



Planning Inspectorate  
Arolygiaeth Gynllunio

## Hearing Transcript

<b>Project:</b>	Sea Link
<b>Hearing:</b>	Transcript of Preliminary Meeting (PM) - Part 2
<b>Date:</b>	5 November 2025

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#### FULL TRANSCRIPT (with timecode)

00:00:12:02 - 00:00:33:23

Welcome back, everybody. The meeting has recommenced. Can I confirm with the case team that they can hear me clearly, and that the live stream for this event has resumed? Thank you. Thank you. I will now hand over to Mr. Rennie, who will talk about the draft timetable for the examination.

00:00:38:17 - 00:01:10:16

Okay. This is item four on the agenda. The draft timetable is set out in detail in annexed of our rule six letter. And it might be useful to have this in front of you for this item. The timetable covers the whole period. Examination. This is for six months to the date of completion, which is the 5th of May 2026. The draft timetable includes dates for future hearings, site inspections and deadlines for submissions of written documents.

00:01:10:22 - 00:01:41:03

It also includes dates on which we propose to issue documents, such as our written questions, and the proposed schedule of changes to the Draft Development Consent Order. The timetable is just provisional at this moment. We'll be listening to everything that you say today, and we will also take into account all the written submissions that have been made before finalising the timetable. We intend to issue a final timetable as soon as possible after this meeting. We propose seven deadlines.

00:01:41:05 - 00:02:18:19

I don't intend to go through all of these with you now, but if you intend to contribute to this examination, it will be a good idea to familiarize yourself with the details. I'll pull out some key points initially from the draft timetable. Firstly, deadline one is currently timetabled for 18th of November. This is the deadline. We want to receive full written representations from interested parties. We will also expect the local impact reports at this deadline. If anyone wants to make comments on these submissions, then this can be done at deadline two, which is on the 9th of December, according to the draft timetable deadline.

00:02:18:21 - 00:02:49:22

One is also the time to let us know if you wish to be heard at any future hearings. We have provisionally scheduled further sets of hearings, one for the week commencing 26th January, one for the week commencing 23rd of February next year, and finally at we commenced on 23rd March. If these are required, the details of these will be decided after we've considered all your submissions, but they will certainly include sessions on the draft, development consent order and compulsory acquisition matters.

00:02:50:17 - 00:03:24:26

We will also run issue specific hearings during these weeks. We're required. These will focus on particular topics such as traffic and transport, and ecological matters, for example. The details of these

will be published as soon as possible. We can also hold another open floor here in late an examination if anyone requests one. If you do want to attend any hearings, I'd strongly recommend that you read our rule six letter thoroughly so you understand the reasons behind the hearings and the procedures around each.

00:03:26:20 - 00:03:58:15

Moving on to site inspections. We've already undertaken a company site inspections in June this year and again from 30th of September to the 2nd of October. Further unaccompanied visits took place yesterday in Suffolk, and there are planned to be further visits over the next two weeks. Notes of our June and the September and October inspections can be found on the project page of the National Infrastructure website, and we'll publish details of what we have And what we will see this month as soon as possible.

00:03:59:20 - 00:04:41:24

These visits have given us a good sense of the proposals and the potential impacts on the wider area. We have also had some responses suggesting site inspection locations and routes, some of which we have already done. Given the extensive site inspections, the examining authority has already undertaken, together with those planned over the next two weeks. At this stage, it is not anticipated that we will that a further accompanied site inspection would be necessary. However, we are aware of the potential changes that may be submitted soon by the applicant and so we shall keep time for future site inspections in the timetable potentially for the week commencing the 2nd of March.

00:04:43:02 - 00:04:49:29

Some of these may need to be accompanied if they are on private land, or if someone wants to draw our attention to something in particular.

00:04:51:15 - 00:05:04:12

Furthermore, we are currently intending to change the timetable so that the applicant does not need to submit a proposed site inspection itinerary at deadline one to allow time for any submitted changes to be considered with the proposed itinerary.

00:05:06:14 - 00:05:28:12

You will see provision has been made in the timetable for the examining authority to issue three sets of written questions, if they are required. When is the timetable for the 17th of December, with the second set at the end of February and the third in March if required. We can also issue specific requests for information at any point during the examination through a rule 17 letter.

00:05:30:04 - 00:05:34:16

I'll now turn to comments we've received so far about the draft timetable,

00:05:36:09 - 00:06:08:10

starting with the applicant, who has submitted written comments on the timetable in electronic library Reference PDA 001. I think your comments were clear, so thank you. This includes, in brief, the timetable in of deadline three soon after Christmas and the New Year period. The recommended bringing forward of examining authorities first written questions. The potential second round of

written questions from the examining Authority on week commencing 23rd of February, with responses, will probably be 10th of March, with the concern that this is a short period of time.

00:06:09:00 - 00:06:27:27

Um, also the amount of time between the examiner authorities commentary on the draft DCO by the 3rd of March and with the response required by the 10th of March from the applicant. So for the applicant, was there anything further that you wanted to say about the timetable or add to your submissions here today?

00:06:29:04 - 00:07:04:00

Thank you sir. Sara Shaikh for the applicant. So you've summarized our position very clearly. Thank you. Um, we I've just made a couple of additional points. Um, the first in relation to, um, the suggestion that you bring forward the questions that that would be, as you know, our primary position so that there's more time for responses. If not that, then in draft. And that's something that we have seen happen in other examinations as well.

00:07:04:08 - 00:07:40:23

Um, we think that you would maybe make some changes later, but they're likely to be almost in a final form at that point. So we'd be content with that approach too. So if you, um, aren't in a position to do that, um, we would like to just emphasize that we acknowledge that it's a it's a tight timetable. This is a priority project, and we wouldn't want to jeopardize that timetable in any way. And we will, um, notwithstanding the comments that we've made, obviously in our letter, which are all valid comments, and I know you've taken them on board, um, we will um, we will make make it work.

