[redacted]
Case Manager
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27 October 2026

Whitestone Solar Farm – Applicant's Procedural Deadline A Submission

Application Reference: EN0110020

Dear [redacted],

Introduction

Further to the Rule 6 Letter, published on 6 October 2026, I am writing to provide the Applicant's submission for Procedural Deadline A of Whitestone Solar Farm Development Consent Order (DCO) Examination.

Updated Application Documents Submitted

The following documents have been updated and submitted as part of the Applicant's Procedural Deadline A submission:

- Document 1.3: Guide to the Application [EN0110020/APP/1.3.2] (rev 03)
- Document 2.2: Land Plans [EN0110020/APP/2.2.1] (rev 02)
- Document 4.3: Book of Reference [EN0110020/APP/4.3.1] (rev 02)
- Document 4.4: Land and Rights Negotiations Tracker [EN0110020/APP/4.4.1] (rev 02)
- Document 5.5: Policy Compliance Document [EN0110020/APP/5.5.1] (rev 02)
- Document 6.2: Appendix 2.3: Commitments Register [EN0110020/APP/6.20.1] (rev 02)

New Documents Submitted

In addition to the updates made to the Applicant's submission documents, the Applicant has submitted a number of new documents to support the DCO Application. These new documents include:

- Document 8.4: Procedural Deadline A Covering Letter [EN0110020/APP/8.4] (rev 01)

- Document 8.5: Schedule of Changes to the Book of Reference [EN0110020/APP/8.5] (rev 01)
- Document 8.6: National Grid Long Lane Substation Decision Notice [EN0110020/APP/8.6] (rev 01)
- Document 8.7: Applicant Response to Relevant Representations – Part 1 [EN0110020/APP/8.7] (rev 01)

Land Plans Updates

The Land Plans [APP-009] have been updated as part of this deadline to reflect a number of amendments, including the following:

- Sheet 1: Compulsory acquisition and temporary possession powers have been removed from Plot 1-9.
- Sheet 26: Plot 26-26 has been merged into 26-21 as caution title SYK728050 has recently been cancelled.
- Sheet 27: Plot 27-9 has been merged into 27-8 to reflect the relevant landowner's confirmation that Plot 27-9 is part of the same holding.

Long Lane National Grid Substation Decision Notice

The Applicant notes that paragraphs 8.1.69 to 8.1.72 of the Planning Statement [AS-015] refer to the application for the National Grid Substation at Long Lane as being ongoing. Following submission of the DCO Application, planning permission for the Long Lane Substation was granted on 19 August 2026. The Applicant has therefore submitted the decision notice with this response to ensure that the Examining Authority has the benefit of the most up-to-date position.

Examination Procedure

The Applicant wishes to confirm that it has had the chance to review the draft examination timetable as established within Annex D of the Rule 6 Letter. The Applicant is comfortable with the letter as a whole but have a couple of comments which are set out below.

The Applicant wishes to make two comments in relation to the draft examination timetable. Firstly, the Applicant notes that the Examining Authority's First Written Questions are due to be published on 22 December 2026. The Applicant respectfully requests that the First Written Questions be published instead on 17 December 2026, in light of the Christmas bank holidays and associated periods of annual leave for many of those involved in the examination process. Secondly, the Applicant notes that Deadline 4 is scheduled on Thursday 18 February 2027, a week after the end of the proposed second set of hearings, finishing on Thursday 11 February 2027. The Applicant respectfully requests that Deadline 4 be instead moved to Tuesday 22 February 2027, in light of the February half term holiday and associated periods of annual leave for many of those involved in the examination process. This would still

allow the Examining Authority a week, before they are due to publish their ExA's Second Written Questions (if required).

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, Issue Specific Hearing 1 and Issue Specific Hearing 2. At all of these meetings and hearings, the Applicant's team wishes to be heard in relation to all agenda items.

Use of Artificial Intelligence

The Applicant has used Artificial Intelligence (AI) in its Procedural Deadline A submissions. The Applicant used AI for responding to relevant representations, published on 23 September 2026, with these responses set out within Document 8.7: Applicant Response to Relevant Representations – Part 1 [EN0110020/APP/8.7] (rev 01)

AI (specifically Anthropic's Clause) was used by the Applicant to assist in the following process:

- Relevant Representations were sorted and ordered by interested party, including Members of the Public, Local Planning Authorities, Statutory Consultees, and Businesses and Organisations.
- Each representation was split into the individual points it makes, a point being a single claim, objection, request or piece of information, so that each could be responded to.
- For representations made by members of the public, points were grouped into recurring themes and for each theme a response was drafted by AI.
- For representations made by all Interested Parties, AI drafted a response addressing each point that was raised, which were later reviewed and updated by members of the Applicant Team.

The Applicant can confirm that AI Agents have been used for the purposes set out above; however, all suggested text has been checked by an appropriately knowledgeable or qualified person before inclusion. This means that all text has been validated for its content and accuracy by the author before submission of the document set out above.

Other Matters

The Applicant wishes to acknowledge two other matters in the Rule 6 Letter.

Firstly, the Applicant confirms that it will submit, at Deadline 1, draft Statements of Common Ground (SoCGs) with those parties listed in Annex F of the Rule 6 Letter.

Further to those parties listed, the Applicant confirms that it is also seeking to progress a draft SoCG with the South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service, which the Applicant will also submit at Deadline 1.

Secondly, the Applicant notes the Examining Authority's request for the Applicant to submit their Response to Relevant Representations at Procedural Deadline A if possible. The Applicant can confirm that responses to the Local Host Planning Authorities and other Statutory Bodies have been submitted at Procedural Deadline A as these link to the Issue Specific Hearings scheduled. The remainder of the Applicant's responses to Relevant Representations will be submitted at or before Deadline 1.

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]

Jonathan Thompson
Director
Whitestone Net Zero Ltd