

Application by Light Valley Solar Limited for an order granting development consent for Light Valley Solar

Agenda for compulsory acquisition hearing 1 (CAH1):

Hearing	Date and Time	Location
Compulsory acquisition hearing 1	Tuesday 28 July 2026 Hearing starts at 2.00pm Registration and seating available at venue from 1.30pm and virtual registration process from 1.30pm	The Parsonage Hotel & Spa, Escrick, York YO19 6LF and By virtual means using Microsoft Teams

Agenda items

Item	Matters to be covered
Item 1	Welcome, introductions, arrangements for the hearing
Item 2	Purpose of the compulsory acquisition hearing
Item 3.1	The applicant's case for, and approach to compulsory acquisition (CA) and temporary possession (TP) The Examining Authority (ExA) will ask the applicant to explain its strategy and criteria for determining whether to seek powers for CA of land, CA of rights, or TP of land. Furthermore, how the relevant statutory and policy tests under the Planning Act 2008 and the Department for Communities and Local Government guidance related to CA would be met. The ExA will invite submissions from affected persons who wish to raise general matters in relation to the applicant's case for CA and TP.
Item 3.2	Site specific issues by affected persons The ExA will ask affected persons to set out their individual areas of concern for the land in which they have an interest.

Item 3.3	The purpose for which land is sought The ExA will ask the applicant questions relating to the purpose for which land is sought including the justification for the extent of land requested in the draft Development Consent Order.
Item 3.4	Demonstration of a compelling case in the public interest The ExA will ask the applicant questions relating to the compliance with human rights legislation, and the consideration of private loss and public interest.
Item 3.5	Progress on negotiations with affected persons The ExA will ask the applicant for an update on progress of negotiations with affected persons.
Item 4	Review of issues and actions arising
Item 5	Any other business
Item 6	Closing

Purpose of a compulsory acquisition hearing

A compulsory acquisition hearing (CAH) is being held to:

- ensure adequate examination of the provisions within the draft Development Consent Order seeking to authorise the CA of land and/ or rights over land;
- assess whether the conditions relating to the land and/ or rights being required for the proposed development or required to facilitate or be incidental to that development are met;
- and assess whether there is a compelling case in the public interest for the land to be acquired compulsorily.

Attendees

The ExA would find it helpful if the applicant could attend this hearing. Whilst all affected persons are welcome to attend CAH1 and provide oral submissions (subject to the ExA's power to control the hearing), those attendees who made a request to speak at the hearing will be given priority.

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

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

ExA has reserved time for a second CAH during the examination period and so there will be another opportunity for affected persons who have not registered and may be unable to attend CAH1 to make oral submissions at a later hearing.

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

Timing

The ExA will keep to the agenda as much as possible. The hearing is not expected to go beyond 5.30pm, and the ExA will work with attendees to enable as much of the business as is practicable to be achieved within this time. Anyone who is not able to provide all their oral submissions by the close of the hearing should follow it up in writing.

Registration process

Parties who have registered to speak (both in person and virtually) will receive an email with joining instructions before the hearing. For those attending virtually, this will include a link to the virtual event on Microsoft Teams, and a telephone number should they need to participate by telephone.

To enable the hearing to start on time at **2.00pm** those attending virtually should join promptly at **1.30pm** to ensure that all virtual attendees can complete the registration process in good time.

Procedure at CAH

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