00:07:40:28 - 00:08:12:05

Um, we have investigated the availability of staff and as a matter stand, as a secondary position, we would suggest if the first doesn't find favour with you. This, that at the moment you're planning to issue the questions on the 17th of December. If you could issue them early on, even the 15th of December, which is Monday. That would give two extra days and extend the time in January from the seventh to the ninth.

00:08:12:07 - 00:08:38:18

That would also give two extra days. And I think we've worked out that would give us, um, two clear weeks, um, outside of the holiday period. So that is something we would also work with. But we just wanted to emphasize that while we've put forward our primary suggestion, we certainly don't want anything to jeopardise this project. It's critical priority. And we do recognise that you too have got the challenges, um, to deal with in relation to the six month timeline.

00:08:39:22 - 00:09:12:03

Okay. Thank you. We'll take those comments away as useful. Thank you. Um, moving on then, to other comments and concerns that have been raised in relation to a number of timetable issues, um, which we shall also fully take into consideration. Um, a few examples. Uh, concern has been raised with the timing of deadline to the dates of the examiner authorities. Uh, first written questions and then deadline three, which has the Christmas holidays, uh, between them, um, therefore being a time constraint for the parties involved.

00:09:12:06 - 00:09:51:03

Uh, comments related to this were received from, for example, Kent Cpre, Dover District Council, East Suffolk Council, Kent Wildlife Trust, Marine Management Organisation, Natural England, Save Minster Marshes, the RSPB and Suffolk County Council. Uh. The Moon Management Organisation raised a concern also that deadline one, deadline two were to close together and also that there was a deadline within the Easter period. Kent Marlow raised a concern, um, that expect in written representations and local impact reports a deadline one was premature given the further expected submissions or changes from the applicant.

00:09:51:28 - 00:10:30:01

Natural England stated that the deadline seven um time was too close to the end of examination. So Mr. Marsh has suggested that issue specific here in one was too early in the process and premature. There were also comments from, for example, Saxmundham Town Council, and sees that the line length statutory consultation would overlap overlap with the sea link examination, um, including the possible issue specific hearings next year. Um, these are some of the issues raised, um, though we will be considering all timetable rated comments before the final timetable is issued.

00:10:30:10 - 00:10:44:21

Um, can I just ask firstly from the councils that are represented here today, was there anything else further to your written submissions that you want to say about the timetable here today? Um, if I start with Suffolk County Council.

00:10:48:27 - 00:11:19:00

Thank you, sir. Michael Bedford for Suffolk County Council. Um, so I won't repeat what we said about our specific timetable point, uh, around the Christmas period and deadlines two and three, because I think you're already alive to various people's comments on that. And we leave it for you to work out the best way of managing all those constraints. Um, the other point, which if I can raise now, we didn't raise, I think, in our deadline, um, a submission because I think it hadn't happened at that stage.

00:11:19:02 - 00:11:50:11

But it's just this point on overlapping, um, other examinations as well as whatever may be happening online link. You'll be aware that the, um, Norwich Tilbury uh, grid reinforcement project was accepted by the Planning Inspectorate for examination. Um, last month, I think and although that is still in the pre examination stage, our expectation at Suffolk County Council being one of the host authorities for that project.

00:11:50:13 - 00:12:32:05

Our expectation is that the examination is likely to start certainly in quarter one of 2026. And we would certainly ask informally that there is liaison between your case team and that examination case team, particularly in terms of scheduling any hearings, but also in terms of the the deadlines. Obviously they won't affix their position yet. You get first dibs, as it were, in that sense. But we would ask that there is coordination behind the scenes to try to avoid, I say, undue loads on the various parties because many of the parties involved in this examination will also be involved in that examination.

00:12:34:20 - 00:12:41:19

Okay. Thank you very much. Your point is noted on that. Um, anything further from, uh, East Suffolk Council?

00:12:45:06 - 00:13:22:19

Mark Wesson and Smith for East Suffolk Council. I don't want to be repetitious at all, but could I just emphasize the concerns about the Christmas period? Because the first written questions are a key stage in the examination, and responses to them are obviously very important for your task in reporting, and it is important that parties do have sufficient working days. So in a sense, I'm aligning myself with the applicant's comments to seek to engineer further time.

00:13:22:21 - 00:13:30:12

We suggested a week later in January, but I'll leave the mechanics to you. Just plead for that extra time. Thank you.

00:13:30:20 - 00:13:35:18

Okay. Thank you. Um, and first and parish council

00:13:37:07 - 00:13:38:02

sources.

00:13:40:25 - 00:13:42:27

Yes. Thank you for your comments. Um.

00:13:43:18 - 00:14:16:21

Yeah. Um, I know you did refer to the fact because we raised this issue as well concerning the, um, the line links statutory consultation. I would remind the exa that everybody in this meeting is paid to be here, except members of the local community. So we have to find time in our diaries to do things which we are not paid to do. Uh, and therefore, I think it would be helpful to get clarity from National Grid, um, about when this preliminary, ah, event, when the PR will be issued so that we can plan for this in our diaries at the moment.

00:14:16:23 - 00:14:50:27

The date seems to be moving around, so I think it'd be useful to have a definite date when we will see that peer. And then I would ask that you bear that in mind in the timetable in addition to the timetabling issue. There is also the question of how you will consider that peer in the course of this examination, because we hope it will contain a lot more detail about that project. And obviously it will conflict an overlap with Sealink. So it's those two points. One, a definite date for when we'll get the pier, but also how you will consider the pier in the examination.

00:14:50:29 - 00:15:08:14

And that, as I've also mentioned, there is now yet another solar farm project which we know very little about. But at some point more details of that can become available during the examination period. But I think we know so little about that at the moment. I don't think it's other than being aware of it, I don't think there's much more than can be said.

00:15:09:14 - 00:15:19:06

Okay. Thank you. Um, and uh, Saxmundham Town Council, have you got any further comments that you would like to raise in terms of the timetable?

