:51.302
Um, so I just wanted to turn, to the applicant.

967
00:58:51.392 --> 00:58:54.832
And you'll be aware of the Stop Greenhill Solar's deadline five

968
00:58:54.932 --> 00:58:58.912
submission, which is REP five one two zero,

969
00:58:59.092 --> 00:59:02.652
which references a different solar farm at Cleave Hill, Faversham,
and we did,

970
00:59:02.952 --> 00:59:05.972
hear briefly about it yesterday in the open floor hearing as well.

971
00:59:05.992 --> 00:59:09.712
And I just wondered whether there was any, any comments you'd like
to make on

972
00:59:09.752 --> 00:59:13.432
that example at this stage or, any information you could

973
00:59:13.512 --> 00:59:17.192
give, bearing in mind it's a different scheme and how it may or may
not

974
00:59:17.232 --> 00:59:19.672
compare to what we've got before us here.

975
00:59:21.011 --> 00:59:22.152
Thank you.

976
00:59:24.672 --> 00:59:34.392
Chris

977

00:59:34.432 --> 00:59:35.872

Jackson on behalf of the applicants.

978

00:59:35.912 --> 00:59:36.092

Um,

979

00:59:37.132 --> 00:59:40.932

we're aware of the, the submission and the REP by, Stop Greenhill

980

00:59:40.992 --> 00:59:44.842

Solar, and obviously Cleave Hill is a, is a scheme that's familiar to,

981

00:59:44.892 --> 00:59:48.832

to us as a, as a, as a practice and as individuals.

982

00:59:48.932 --> 00:59:52.832

Um, the point we'd like to sort of, to make at

983

00:59:52.932 --> 00:59:56.632

this time is that the infrastructure difference between what has been

984

00:59:56.672 --> 01:00:00.512

implemented at, at Cleave Hill and with what is, being put

985

01:00:00.572 --> 01:00:03.092

forward for the, the Greenhill scheme.

986

01:00:03.132 --> 01:00:06.872

So the, the Cleave Hill uses a, a barn roof style form of

987

01:00:06.912 --> 01:00:10.792

development, which is where you have

988

01:00:10.852 --> 01:00:11.572

opposing

989

01:00:12.492 --> 01:00:16.192

four and a half meter high panels on a, east-west

990

01:00:16.472 --> 01:00:20.132

axis. So they are north-facing and south-facing panel infrastructure.

991

01:00:20.172 --> 01:00:23.892

So if you can imagine, hence the, the barn roof, it, it's

992

01:00:23.952 --> 01:00:27.352

a, it forms an apex with, with panel infrastructure on both

993

01:00:27.392 --> 01:00:30.902

sides. That is, is not the, proposed

994

01:00:30.932 --> 01:00:32.472

infrastructure fit for this scheme.

995

01:00:32.492 --> 01:00:36.372

So there is a significant variation between the, the, the way that the

996

01:00:36.412 --> 01:00:39.992

Cleave Hill scheme has been consented and built out and what has been

997

01:00:40.012 --> 01:00:43.012

proposed with the, the scheme in front of us.

998

01:00:43.052 --> 01:00:44.012

Thank you.

999

01:00:48.792 --> 01:00:52.772

Thank you. That's helpful. Um, are there any comments

1000

01:00:52.832 --> 01:00:56.112

on the Cleave Hill that anyone else wishes to make before we move on? Yes, Ms.

1001

01:00:56.132 --> 01:00:58.832

Tinkler.

1002

01:01:00.512 --> 01:01:03.932

Thank you, madam. Carly Tinkler for Stop Greenhill Solar.

1003

01:01:03.992 --> 01:01:07.172

Um, I haven't visited Cleave Hill yet, but I'm going to.

1004

01:01:07.212 --> 01:01:10.892

I think the main point to make is that, at Cleave Hill

1005

01:01:11.752 --> 01:01:15.572

I have been in correspondence with people who've monitored the

1006

01:01:15.612 --> 01:01:18.132

site, and it's not just about the panels.

