

22 April 2026

FAO [REDACTED]
Planning Inspectorate
c/o QUADIENT
69 Buckingham Avenue
Slough
SL1 4PN

Dear [REDACTED]

The Drokes Solar Farm – Applicant’s Procedural Deadline A Submission

Application Reference: EN0110013

Introduction

Further to the **Rule 6 Letter [PD-006]**, published on 8 April 2026, I am writing to provide the Applicant’s submission for Procedural Deadline A of The Drokes Solar Farm Development Consent Order (DCO) Examination.

This cover letter is the sole submission of the Applicant to Procedural Deadline A and this cover letter has been structured against each of the bullet points under item 1 (Procedural Deadline A) in Annex E of the **Rule 6 Letter [PD-006]**.

Examination Procedure

The Applicant wishes to confirm that it has had the chance to review the draft examination timetable as established within Annex E of the **Rule 6 Letter [PD-006]**. The Applicant is comfortable with the blended (part in-person and part virtual) approach to events.

However, the Applicant wishes to make one comment in relation to the draft examination timetable. The Applicant notes that Deadline 2 (16 June 2026) takes place only a fortnight after Deadline 1 (2 June 2026). Given the volume of submissions typically expected at Deadline 1 of an examination (in particular, written representations from all parties, responses to the Examining Authority’s first set of written questions, and the Local Impact Reports from the local planning authorities), the Applicant requests that Deadline 2 be moved to 19 June 2026. This will allow the Applicant, and other interested parties, three further working days to make its Deadline 2 submissions, thus allowing all parties to respond as fully as is required.

Without this alteration, there are only ten working days between Deadlines 1 and 2 – and, realistically, this number is likely to be shortened to seven/eight working days, as the Planning Inspectorate will (understandably) require a working day or two to publish the Deadline 1 submissions on its website.

The Applicant notes that the next deadline after Deadline 2 is for the Examining Authority to issue its second set of written questions and a notification of an accompanied site inspection (if required) by 3 July 2026. Therefore, even with the alteration proposed by the Applicant to the Deadline 2 date, the Examining Authority will have two weeks to meet this deadline, which the Applicant hopes would be sufficient. Therefore, the Applicant requests that Deadline 2 be moved to 19 June 2026.

Requests to be Heard Orally

The Applicant wishes to confirm the in-person attendance of its team at the Preliminary Meeting, Open Floor Hearing 1 and Issue Specific Hearing 1. At all of these meetings and hearings, the Applicant's team wishes to be heard in relation to all agenda items.

Suggested Location(s) for Site Inspections

The Applicant suggests a single location to the Examining Authority in relation to a potential site inspection. This location would start at Viewpoint 6 (as marked on **ES Figure 6.5: Zone of Theoretical Visibility - DTM [APP-082]**) and would extend along the public footpath towards Bartholomew's Hills, ending at Viewpoint 7 (as also marked on **[APP-082]**).

The Applicant proposes this location in order to view the solar PV area of the Site from the footpath running between Viewpoints 6 and 7. This route and locations, alongside the corresponding view of the solar PV area, was not seen by the Examining Authority on their **Unaccompanied Site Inspection 1 [EV1-001]**. Given that the suggested location is on a public footpath, the Applicant can confirm that all access required is on public land – there is no part of the location suggested that is on private land nor requires private access.

Other Matters

The Applicant wishes to acknowledge two other matters in the **Rule 6 Letter [PD-006]**.

Firstly, the Applicant confirms that it will submit, at Deadline 1, draft Statements of Common Ground (SoCGs) with those parties listed in Annex H of the **Rule 6 Letter [PD-006]**. Further to those parties listed, the Applicant confirms that it is also seeking to progress a draft SoCG with the Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk as an affected authority, which the Applicant will also submit at Deadline 1.

Secondly, the Applicant notes the Examining Authority's request for the Applicant to submit a 'Report on the interrelationship with other Nationally Significant Infrastructure projects', under Annex H of the **Rule 6 Letter [PD-006]**. The Applicant acknowledges this request and confirms that such a report will be submitted at Deadline 1 and then throughout the examination, as required.

The Applicant looks forward to discussing the above matters with the Examining Authority at the Preliminary Meeting on 6 May 2026.

Yours sincerely,



Harman Sond

Project Development Manager

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On behalf of The Drovers Solar Farm Limited