00:15:20:20 - 00:16:09:20

Yes. Thank you. Yes. Geraldine Barker, Saxmundham. Um, yes. We're very concerned about this basically Oxford line link. Uh, their statutory consultation will clash with the dates reserved for the 26th of January. And also week commencing the 23rd of February. Um, reiterating um, this demand is um notes there. It's very, very difficult for parish councils and the limited resources of our, of our, of our clients and our offices and our councillors to actually respond effectively to so many, uh, nationally significant infrastructure projects.

00:16:09:22 - 00:16:41:19

And now we have another one today we have Essex and Suffolk Water, um, having their non-statutory exhibition in our town for the pipeline that will provide water to Sizewell. We are absolutely inundated. So I would and we are especially concerned that these two dates will will be when you will be discussing the implications of the report.

00:16:42:00 - 00:16:52:07

The findings for Ben Aldridge, which we do need to be part of. So I don't know whether there's any possibility of whether that's right.

00:16:52:23 - 00:16:57:21

But I want to see James. It's, uh. It's not. I can watch you.

00:16:58:18 - 00:17:01:00

Oh. Oh, dear. Sorry. Nothing to do with.

00:17:01:02 - 00:17:05:18

Me, I think. Yeah. Someone else at the microphone on. Then, um, we'll be back with you.

00:17:05:28 - 00:17:36:28

Yeah. Nothing to do with me. I'm innocent. Anyway, so what we would ask is if they could review these. And I know there's a very tight deadline from the applicant, but we cannot actually respond effectively to this at local knowledge is so important. Um, with these deadlines being extended a bit. So I would ask yourselves and the applicant to look at this on our behalf, please.

00:17:37:00 - 00:17:37:24

Thank you.

00:17:37:27 - 00:17:51:17

Okay. Thank you. We'll take those comments into consideration also. Um, is there any other party that wants to make any further comments? Um, I can see, uh, JB there, James Burton.

00:17:54:25 - 00:18:33:16

Thank you very much, sir. James Burton, on behalf of Suffolk Energy Action Solutions. Uh, we, uh, echo endorse everything that has been said by, um, the other interested parties because from Mr. Butt onwards, um, may I just, um, though, emphasize, uh, or pick up a slightly different point? It is apparent that from our discussions today that, uh, at present at least, shall we say, that there is a degree of confusion, and we are waiting eagerly to see what the panel publishes following this preliminary meeting.

00:18:33:18 - 00:18:59:18

And that will, of course, directly inform what we and others put in by way of written representations. We've said in our response to the rule six, we do think the timetable of deadline one 18th November is tight. And I would reiterate that. So, like Miss Sheikh Casey, we're only talking about a couple of days here or there, but it can make all the difference those extra working days. Thank you.

00:19:00:13 - 00:19:01:17

Okay. Thank you.

00:19:03:06 - 00:19:10:12

And MF. Good. Oh, sorry. Emma. Walker. Oh. Waller. Sorry.

00:19:11:09 - 00:19:12:25

Yeah. Emma Waller, planning policy.

00:19:12:27 - 00:19:13:12

Officer for.

00:19:13:14 - 00:19:48:06

Kent Wildlife Trust. Um, yeah. I just wanted to quickly add that as currently drafted, deadlines do not provide interested parties with adequate time to review and respond to what will likely be a substantial volume of new material. So, as noted in the rule nine letter, the applicant intends to submit a change application in late November, accompanied by revised plans, environmental and technical documents. Under the current schedule, written representations are due before these revisions are available.

00:19:48:08 - 00:20:23:15

So this would mean interested parties are expected to prepare their principal submissions based on outdated or incomplete information. So from a process standpoint, that would undermine the ability of the examination to proceed on a fair and transparent evidential basis. So we do ask that deadline one is deferred until after the applicant's revised documentation has been submitted and published, allowing sufficient time for interested parties to review and assess the new material.

00:20:24:07 - 00:20:39:12

Okay. Thank you. And I just point out that when a submitted change is submitted, we will make sure there is therefore time at future deadlines for people to be able to respond to those specific changes as well. But thank you for your comments.

00:20:41:10 - 00:20:47:02



And, uh, I've got the initials DK. Um.

00:20:47:14 - 00:20:49:19

Thank you, Sir Francis. Gerald, uh, on behalf.

00:20:49:21 - 00:20:50:18

Of our high.

00:20:51:00 - 00:21:22:28

Regard and on behalf of London Gate, the court, um, just I had a very particular point in relation to the interplay of, um, the timing of the responses to the supplementary agenda that relates to H1, which is your document EV 3002 um, and deadline one a and the timing of that is itself. So that ish, um, will happen, uh, on the 11th of November. Um, the agenda for that ish.

00:21:23:00 - 00:21:57:14

And as I said earlier, we're grateful this has been included. We'll cover item two matters arising from the supplementary agenda and item five, uh, matters related to shipping and navigation in the sun. And these are the issues that London Gateway Port are concerned with. Essentially they're they're the only issues that London Gateway Port is concerned with. It has no other issues in relation to the application in principle. Um, so, uh, that's to be welcomed. Um, if we look at the supplementary agenda, the additional questions, um, it asks for responses to those questions at deadline one A, which is the 26th of November.

00:21:57:27 - 00:22:09:04

But it also says, though, um, but rather than use the time at the hearing to get this information verbally, the SEC has listed the questions in the table below and ask that responses be submitted.

00:22:10:22 - 00:22:42:02

Um, if anyone considers the need to explore these matters already, then there's opportunity to raise those up during item number two of the agenda. Um, so I just wondered if you could help with some guidance in terms of I'm a little confused as to what and to what extent is the hearing will be looking at matters of shipping and navigation, if we're being a car, essentially to respond afterwards in writing in response to the questions. And obviously all of this will have also all have happened ahead of the deadline for sorry.

00:22:42:04 - 00:23:01:09

The hearing will happen in advance of the deadline for written representations, although the response to the questions will come after that. So I just wanted to clarify really, to what extent that we can and should be discussing matters of shipping and navigation at each one. Or is the intent that you don't want us to, because you want us to respond to the questions later on?