1007

01:01:18.142 --> 01:01:20.982

And clearly at Cleeve Hill, several changes were made

1008

01:01:21.092 --> 01:01:22.652

post-consent,

1009

01:01:23.852 --> 01:01:27.392

through the, flexibility of the

1010

01:01:27.452 --> 01:01:31.242

order. And I think the main concern there is

1011

01:01:31.332 --> 01:01:34.492

about the effect that arose during the construction

1012

01:01:34.612 --> 01:01:38.492

period, where, for example, the

1013

01:01:38.592 --> 01:01:42.212

contractors strayed out of the order boundary and started digging in a scheduled

1014

01:01:42.252 --> 01:01:46.092

monument and the pollution that occurred on the, on the

1015

01:01:46.172 --> 01:01:48.572

waterways, which is still ongoing.

1016

01:01:48.672 --> 01:01:52.612

Um, and at that point, it becomes more the responsibility of the

1017

01:01:52.652 --> 01:01:56.152

local authority and the statutory consultees as opposed to the, the

1018

01:01:56.232 --> 01:01:59.662

applicants. So I think the concerns that have been expressed

1019

01:02:00.432 --> 01:02:03.952

here, are very comparable. I think the

1020

01:02:04.012 --> 01:02:07.692

situation, you know, the construction, if you've ever had an opportunity to visit

1021

01:02:07.832 --> 01:02:11.402

a, a solar site under construction, you'll get an idea of the extent of the

1022

01:02:11.452 --> 01:02:14.712

effect. So just to say that it's more than just the

1023

01:02:14.772 --> 01:02:15.691

panels.

1024

01:02:18.092 --> 01:02:21.732

Thank you. Uh, Mr. Jackson or Ms. Brodrick, appreciate that some of those

1025

01:02:21.752 --> 01:02:23.672

points weren't necessarily landscape related.

1026

01:02:23.772 --> 01:02:26.992

Is there anything further you wanted to come back on that?

1027

01:02:27.092 --> 01:02:28.382

Uh, Claire Brodrick for the applicant.

1028

01:02:28.432 --> 01:02:32.372

Um, obviously the applicant's team can't comment on what may

1029

01:02:32.392 --> 01:02:35.632

or may not have been done during construction on a different project.

1030

01:02:35.672 --> 01:02:39.432

However, the applicant's position is that the, mitigation

1031

01:02:39.492 --> 01:02:43.192

measures that are set out in the outline management plans are,

1032

01:02:43.482 --> 01:02:46.952

appropriate, and they are suitably secured in order to,

1033

01:02:47.372 --> 01:02:50.932

minimize and prevent, effects from happening.

1034

01:02:51.012 --> 01:02:53.832

Um, those management plans have been,

1035

01:02:54.752 --> 01:02:58.342

developed in conjunction with, various stakeholders, including

1036

01:02:58.342 --> 01:03:01.362

the local authorities have had the opportunity to comment on those outline

1037

01:03:01.412 --> 01:03:05.312

management plans as well. Um, and, the applicant therefore

1038

01:03:05.352 --> 01:03:09.052

considers that the approach provided is, is sufficient to prevent the

1039

01:03:09.092 --> 01:03:12.902

sorts of matters that I think were being alluded to there, from

1040

01:03:12.912 --> 01:03:15.711

happening on this scheme. Thank you.

1041

01:03:16.362 --> 01:03:19.952
Thank you.

1042
01:03:20.832 --> 01:03:22.232
Oh, Mr. Anthony.

1043
01:03:22.312 --> 01:03:23.992
Uh, Philip Anthony, Stop Greenhill

1044
01:03:24.132 --> 01:03:27.852
Solar. From

1045
01:03:28.012 --> 01:03:31.132
the last, previous response from the

1046
01:03:31.212 --> 01:03:34.112
applicant, are they now confirming

1047
01:03:34.552 --> 01:03:37.012
specifically and definitively

1048
01:03:37.992 --> 01:03:41.452
what the solar panel constructions will

1049
01:03:41.572 --> 01:03:48.992
be?

