

From: Annette exley

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2026 11:26

To: Light Valley Solar

Subject: Fw: EN0110012 Light Valley Solar procedure meeting 21st October points for item 3

To: lightvalleysolar@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Subject: EN0110012 Light Valley Solar - Procedure meeting 21 October - points for Item 3 - A Exley, interested party [REDACTED]

FAO Harrison Coles, Case Officer

Application: Light Valley Solar, EN0110012

Interested party: Mrs Annette Exley, reference [REDACTED]

Event: Examination Procedure Meeting,

Wednesday 21 October 2026

Agenda item: Item 3, amendments to the examination timetable

Dear Harrison,

Thank you again for your help with my Deadline 3 submission.

I am registered and approved to speak at the Examination Procedure Meeting on Wednesday 21 October 2026 at Item 3.

I set out below the points I intend to make, so that the Examining Authority has them in advance of the meeting. I would be grateful if you could pass them on. All four are directed to dates, publication and response periods only, and none goes to the merits of the proposed changes.

1. THE PERIOD FOR REQUESTING TO BE HEARD

Table 5-1 of the Change Application and Consultation Report [08.42] places the issue of notices of hearings and the deadline for an affected person to request to be heard both on 11 December 2026.

Regulations 15(1)(a) and 16(1)(a) of the Infrastructure Planning (Compulsory Acquisition) Regulations 2010 each require that deadline to be not less than 21 days after the date of the notification - regulation 15 in respect of compulsory acquisition hearings, and Regulation 16 in respect of open-floor hearings, which is the provision bearing on interested parties such as myself. The Applicant acknowledges the point in terms: "The Applicant acknowledges this period is less than allowed for by the CA Regulations, but respectfully suggests this, to enable the full process to be carried out within the statutory Examination timescales."

Regulation 19 empowers the Examining Authority to allow further time for a step under the Regulations. I can find no corresponding power to allow less.

I would also suggest the shortening is not necessary. If the notification remains on 11 December and the deadline to request to be heard is set at 1 January 2027, or at the first working day after it, Monday 4 January, the full 21 days is given. The hearings can still take place on 12 to 14 January, because notice of them was given on

11 December, a period of thirty-two days, which satisfies the 21 days' notice required by regulations 15(4) and 16(4). On that arrangement no date in the Applicant's own timetable has to move.

If the Examining Authority considers it needs requests to be heard earlier than that in order to prepare, I would respectfully suggest that the hearing dates should move rather than the statutory minimum.

My question: will the Examining Authority set the deadline to request to be heard at not less than 21 days after the date of notification?

I raised this at section B.7.3 of my Deadline 3 submission and in my email of 6 October 2026, published as EN0110012-000889.

2. THE ACCEPTANCE DECISION AND THE CLOSING DATE

The Applicant asks for a decision on acceptance by 23 October 2026, two days after the meeting, where regulation 6 allows until 10 November. The reason given in Table 5-1 is the confirmation of newspaper bookings.

Is the meeting the only opportunity for interested parties to comment on the proposed timetable before that decision is taken, or will there be an opportunity to do so in writing?

Separately, the examination is due to close on 14 January 2027 under Annex A of the Rule 8 letter, but the Applicant proposes hearings on 12 to 14 January and post-hearing submissions on 22 January, leaving four working days to the six-month statutory limit of 28 January. Will a revised Annex A timetable be published, and if so, when?

3. NOTIFICATION OF AFFECTED PERSONS

Paragraph 4.1.8 records that all land interests were notified of the intention to apply by letter dated 9 October 2026, four days before the application itself was submitted. Paragraph 2.2.1 records that some changes involve "an 'upgrade' in powers sought from temporary possession to compulsory acquisition of permanent rights".

(a) When will those persons be served with formal notice of the application as submitted, as distinct from the letter of 9 October about the intention to apply?

(b) The second press notice is proposed for 3 November. The 28-day minimum under regulation 8 therefore runs to 1 December, and the proposed closing date is 2 December - one day of margin. If either press notice slips, will the closing date move with it?

(c) The Book of Reference for the change application was published on 14 October. Is 2 December also the deadline for comments on it?

4. SEQUENCING OF THE NOVEMBER HEARINGS AND THE CONSULTATION

The proposed consultation on the changes runs from 27 October to 2 December, and so is open during the hearings reserved for 2 November. Are those hearings intended to cover the proposed changes, and will functional floodplain remain within them?

Table 4-2 of [08.42] records that the Environment Agency's comments were "precautionary and based only on the email correspondence", that it "had not been provided with an ecological baseline or habitat assessment and had not reviewed the Change Notification", and that it "reserved the opportunity to provide further comments if the change request was accepted". Will the Agency's response to the application As submitted, be published before the consultation closes on 2 December, so that interested parties can see it before the deadline for commenting?

If it assists, my overall position is that compression of the timetable should not fall on interested parties' response periods, and that on the Applicant's own timetable the full statutory period can be given without any other date moving.

I am grateful for your help.

In accordance with the Examining Authority's guidance on the use of artificial intelligence, I confirm that an AI assistant was used to help check references, dates, and regulation numbers in preparing these points. The points, and the decision to make them, are my own, and I have checked the documents cited.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Annette Exley
Interested party reference [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]