00:23:02:08 - 00:23:43:26

Well, I would say issue specific hearing. One is, um, we're looking at things that are kind of high level, um, position at that. At that particular point, it's just it's one session, uh, for the hearing. Um, the questions will be likely be more detailed because after that we will have the responses to from the applicant to the relevant representations, for example, and uh, representations from uh interested

persons as well. So, um, the, the questions will then come afterwards and, but, but yeah, the issue of specific hearing is for us to, uh, really ask some questions about certain issues at a sort of high level.

00:23:44:08 - 00:23:47:28

Um, in terms of detail. Does that help?

00:23:48:11 - 00:24:02:21

Can I, can I sort of, without putting words in your mouth so I can understand then that we will, you know, have free rein to raise our issues at high level on shipping and navigation at that hearing. And obviously, they want to address the more specific requirements of your supplementary agenda at deadline. One aim.

00:24:04:04 - 00:24:08:08

That's correct. Yes, yes that's correct. Sounds good. Thank you. Thank you.

00:24:12:18 - 00:24:14:24

And Marion Fellows, please.

00:24:22:00 - 00:24:52:04

Thank you very much, sir. Ladies and gentlemen, Marion Fellows Ober resident. Um. Best practice is, of course, to resolve matters as early as possible in the overall six months hearings. Um. However, due to a lack of detail, um, such as design and delivery, um, technology that's going to be incorporated example during the consultation and the pre-application phases, which weren't really front loaded as they should be.

00:24:52:06 - 00:25:29:09

As as you're aware, the principal of the new process of National Strategic Infrastructure Project Examination is that it's front loaded during the consultation stage. I can honestly tell you that was not our experience, and you've seen that yourself with regard to the number of questions you've had to raise as well. So, um, I'm concerned that in annex D, you say that there's a possibility that you may close the examination earlier than six months. If you feel that matters have sat, you're satisfied that all relevant matters have been addressed and discussed.

00:25:29:11 - 00:26:07:29

I would say, um, matters don't have to be addressed and discussed. They have to be resolved. Um, and if we look at the example of the judicial review of Vanguard DCO, it's quite risky. If matters are rushed and things are not given the appropriate time and the deadlines between, um, the time between deadlines is not sufficient for people to raise points. Um, and that said that if the community of impacts of the next scenario had been evaluated when considering the application for Vanguard DCO, one possible outcome is that it would not have been accepted.

00:26:08:01 - 00:26:47:15

So there is a risk if we allow things to just go ahead, as you've outlined, without proper time for people to respond, that there will be judicial reviews in the future. Um, I'm very pleased to hear that you've clarified that deadline One is not going to be as. As pivotal as we've felt earlier because from. It's clear from the discussion we've had earlier today that deadline one is not going to be when we can

ask for future open floor hearings or issue specific hearings, because we won't have the information for the from the changes that are proposed.

00:26:48:05 - 00:27:21:24

There's also some confusion between your annexes, in the sense that annex B gave the deadline for requests for accompanied site inspections as the 18th of November, but annexed, said the 8th of October. Um, so I think interested parties still need the opportunity to put before you their requests for accompanied site inspections. Um, setting a deadline of 8th of October or even 18th of November for what you're going to do week beginning 2nd of February.

00:27:22:05 - 00:28:03:25

Um, does with respect seem Scene slightly early and and difficult for us to to give you the information you need. I'd also like to raise briefly that there's some difficulties with the formats of documents and the document library. So if this is going to rely on being a predominantly, um, matter that's resolved through written inquisition, we do need to look at making things a bit easier. One suggestion I would make from my experience of being involved in ScottishPower Renewables East Anglia in one North and East Anglia two, where that was linear in the sense of two distinct projects as well.

00:28:04:06 - 00:28:36:07

Um, is color coding or having documents that only relate to Suffolk? Only relate to Kent? Rather than putting the documents into one, and then people having to trawl through to find this paragraph is Suffolk, that paragraph is Kent. Might seem very simple to yourselves. This is your bread and butter. This is what you are resourced to do. But for a normal, um, resident like myself with no formal training in planning law planning experience, none whatsoever, I can assure you.

00:28:36:09 - 00:29:08:21

All I've learned is just by being in this position for a couple of other dsos previously. Um, things to help us to provide you with the evidence you need would be really helpful. Um, please also ensure page numbers are on all your documents are all six. Letter didn't have page numbers. Uh, I tried to help someone put it back together. It was a nightmare. Um, very small point. Um, issue specific hearing one is before you've had the open floor hearings to for our colleagues in Kent.

00:29:08:25 - 00:29:50:04

So I think they are at a disadvantage. We will have had ours first round, but they won't have done so. Your issue specific one can't be informed by what you're going to hear from our colleagues in Kent. And that I think is is not fair on them. Um, I know that we've raised lots of things today that perhaps you were or weren't expecting. I'm not sure, but as you can see, there is a great weight of concern. And although we are myself, just a normal individual resident, we care passionately about our area and we believe we can assist you.

00:29:50:06 - 00:30:04:29

So please do not, um, rush through the examination. Certainly don't consider closing before the six month time frame and take the time that you need to be able to do the tasks that you've been given, which is a difficult one. Thank you.

00:30:05:15 - 00:30:28:24

Okay. Thank you. Um, just a few points. Um, you know, just to make clear that we're not going to be rushing the process. Um, we have the six month deadline, but within that, there won't be us rushing on on any particular issue or topic. And but but thank you as well for the comments on the online documents. We'll take those away as well. Um, if I could go to um.

00:30:29:27 - 00:30:32:20

MH sorry, I can only.

00:30:32:22 - 00:30:33:08

Read the first.

00:30:33:10 - 00:30:34:02

Imogen.

00:30:36:18 - 00:30:37:03

Hi.

00:30:37:05 - 00:31:09:20

Thank you sir. Uh, apologies. I can't share my screen anymore, but I would just like to echo that ourselves at the Environment Agency. We would certainly struggle with meeting deadline free on the 7th of January, 2026, due to workload pressures from the other end. CIPs that will be be consider that time such as line link as well as incident duty and responses to it. Uh, again, just echoing what others have said and we would appreciate extra time there.