1050
01:03:49.462 --> 01:03:51.132
Ms. Brodrick. Thank you.

1051
01:03:51.252 --> 01:03:52.772
Uh, Claire Brodrick for the applicant.

1052
01:03:52.832 --> 01:03:53.132
Um, so

1053
01:03:54.512 --> 01:03:58.072
the scheme, retains the flexibility to either

1054
01:03:58.112 --> 01:04:01.612
install fixed or tracker panels. A decision has not been made on

whether they will

1055

01:04:01.652 --> 01:04:04.432

be fixed or tracker. Um, the point that Mr.

1056

01:04:04.472 --> 01:04:07.402

Jackson was making is that that, that,

1057

01:04:07.882 --> 01:04:11.372

configuration is not the configuration on, on Cleeve Hill.

1058

01:04:11.412 --> 01:04:15.212

So the, the design envelope for Greenhill would, would not

1059

01:04:15.352 --> 01:04:19.232

permit the, layout of the solar panels that has

1060

01:04:19.312 --> 01:04:21.992

been, built out on Cleeve Hill.

1061

01:04:22.032 --> 01:04:24.552

That's not part of the design optionality.

1062

01:04:24.562 --> 01:04:27.512

It is between fixed and single access tracker panels.

1063

01:04:27.692 --> 01:04:29.652

Thank you.

1064

01:04:29.672 --> 01:04:32.432

Thank you. Mr. Anthony, does that help?

1065

01:04:33.972 --> 01:04:37.641

Philip Anthony for Stop Greenhill Solar. Up to a point, yes.

1066

01:04:37.732 --> 01:04:41.632

Okay. Thank you. Thank you very much.

1067

01:04:41.692 --> 01:04:45.292

Yes, Ms. Midgley.

1068

01:04:46.812 --> 01:04:49.992
Sorry. Dr Marie Midgley, Stop,

1069

01:04:50.252 --> 01:04:54.112
Greenhill. It's... You've mentioned the size of the panels and the fact that they

1070

01:04:54.192 --> 01:04:57.992
were-- they completely obscure the, ground

1071

01:04:58.052 --> 01:05:01.172
underneath, so there's no light to the, to underneath.

1072

01:05:01.192 --> 01:05:04.622
There's the, the bungalow pattern goes right across the field, so it

1073

01:05:04.652 --> 01:05:08.312
completely masks out any ground. So is

1074

01:05:08.372 --> 01:05:10.392
that actually not part of the design as well?

1075

01:05:10.412 --> 01:05:14.272
Because in your answer, you are saying, "We're not gonna use that design."

1076

01:05:14.332 --> 01:05:18.112
I'm as- I could take from that, that you're not going to have a bungalow design

1077

01:05:18.152 --> 01:05:19.832
which obscures all the land

1078

01:05:19.872 --> 01:05:25.652
underneath.

1079

01:05:27.752 --> 01:05:28.952
Uh, Claire Brodrick for the applicant.

1080

01:05:28.972 --> 01:05:31.032
Um, so the specification for the

1081

01:05:32.392 --> 01:05:35.872

layout of the panels is set out in the concept design parameters and

1082

01:05:35.912 --> 01:05:37.292

principles document, which is

1083

01:05:37.332 --> 01:05:41.012

CR2-016,

1084

01:05:41.572 --> 01:05:44.872

and that specifies the type of panels and the separation distances

1085

01:05:44.892 --> 01:05:47.812

between those, the rows of panels.

1086

01:05:48.272 --> 01:05:52.132

Um, so there, there will be gaps between the rows of panels, and Mr.

1087

01:05:52.172 --> 01:05:54.732

Jackson can just add a bit more information on that.

1088

01:05:54.752 --> 01:05:58.732

But the, the, the configuration that you see at Cleeve Hill is,

1089

01:05:58.772 --> 01:06:00.482

is not permitted, under this

1090

01:06:00.512 --> 01:06:07.692

scheme.

1091

01:06:07.772 --> 01:06:09.892

Chris Jackson on behalf of the applicants.

