Date: 21 October 2026
Our ref: 560974
Your ref: EN0110020

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Crewe Business Park
Electra Way
Crewe
Cheshire
CW1 6GJ

T 0300 060 3900

National Infrastructure Planning
Temple Quay House
2 The Square
Bristol
BS1 6PN

BY EMAIL ONLY

Dear Inspector,

NSIP Reference Name / Code: EN0110020
Interested Party Reference Number: [redacted]

Application by Whitestone Net Zero Ltd for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Whitestone Solar Farm Project

Thank you for your consultation dated 6th October 2026.

Please accept this letter as Natural England's comments in relation to the contents of the Rule 6 letter. Natural England is an Interested Party (IP) within the examination of the the Whitestone Solar Farm Project.

Attendance of the Preliminary Meeting
Thank you for your invitation to the Preliminary Meeting on 10/11/2026. Natural England will not be attending as we have no further comments to make on the procedural aspects of the examination.

Site inspections
Natural England does not plan to attend any site inspections, noting that we are not permitted to provide advice during these visits.

Compulsory Acquisition Hearings (CAH)
Natural England does not plan to attend any Compulsory Acquisition Hearings, as these fall outside of our remit.

Issue Specific Hearings (ISH)
Natural England will only attend hearings by exception, targeting those ISH that have the greatest likelihood of resolving significant environmental risks. In such instances our attendance will be virtual. We highlight that where Natural England does not attend hearings, this should not be construed as a lack of concern on outstanding issues.

Natural England would be pleased to respond to any questions from the ExA that arise from the hearings at a subsequent deadline.

Engagement with the applicant
During the Examination, Natural England will, where possible, engage with the Applicant to ensure issues are progressed. Natural England will focus our engagement on key issues where the proposals are being amended in response to concerns, or where new or updated assessments present an opportunity for issue resolution.

For any further advice on this consultation please contact case officer [redacted] at [redacted]@naturalengland.org .uk and copy to consultations@naturalengland.org.uk.

Yours faithfully

[redacted]
Officer – Sustainable Development
Yorkshire and Northern Lincolnshire Area Team