00:31:09:22 - 00:31:21:12

That's possible if that is not that possible. Is that a procedure for submitting responses slightly beyond deadlines, Deadline's just out of curiosity.

00:31:23:10 - 00:31:45:27

Well, we would want the responses within those deadlines. I mean, at this point, I think it's best we just take these comments away and then we'll we'll consider those before we, um, put out the final timetable. Um, but but I think at this point, yeah, we'll, we'll take your comments, um, as we have from other people about the, the, the time in between written questions and deadline three. So thank.

00:31:45:29 - 00:31:46:14

You.

00:31:46:25 - 00:31:54:09

Thank you sir I appreciate that and I appreciate that we have to stick to deadlines within the timetable. Um, but thank you very much. Either way.

00:31:54:27 - 00:31:55:19

Thank you.

00:31:56:21 - 00:32:00:01

And, uh, Richard Thompson.

00:32:01:27 - 00:32:02:16

Uh, thank you sir.

00:32:02:19 - 00:32:03:05

Rich Thompson.

00:32:03:07 - 00:32:42:27

On behalf of CBRE. Um, I'm not going to repeat, um, the concerns raised by others, but we do share concerns with respect to being potentially disadvantaged through the late, um, information provided with the change application. Um, I'm glad to hear that you're alive to the issues that's going to cause us and communities with respect to the deadline over Christmas. Um, in particular, trying to to rally the troops, so to speak, is difficult over that period. So, um, sort of welcome the comments already made in that respect. Um, I would say that we would, um, support the suggestion that's been made by the applicant in terms of extending a little bit this side of Christmas, a little bit the other side of Christmas to accommodate that.

00:32:43:11 - 00:32:44:04

Thank you.

00:32:44:06 - 00:32:45:12

Okay. Thank you.

00:32:46:16 - 00:32:47:13

And.

00:32:47:29 - 00:32:49:29

Uh, Julie Hewitt.

00:32:50:24 - 00:32:51:09

Yes.

00:32:51:11 - 00:33:24:18

Hello, sir. I'm speaking on behalf of Peter Hewitt from his a trustee of IP 17 Good Neighbor Scheme. He would have been here, but of course, we didn't get an email till 11:00 yesterday. And of course, as Michael Mahony has kindly said about our volunteers and our civic volunteers, everybody likes to know what they're doing and on. They didn't know what was going on. Mr. Ewart isn't here. Um. Mr.. Your respectfully request, therefore, that the Examining Authority and Case team review the timing and consistency of communication for all future hearings.

00:33:24:20 - 00:33:55:06

Please take into account that many people will be new to the process and such consideration would materially improve access, transparency and fairness for all, particularly with regards to rural and the volunteer sector who are involved. He goes on to say about the issue with regards to Christmas, he says volunteer led groups such as IP 17 Good Neighbour scheme the that the timing leaves fewer than ten effective days, as we discussed, and it's very difficult to respond in that time.

00:33:55:08 - 00:34:07:06

It falls during one of the busiest times of year for any of the charity sector, and they're out there looking after their their service users. But also to think, and this is quite pertinent about the economy.

00:34:07:08 - 00:34:16:08

Other bodies may well be not working at all during that period, allowing staff to take the old leave. Just something to keep in mind. Thank you.

00:34:16:12 - 00:34:17:11

Thank you very much.

00:34:18:25 - 00:34:19:27

And a.

00:34:20:14 - 00:34:21:01

Um.

00:34:22:11 - 00:34:22:26

Mr. James.

00:34:22:28 - 00:34:23:17

Burton.

00:34:28:26 - 00:35:02:20

Thank you, sir. James Burton, on behalf of Suffolk Energy Action Solutions. Uh. Um, sir. Two separate matters. You've heard from, um, London, um, gateway and also others. In fact, regarding, um, each one and we, um, I'm sure and others would be very grateful for any. Um, shall we say more definitive steer you can give us that would allow us to organize our resources, um, effectively.

00:35:02:22 - 00:35:36:10

And I'll explain why, um V3001, namely, the main agenda for each one, uh, of course, lists, um, a number of separate topics. The first is need. The second is an update on related projects. Then we get to cumulative impacts and so on through them. Um, and for example of course cumulative impacts includes a bullet point concerning cumulative traffic impacts, including construction traffic in combination with other with other projects.

00:35:36:12 - 00:36:18:19

And you all know that we and many others are intensely concerned about this, are not going to affect tourism. And in fact, and you will have read because you read our relevant representation. Um, the part concerning traffic and transport specifically, you will see that we have instructed an expert and found the money to instruct a traffic expert on that. Now, um, we really need to have, if at all possible, any reassurance that you can give us that, um, is H1 will not be the only ish, uh, that gives us and others an opportunity to actually speak to you about these particular issues.

00:36:18:25 - 00:36:56:16

My understanding from what the panel has said about each one is that it really is. As you said, it's high level and it's primarily the rector that the applicant have the applicant set out its position. What I really want to be able to do, and I'm sure everyone does, is say to those who are instructing me, you don't need to shake the fundraising team to get the traffic expert, for example, along to this meeting or to get our own part of the team, individual who's expert in the need point and concerning great capacity belong to this meeting because it's a listening exercise for us and there'll be another opportunity.

00:36:56:18 - 00:37:34:16

So that's a that's a plea, really, sir. And I'd be very grateful for any comfort or guidance you can give us on that. The second topic, and I don't know if we're moving on to this yet. And if we are, please just shut me down is regarding the other agenda item here, which is what's to be covered under ish, is going forward generally. Um, and I'll just make a very brief point on that. I'm not going to repeat what we have in our rule six response letter. You know what we're asking for by way of IHS, you will note, we haven't asked for issues on all the topics on which we've submitted a dedicated, relevant representation.