1092

01:06:09.912 --> 01:06:13.512

And so we're working within the, the Rockdale envelope principles,

1093

01:06:13.992 --> 01:06:15.472

to, to set out the

1094

01:06:16.292 --> 01:06:18.152
infrastructure proposed. The

1095

01:06:19.792 --> 01:06:23.712
types of panels that Ms. Brodrick has identified previously is

1096

01:06:23.752 --> 01:06:27.432
the, is the fixed and the trackers.

1097

01:06:27.552 --> 01:06:31.272
So the application is applying for the maximum design

1098

01:06:32.452 --> 01:06:35.912
parameters of four-point-five meters, which is the single axis
tracker

1099

01:06:35.992 --> 01:06:39.892
panels. Um, they'll be orientated on a, a north-south

1100

01:06:40.132 --> 01:06:43.552
axis- axis, tracking east to west.

1101

01:06:43.592 --> 01:06:47.212
Between the, tracker

1102

01:06:47.272 --> 01:06:47.742
panels

1103

01:06:49.272 --> 01:06:52.812
is, is, is essentially open space for maintenance to allow either

1104

01:06:52.872 --> 01:06:56.792
mechanical or, grazing to take place to maintain the

1105

01:06:56.832 --> 01:06:59.912
grass ward between alongside the panels.

1106

01:06:59.972 --> 01:07:06.242
Um...

1107

01:07:06.272 --> 01:07:09.892

The design principle sets out that the minimum separation distance between the

1108

01:07:09.952 --> 01:07:13.552

panel rows would be two-point-five meters, and the maximum

1109

01:07:13.572 --> 01:07:17.512

fifteen meters. That breadth is to allow for the

1110

01:07:17.552 --> 01:07:19.352

difference in, um-

1111

01:07:19.740 --> 01:07:23.520

The fixed and the trackers. So the, the tracker panels require a greater

1112

01:07:23.560 --> 01:07:26.960

distance in between. The fixed panels can be come down to a much

1113

01:07:27.020 --> 01:07:30.020

smaller, gap between the, the rows.

1114

01:07:30.040 --> 01:07:33.920

The, the fixed panels would typically be at a three-point-five

1115

01:07:33.960 --> 01:07:37.420

meter height, fixed and orientated east to west,

1116

01:07:38.100 --> 01:07:38.780

which is what you're

1117

01:07:39.820 --> 01:07:43.780

probably more typical of, of seeing within the landscape of a, of a more sort of,

1118

01:07:45.400 --> 01:07:48.760

scale familiar to, to existing solar farms that you have within the local

1119

01:07:48.770 --> 01:07:50.640

county. Um, but the

1120

01:07:52.120 --> 01:07:55.480

application, as I said, looks at a broad site envelope, so we look at that up to

1121

01:07:55.540 --> 01:07:59.040

four-point-five meters of a, of infrastructure.

1122

01:07:59.050 --> 01:08:02.920

And obviously with the larger infrastructure, there is a greater depth, gap

1123

01:08:02.980 --> 01:08:06.430

between the rows to allow for the, the panels to, to track and

1124

01:08:06.520 --> 01:08:10.220

rotate a-across the, the, the, the sun and the

1125

01:08:10.280 --> 01:08:14.110

horizon. Whereas also with the fixed ones, once built, they are, they are retained

1126

01:08:14.120 --> 01:08:17.489

in situs, so they can, they sit a little bit closer together.

1127

01:08:17.500 --> 01:08:20.340

And again, the, design principles document

1128

01:08:20.420 --> 01:08:24.320

CR2016 sets out the, the minimum and the maximum

1129

01:08:24.360 --> 01:08:27.280

separation distances between. Thank you.

1130

01:08:27.320 --> 01:08:28.230

Uh, Claire Broderick for the applicant.

1131

01:08:28.240 --> 01:08:31.460

We're just seeing if we can find one of the drawings, that we can share on the

1132

01:08:31.480 --> 01:08:35.010

screen, which might help people visualize it a bit easier.