00:37:34:18 - 00:37:53:08

We try always to think about what will assist you in terms of what's necessary to get that best evidence before you, and also, of course, having regard to that, importantly, to ensure that what everyone has a fair crack of the whip. Um, but that's that. Those are my two topics. Thank you very much.

00:37:53:11 - 00:37:54:10

Okay. Thank you.

00:37:54:12 - 00:38:25:26

Well, just to say that, um, there is time within the timetable at the moment and we will look with the, with the finalised timetable for, um, space for hearings. Um, and we can't sort of say exactly what will be covered if we have those hearings. It does depend on what we have over the next few deadlines. Um, but there might well be an issue specific here. And when we go into depth with things like traffic and transport, but that will we'll have to see how things sort of plan out and agendas will be sent out beforehand.

00:38:26:10 - 00:38:34:14

So thank you for your comments. Um, I'd another hand up there. Um, MF Marian Fellowes.

00:38:38:16 - 00:39:19:17

Yes. Thank you sir. Marion Fellows, Ober resident. Um, just two other points. It annexed timetable appears to say that only at deadline five and seven will you ask the applicant to provide a clean copy of the draft DCO in word format. My direct experience of previous DCO hearings is that the DCO document actually is far more important than people realize, because if you are minded to recommend or if you are minded to not recommend in the Secretary of State does, then approve once the project starts.

00:39:19:19 - 00:39:59:11

It's extremely difficult to amend the DCO or even work within it. If things are not included or if things are not resolved. So I would ask that at every deadline that the document library is updated with any changes. Only if changes have been made. Any changes to the draft DCO, so that people have the opportunity to consider those, so that we don't end up with a situation. That it has been agreed by yourselves and the applicant and, and potentially statutory consultees, um, through statements of common ground, etc.,

00:39:59:13 - 00:40:35:01

but not included the, the relevant information that we can assist you with. It can be a real negative experience and that's what we're talking about. It from the negative experience we're having now of a DCO that was approved that is now being delivered. So that's real live, uh, information for you. Um, the second thing is that, um, procedural decisions. The applicant is the person that is said to be the person that identifies who the party stakeholders are.

00:40:35:21 - 00:41:08:21

Um, I would say that it needs to be wider than that for an application that has such a wide community impact as this one is going to have. And lastly, um, this might be another business, but because it's getting near lunchtime, I'll throw it in very quickly for you to assist. Alex Seth says that the agenda on the day of any hearing may be subject to change at the discretion of yourselves. Examining authority. I'm sure you wouldn't do that unless you really, really had to. But going on, um, other colleagues comments earlier today.

00:41:08:23 - 00:41:54:23

If we don't know what the topic is on that day, it's extremely difficult for us to have done our homework or to have the right person in front of you to assist you. Um, I know you said you're going to take time over the next few weeks to say when the traffic and transport issue specific hearing will be. But as an independent person with limited time and resources and I'm not paid, this is all a volunteer role. I do need to give myself time to prepare for things, and I would suggest why not put the date and the time and the subject into the public arena sooner than if you don't need that issue specific hearing, then cancel it.

00:41:54:27 - 00:42:22:24

But I can certainly tell you there's going to be a need for an issue specific hearing on traffic and transfer, public rights of way. Cumulative impact. Social economic impact on tourism and definitely the cumulative impact of all the projects going on. If you could get those to us into the diary now, that would be brilliant and then change it as necessary going forward. Thank you for your, um, careful listening and your comments.

00:42:22:26 - 00:42:24:00

Thank you very much.

00:42:26:02 - 00:42:31:23

And, um, one more here. I think it's, um, Peter Lorenzo.

00:42:42:09 - 00:42:45:01

I think you've still got your still on mute. Maybe.



00:42:47:21 - 00:42:48:21

Can you hear me now?

00:42:48:23 - 00:42:49:23

I can, yes.

00:42:49:25 - 00:43:24:03

Jolly good. Thank you for listening to speak. I must admit, I was, um, only coming as an observer, so I was a bit surprised when I learned that, um. I'm speaking today, so I'll be as brief as I possibly can. Firstly, thank you for letting me speak, um, and for speaking on behalf of the Save Mr. Marsh's group. Um, it's a shame that, uh, Kent County Council is not represented at this meeting today, because it's a very important one. But I'm glad that District Council, uh, has appeared.

00:43:24:10 - 00:43:25:00

Um,

00:43:26:18 - 00:43:47:01

the problem, I think, as far as I'm concerned, and I'm going back to the beginning of your, um, meeting is, um, not many people who live in. I don't know that much about what's going on. Certainly when it comes to the hover pool, people still don't know that the, um.

00:43:47:03 - 00:43:53:19

Sorry, sir, we're just. At this point, we're in the agenda item talking about the timetable. Whether you've got any comments on the timetable.

00:43:54:04 - 00:44:28:24

Yes. Well, we're talking about the, the the hover pool, which is being, um, the slight change of consultation, the slight term consultation thing. But that's the problem in that I didn't realise that this was to do with the timetable. Sorry, I came to reserve the timetable. I then discovered that savings analysis is appearing. And that surprises me. So I wanted to make a few comments about the beginning of the meeting.

00:44:28:26 - 00:44:34:06

Were you talking about the hoverboard? Can I at least add that to it?

00:44:38:21 - 00:44:45:28

Um, at this point, can we just talk about the timetable and then we'll maybe if you want to come back to us at the end when we're discussing any other business.

00:44:46:16 - 00:44:48:13

I'll come back to you in that case.

00:44:48:15 - 00:44:57:18

Yes. Yeah. Okay. Just because we're in the middle of just this particular issue. So I think that would be best. Okay. Thank you sir. We'll come back to you later. So, um.

00:45:00:04 - 00:45:38:28

Thank you for all those comments. And and also, thank you for everything we received in writing. We will take account of them all, and we will be looking to issue the final timetable as soon as possible. And as you are all aware, there are many competing aspects when drafting a timetable, including several internal deadlines for the inspectorate which also need to be built in, such as the publication and notifications. With regard to the examining authority's first written questions. This is currently timetabled to be after the initial deadline, so we can take into account the information received at that date at that deadline, potentially reducing the number of questions we would otherwise ask.