1133

01:08:36.721 --> 01:08:37.351

Thank

1134

01:08:37.351 --> 01:08:41.200

you.

1135

01:08:41.240 --> 01:08:42.940

Chris Johnson on behalf of the applicant.

1136

01:08:43.000 --> 01:08:46.840

So the, the cross-section that we've got that looks a bit like a wind

1137

01:08:46.980 --> 01:08:50.920

turbine, which we've, we've all of the, the measures and, and details of

1138

01:08:50.980 --> 01:08:53.521

it, demonstrates the, the tracker panel.

1139

01:08:53.561 --> 01:08:57.480

So at the ground level obviously as indicated with the,

1140

01:08:57.500 --> 01:09:00.880

the piling and the, upright put into

1141

01:09:00.920 --> 01:09:04.840

the, the land, and then extending from that, we have the,

1142

01:09:04.880 --> 01:09:08.460

the fixed a- wait, sorry, the tracker axis on the, on the central point sitting at

1143

01:09:08.860 --> 01:09:10.561

about two-point-four meters in height.

1144

01:09:11.000 --> 01:09:14.760

Then you have the, the panel rotating around that from a horizontal

1145

01:09:14.800 --> 01:09:18.320
position to a, to a fifty-five-degree angle.

1146
01:09:18.340 --> 01:09:21.820
At that, at highest point when it's at that fifty-five degrees, it's then at a

1147
01:09:21.900 --> 01:09:23.440
height of four-point-five meters.

1148
01:09:24.340 --> 01:09:28.280
So the panel will start the day essentially at, at its highest degree

1149
01:09:28.320 --> 01:09:31.920
of tilt s- to pick up the, the, the sun in the morning, then will track and

1150
01:09:31.980 --> 01:09:35.920
rotate flat back into a horizontal position on a, on a typical summer's day,

1151
01:09:35.960 --> 01:09:38.360
summer's day when the sun is at its highest point.

1152
01:09:38.420 --> 01:09:42.351
It will then continue to, to track back to, to follow the course of the sun, and

1153
01:09:42.400 --> 01:09:45.740
then they will revert back to a horizontal position

1154
01:09:46.021 --> 01:09:49.880
over the nighttime. They are also able to, to

1155
01:09:49.960 --> 01:09:53.800
track automatically if there's any, storm events, for example, to move them

1156
01:09:53.820 --> 01:09:57.280
into a, a more suitable position to, so that it reduces the risk of

1157

01:09:57.320 --> 01:09:59.020
damage.

1158
01:10:01.460 --> 01:10:01.649
Thank you.

1159
01:10:01.649 --> 01:10:03.900
Thank you very much. Thank you.

1160
01:10:05.440 --> 01:10:09.360
Uh, any further comments on that at this point before I move on to
my,

1161
01:10:09.940 --> 01:10:11.980
final question?

1162
01:10:12.960 --> 01:10:13.860
Oh. Oliver Grant.

1163
01:10:13.869 --> 01:10:13.869
Gary Grant.

1164
01:10:13.880 --> 01:10:13.890
Yes.

1165
01:10:13.980 --> 01:10:15.540
Um, North, North Hampshire Council.

1166
01:10:15.700 --> 01:10:15.820
Yes.

1167
01:10:15.880 --> 01:10:19.400
Um, wanted to pick up a short response to the point made

1168
01:10:19.480 --> 01:10:23.440
by Ms. Broderick in the context of four point two point fifteen of

1169
01:10:23.520 --> 01:10:27.020
EN1, which I've just gone back to. Um,

1170
01:10:27.080 --> 01:10:30.280

madam, that is a paragraph dealing

1171

01:10:30.340 --> 01:10:34.140

with, whether residual impacts are unlikely to

1172

01:10:34.210 --> 01:10:38.080

outweigh the urgent need for a type of infrastructure and

1173

01:10:38.120 --> 01:10:41.580

provi- pr-presenting that in all but the most exceptional
circumstances, it's

1174

01:10:41.620 --> 01:10:44.600

unlikely that consent will be refused on the basis of these residual

1175

01:10:44.660 --> 01:10:47.720

impacts. However, that does not go to the point

1176

01:10:48.460 --> 01:10:52.380

about the duration, of the scheme and the

1177

01:10:52.420 --> 01:10:55.100

implications of the effect over the longer term.

1178

01:10:55.180 --> 01:10:58.420

So if I can ask you to turn later

1179

01:10:58.480 --> 01:11:02.200

within the EN1

1180

01:11:02.300 --> 01:11:03.340

to five

1181

01:11:05.420 --> 01:11:08.360

and five point ten.

1182

01:11:09.720 --> 01:11:13.290

Collecting, please, if you can, forgive

1183

01:11:13.320 --> 01:11:14.460

me,

1184

01:11:15.360 --> 01:11:18.360

five point nine point two eight along the way.

1185

01:11:18.400 --> 01:11:21.980

The paragraphs that I'd ask y-uh, you to look at, madam, in

1186

01:11:22.020 --> 01:11:23.200

relation to this

1187

01:11:24.040 --> 01:11:27.640

would be, five point ten

1188

01:11:27.860 --> 01:11:28.300

point

1189

01:11:29.140 --> 01:11:31.800

four to five point ten point six,

1190

01:11:34.940 --> 01:11:38.040

and five point ten point thirteen

1191

01:11:38.860 --> 01:11:42.800

leading into five point ten point fourteen, where

1192

01:11:42.880 --> 01:11:46.300

it states that the Secretary of State will have to judge whether the visual effects

1193

01:11:46.840 --> 01:11:49.220

on sensitive receptors, such as local residents

1194

01:11:50.260 --> 01:11:51.600

a-and other receptors

1195

01:11:52.780 --> 01:11:55.020

and so on, outweigh the benefits of the

1196

01:11:55.040 --> 01:11:59.000

project. And madam, that needs to be judged

1197

01:11:59.060 --> 01:12:02.780

in the context of the mitigation, the combined effects, and on a

1198

01:12:03.280 --> 01:12:07.180

sc-scheme-specific basis. But the advice in the paragraph

1199

01:12:07.200 --> 01:12:11.140

to which Ms. Broderick took you to only goes to the principle of refusal

1200

01:12:11.180 --> 01:12:14.610

or otherwise. The point that the local authority makes goes to

1201

01:12:14.660 --> 01:12:17.200

the design of the scheme and the temporal

1202

01:12:17.240 --> 01:12:19.160

period.

1203

01:12:29.760 --> 01:12:33.020

Thank you, Mr. Grant. Ms. Broderick, did you want to make any comments on that at

1204

01:12:33.060 --> 01:12:35.640

this stage?

1205

01:12:36.840 --> 01:12:38.870

Uh, Claire Broderick for the applicant. Um, no.

1206

01:12:38.900 --> 01:12:42.740

Only just to reiterate that we don't consider there's, a justification for,

1207

01:12:43.120 --> 01:12:46.370

not granting a sixty-year period for this particular scheme. Thank you.

1208

01:12:47.040 --> 01:12:54.300

Thank

1209

01:12:54.340 --> 01:12:57.840

you very much. Um, all I had remaining then was just to

1210

01:12:57.920 --> 01:13:01.780

ask, probably to start with the councils, whether

1211

01:13:01.980 --> 01:13:05.760

any of the local authorities want to make any comments in relation to the change

1212

01:13:05.800 --> 01:13:09.440

requests in landscape, visual, and design terms at this stage?

1213

01:13:12.260 --> 01:13:13.360

No, madam, thank you very much.

1214

01:13:13.400 --> 01:13:16.240

Okay, thank you. No? Okay, thank you.

1215

01:13:16.250 --> 01:13:16.250

Um-

1216

01:13:16.250 --> 01:13:18.500

Is there anything you want to do for CPLRE?

1217

01:13:18.540 --> 01:13:19.630

No, because I've done

1218

01:13:19.630 --> 01:13:25.782

itUm,

1219

01:13:26.632 --> 01:13:30.492

Ms. Brodick, was there anything further or Mr. Jackson in landscape terms?