00:45:39:11 - 00:46:09:23

As such is difficult task for us to draft a timetable with everyone fully content with. And we acknowledge, for example, the Christmas and New Year period is within the examination period. Um, we will take all the comments made here today and a procedural deadline a into account when producing our rule eight letter, which will include the final timetable. Before I finish, I'd just like to reiterate the importance of ensuring that information is submitted within the set deadlines.

00:46:10:04 - 00:46:20:27

Um, the time for submission is always, uh, 23, 59 or 1 minute to midnight. Uh, just so the applicants got their hand up there. Do you want to make a comment at this point?

00:46:21:09 - 00:46:55:15

Sir? Thank you sir. For the applicant, sir. Yes. With your permission, I did want to come back on just a couple of the points that were made. Sure. Yeah. I'm grateful. Thank you. Um, so the first one relates to points that were made about lion Link the peer and inviting us National Grid to, um, to to influence the timetabling and so on of, of the peer. I just wanted to be very clear, mainly for the interested parties and perhaps even for yourselves. Um, sir, that, um, National Grid Ventures is not the same legal entity as the applicant.

00:46:55:21 - 00:47:30:07

And it's more than that. Um, there are Actually statutory duties under the Electricity Act 1989 and other relevant legislation, which means that, um, Njit. So the applicant here must have an entirely separate board of directors, management staff, physical location, digital environment to that of NGV, which is of course, line link. Um, so there has to be completely independent decision making and we, the applicant, have absolutely no influence or control over decisions made by NGV and vice versa.

00:47:30:09 - 00:48:07:13

So I just wanted to make that point, because it has come up in quite a few representations that, um, there seems to be a misunderstanding that we're the same body. Um, we will of course, and do coordinate with NGV and other third parties. And that's of course, in our coordination document. But, um, just just to be clear that we can't influence that. And there isn't any, um, way that we could do that. It would be in breach of our legislative duties if we did that. That was the first point. The second relates to the question of the overlap of the consultation, potential overlap and the hearings.

00:48:07:23 - 00:48:20:19

Um. I mean, it's not unusual for projects to come forward or to overlap. Um, and also the consultation will be eight weeks. So we don't see that there's any real problem there in being able to participate in the hearings and the consultation.

00:48:22:28 - 00:48:56:04

The third point I just wanted to make briefly was in relation to the change request. I mean, that's another point that a number of parties have raised and expressed concern about. And the only point that I would make there is that, um, it is important, I think, just to be reassured that the change application, um, when it's made is localised. It's relatively well, it is self-contained. And of course, your letter of the 25th of September, I think, recognises that on the basis of the information that you have so far, um, so most of the application material will not change.

00:48:56:07 - 00:49:20:06

It's important, I think, just to understand that. And so as we've understood it, your appendix D and your timetable does allow at deadline for on the 10th of February for further comments to be made by interested parties on that change request as well, if there's anything further. So there is a bit more time as well. Should there be something left over that people wish to say?

00:49:21:05 - 00:49:21:20

Okay.

00:49:21:22 - 00:49:22:07

Thank you.

00:49:22:09 - 00:49:22:24

Very.

00:49:22:26 - 00:49:23:11

Much.

00:49:23:13 - 00:49:23:28

Thank you.

00:49:24:00 - 00:49:29:03

I've also got, um, comments from Michael Maloney. Mahoney.

00:49:30:19 - 00:50:03:28

Yes. Thank you. Michael Mani from Friston Parish Council. Oh, no, I just I just wanted to pick up on the comment that was just made concerning Net and NGV. I would remind everybody that of course they are both owned by um, National Grid Group plc. The boards of directors to which they refer will have been appointed by National Grid Group plc. And if there's any issue over what and what NGV and NJC cannot do. I'm sure they can be resolved with the Group board and with Ofgem.

00:50:04:02 - 00:50:34:18

However, I did note that it was also said that Njit does coordinate with NGV. So I think I would just reiterate my plea to Njit that they do coordinate on this point with NGV, and that it may well help Ng's

cause if NGV could give a specific date for when this pier will be published. So I just wanted to make that point to you, and I'm sure this point will come up numerous times during the examination, so I won't bore everybody more with that now.

00:50:34:20 - 00:50:35:12

Thank you.

00:50:35:14 - 00:50:42:28

Okay. Thank you very much. And, um, Rs. Robin Sanders.

00:50:44:27 - 00:51:14:18

Hello. Uh, just a quick additional point. And that's with regard to tenant parish councils. Uh, I'm Robin Sanders from council. Um, early January has appeared when all planning parish councils are extremely busy because we're setting budgets. So when setting the detailed dates at that time, can we make sure that we do have time to deal with this as well as actually setting our own issues? I'm happy to be Chair of Finance and therefore I should be quite tied up. Yes.

00:51:18:07 - 00:51:54:08

Okay. Thank you. Okay. Um, just moving on. Um, just to reiterate as well. Um, if there is anything else that, um. Sorry. It is also worth noting that we won't be able to accept any submission after the completion of examination on the 5th of May next year. Um, okay. Thank you. Um, that completes item four on the agenda. I will now hand over to Mr. Regan, who will deal with agenda item five, which is procedural decisions taken by the examining authority.

00:51:54:10 - 00:51:54:25

Thank you very.

00:51:54:27 - 00:51:55:12

Much.

00:51:56:15 - 00:52:39:23

Thank you, Mr. Rainey. I'd ask you all to refer to annex G in the rule six letter, which you will note sets out the examining authority's procedural decisions on a number of matters, which includes visuals for the hearings, requests for statements of common ground principle, areas of disagreement, summary statements, accompanied site inspections, locations, deadlines for the submission of written reps and local impact reports, notifications by statutory parties or certain local authorities of their wish to be considered as an IP response to relevant representations and diligent inquiry into land interests,

00:52:41:10 - 00:53:25:16

and also provides further information which informs the detail behind those requests, which we suggest that you familiarize yourself with and I don't propose to repeat that detail now. I understand that no one has provided any specific comments on procedural decisions at deadline A, but I do believe that some parties have indicated that they wish to comment on procedural decisions at this stage. So please, could I ask any parties who wish to comment on this particular agenda item to raise their hands now? And given my proximity from the monitor, I'm also going to ask for the help of my neighbors to, um, read out any raised hands, please.