1220

01:13:30.552 --> 01:13:32.892

I know you gave us the summary at the beginning, but

1221

01:13:33.272 --> 01:13:34.712

yeah.

1222

01:13:39.452 --> 01:13:41.842

Um, Claire Brodick of the applicant. Um, it...

1223

01:13:41.872 --> 01:13:45.602

The only point we wanted to just add was that, there had been a

1224

01:13:45.602 --> 01:13:49.372

request for an additional viewpoint, at viewpoint 51.

1225

01:13:49.472 --> 01:13:53.392

Um, and it was just to confirm that that has been prepared and will be submitted

1226

01:13:53.412 --> 01:13:57.402

at deadline six. Um, I don't know if anybody else in the room had

1227

01:13:57.432 --> 01:14:00.552

a comment on the change application,

1228

01:14:01.012 --> 01:14:04.972

to, on landscape matters. I wasn't sure whether there was further

1229

01:14:05.032 --> 01:14:08.892

comments, but happy to answer them if so.

1230

01:14:08.972 --> 01:14:10.452

Um, Ms. Howell?

1231

01:14:10.492 --> 01:14:13.672

Yes. I, I don't know if this is the correct place so to ask it, but I was aware of

1232

01:14:13.692 --> 01:14:17.032

the fact that you said you didn't want to have anything asked in three point five

1233

01:14:17.052 --> 01:14:20.432

that might reflect back to landscape, and of course, most things reflect back to

1234

01:14:20.472 --> 01:14:23.592

landscape. So I thought I'd ask it now rather than at the end.

1235

01:14:23.652 --> 01:14:26.872

Um, and it's just a clarification, point really.

1236

01:14:26.932 --> 01:14:30.432

With the potential option two at site G

1237

01:14:30.502 --> 01:14:33.332

having, a-an increased four hundred kilowatt,

1238

01:14:33.632 --> 01:14:37.572

substation, and therefore the cabling,

1239

01:14:38.092 --> 01:14:41.282

potentially running from, site F through to the

1240

01:14:41.392 --> 01:14:44.812

site G, substation inc-the

1241

01:14:44.872 --> 01:14:47.852

incremental or, or, or larger substation at site

1242

01:14:47.952 --> 01:14:51.832

G, does that impact or what impact would that

1243

01:14:51.872 --> 01:14:55.752

then have on the cabling route and the cable that is currently

1244

01:14:55.772 --> 01:14:57.072

proposed in option one

1245

01:14:58.012 --> 01:15:01.732

where site F connects directly with the

1246

01:15:01.772 --> 01:15:05.452

gre- the Grendon BES at Grendon

1247

01:15:05.712 --> 01:15:06.372

substation?

1248

01:15:07.312 --> 01:15:09.572

Does that make sense?

1249

01:15:10.612 --> 01:15:13.192

Yes. Thank you, Ms. Howell.

1250

01:15:21.532 --> 01:15:41.892

Uh,

1251

01:15:41.952 --> 01:15:44.462

Claire Brodick for the applicant, and we're just double-checking the grid

1252

01:15:44.472 --> 01:15:45.332

connection statement. Hang on a

1253

01:15:45.372 --> 01:15:57.332

second.

1254

01:16:02.272 --> 01:16:34.812

Um,

1255

01:16:38.172 --> 01:16:39.132

Claire Brodick for the applicant.

1256

01:16:39.192 --> 01:16:42.862

Um, so I'm just referring to the updated grid connection statement that was

1257

01:16:42.872 --> 01:16:45.892

submitted with the change application, which is reference

1258

01:16:45.992 --> 01:16:49.952

CR2-014.

1259

01:16:50.452 --> 01:16:53.712

Um, if you look at the tracked version of, of that

1260

01:16:53.892 --> 01:16:57.192

document, you c- you can see we've just

1261

01:16:57.372 --> 01:17:01.192

updated the, paragraph three point two point

1262

01:17:01.332 --> 01:17:05.092

twelve. I think that might be zero, one five.

1263

01:17:05.152 --> 01:17:08.012

Uh, CR2-015 is the tracked version.

1264

01:17:08.032 --> 01:17:11.412

But you can see the changes that have been made to that document.

1265

01:17:11.512 --> 01:17:15.412

Um, so it states now that the electricity generated

1266

01:17:15.492 --> 01:17:19.092

at Greenhill F, will be collected by a substation on the site and

1267

01:17:19.132 --> 01:17:22.692

then exported either to the Greenhill BES substation or Greenhill

1268

01:17:23.172 --> 01:17:26.952

G substation, via a one-three-two kV circuit.

1269

01:17:26.992 --> 01:17:28.352

So it's, it's either one

1270

01:17:29.232 --> 01:17:32.872

or the other. Um, and then the length of that cabling

1271

01:17:32.912 --> 01:17:36.592

will, vary slightly depending on whether it's connecting directly to
a

1272

01:17:36.632 --> 01:17:39.952

Greenhill BES substation or to the Greenhill G

1273

01:17:40.432 --> 01:17:41.792

substation. Thank

1274

01:17:41.832 --> 01:17:48.342

you.

1275

01:17:49.032 --> 01:17:50.372

Yes, Ms. Howell.

1276

01:17:50.412 --> 01:17:53.492

Thank you. Um, so both options are still open.

1277

01:17:53.572 --> 01:17:53.912

Um,

1278

01:17:56.512 --> 01:18:00.132

am I correct in assuming that if there's a four hundred kilowatt station,

1279

01:18:00.432 --> 01:18:03.952

sited at, site G, that that then

1280

01:18:03.992 --> 01:18:07.732

converts the electricity so that it's suitable to go straight into the

1281

01:18:07.772 --> 01:18:11.292

grid, into the connection of a substation that can

1282

01:18:11.332 --> 01:18:15.232

accommodate it? And if so,

1283

01:18:15.272 --> 01:18:18.352

has the applicant considered that it might be considerably

1284

01:18:18.412 --> 01:18:22.232

nearer, to investigate the Wellingborough substation,

1285

01:18:22.272 --> 01:18:25.712

which already has, solar connection to it

1286

01:18:25.792 --> 01:18:29.552

th-via the, s- solar panels along

1287

01:18:29.672 --> 01:18:32.312

the A509?

1288

01:18:34.812 --> 01:18:36.172

Uh, Claire Brodick for the applicant.

1289

01:18:36.232 --> 01:18:36.412

Um,

1290

01:18:37.372 --> 01:18:40.952

the applicant's grid connection is at Grendon substation, so that is

1291

01:18:41.012 --> 01:18:44.952

the, the connection point that it's been given by, by NISO, for

1292

01:18:44.992 --> 01:18:46.672

this particular scheme.

1293

01:18:55.072 --> 01:18:55.282

Thank you.

1294

01:18:55.282 --> 01:18:57.012

Thank you very much. Are there any further points

1295

01:18:58.912 --> 01:19:02.852

in the room? No. Is there anyone online that wishes

1296

01:19:02.892 --> 01:19:06.472

to make any points at this stage?

1297

01:19:08.152 --> 01:19:11.621

No. Okay, in that case, that brings me to the end of my questions
and, and to

1298

01:19:11.652 --> 01:19:15.372

the landscaping and with, with forty minutes to spare, Mr.

1299

01:19:15.412 --> 01:19:17.832

Jackson, so get you some time back.

1300

01:19:17.912 --> 01:19:21.672

Um, I propose then, to close this part of

1301

01:19:21.732 --> 01:19:25.672

the agenda and adjourn for fifteen minutes, before we move on to

1302

01:19:25.712 --> 01:19:29.632

ecology and biodiversity. So many thanks to everyone for their contributions.

1303

01:19:29.642 --> 01:19:33.322

It's been helpful. And if we return at,

1304

01:19:33.632 --> 01:19:37.172

twenty-five to twelve? Yep, we're adjourned then.

1305

01:19:37.212 --> 01:19:39.412

Thank you very much. Thank you.