00:53:31:12 - 00:53:32:22

I'm not seeing any.

00:53:35:29 - 00:53:36:26

Okay.

00:53:42:29 - 00:53:45:11

Julia Hewitt, please. If you could enter a.

00:53:45:13 - 00:53:45:28

Yes.

00:53:46:08 - 00:54:29:23

And thank you. My name is Julia. You're covering for Peter Torpedo from YP 17. Good neighbor scheme. As he says, he's not used to writing such documents as this, and therefore if he fails, your tests are apologies. But what he does say is that with the company's sights, we we welcome the prospect of the accompanied site inspection and respectfully request that it includes three key locations, and that is that one of them has to be down at the other end in Kelso. Please do not omit the fact that we've got so much going on that whilst you're supposed to be looking at Bennell and and downfield, please do build in Kelsall and don't come back and say you wish you got round to it.

00:54:29:25 - 00:54:30:27

Thank you very much.

00:54:31:19 - 00:54:33:03

Understood. Thank you.

00:54:40:05 - 00:54:41:09

No other hands.

00:54:43:22 - 00:54:45:27

Okay. Um,

00:54:47:12 - 00:54:53:17

can I ask? We have one more. Marianne. Fellows, please.

00:54:58:06 - 00:55:33:17

Thank you sir. Marianne Fellows, Aldeburgh resident. Um, in terms of visuals. If your plan that you outlined earlier to go ahead is with, um, hybrid or with satellites locations where interested parties could gather. I would suggest that there is a great need for some maps and visuals to be made. Hard copy available to people. It's extremely difficult online to sometimes follow um, information.

00:55:33:19 - 00:56:07:03

As I mentioned earlier, we suffered as members of the public because the applicant was quite resistant on providing information even to libraries in a hard copy format. Uh, maps are very difficult to understand online, as you would understand. Um, and then secondly, I would just mention that, um, how you would like us to respond to you, we need to do it in a format that makes it easy for you to gather information and to understand our points.

00:56:07:05 - 00:56:38:01

I recognize that, but as the end user of some of the technologies that you provide, it's not easy. Um, so even in responding to deadline A, lots of people struggled with the format of the documents, and I personally wish I had just sent an email with a word document attached. But I tried to follow your request and I use the online forms, and I used, um, you know, the have your say, uh, format.

00:56:38:03 - 00:57:09:11

But then when it was published on in the document library as a document, I had used the box to put in my comments, and there was a heading at the top, but a very simple thing. I didn't know I needed to replicate the topic in the box of information I gave you. So when it was published and when you received it, it was just a paragraph and you didn't know what I was talking about. So again, you're not the end users.

00:57:09:13 - 00:57:40:13

I would hope your staff team would log in as if they were so they could experience what I'm telling you firsthand. But the the experience for us is not an easy one. It's going to be a complex and difficult six months ahead in this joint relationship that we're building as from today onwards. And we're very grateful. I'm very grateful for the way you have conducted this preliminary meeting and that you have come to us for comments.

00:57:40:15 - 00:57:59:21

You are listening and that you have said you've pledged to take this on board, but there's a lot of simple, practical things, so I'm happy perhaps to speak directly with one of your case team about any improvements that we could make to reassure that you can get the evidence from us that you need in a format that assists you. Thank you.

00:57:59:27 - 00:58:39:14

Thank you for your comments. I'm taking each of them in turn. We would encourage the applicant to provide paper copies so that any relevant information. Um, certainly the overarching main stuff is available for, um, all interested parties to be looking at hearings with regards to any issues that you have with regards to submitting information via the systems at deadlines, we would encourage you to engage fully with our case team, who will do their best to try and find a solution, whether that is using the forms that you've had some issues with or by submitting information in some different way.

00:58:39:16 - 00:58:52:18

So please do engage with the um case team as a first port of call with any issues. Thank you. Um. Next I see a hand from. Is it? Theresa thorn, please.

00:58:55:15 - 00:58:56:13

Good afternoon.

00:58:56:15 - 00:58:57:13

Thank you for.

00:58:57:18 - 00:58:58:03

Allowing.

00:58:58:05 - 00:58:58:20

Me to speak.

00:58:58:22 - 00:59:01:15

I'm representing white House residents.

00:59:01:18 - 00:59:02:18

Um, we're.

00:59:02:20 - 00:59:03:05

Going.

00:59:03:07 - 00:59:03:22

To.

00:59:03:24 - 00:59:04:09

Be.

00:59:04:11 - 00:59:11:26

Affected greatly by the Benwell Bridge. Uh, we only have one access in and out. And this is going to be impacted greatly by the bridge. Um, could.

00:59:11:28 - 00:59:12:13

I.

00:59:12:15 - 00:59:13:00

Ask.

00:59:13:02 - 00:59:13:17

For if.

00:59:13:19 - 00:59:19:22

This is completely out of context, I do apologize. I'm quite a novice at this, so this is my first time, and.

00:59:19:24 - 00:59:28:14

I'm so sorry. Please, could I just interject? We're just talking about specific procedural decisions at the moment. If there is a point of detail that you want to raise. Yes.

00:59:28:16 - 00:59:29:12

Could I have.

00:59:29:14 - 00:59:30:01

Uh, is it.

00:59:30:03 - 00:59:30:21

Possible to have.

00:59:30:23 - 00:59:33:03

An ACI for the.

00:59:33:08 - 00:59:33:27

White Arch.

00:59:33:29 - 00:59:45:17

Residential Park? Because as far as I'm concerned, nobody has actually ever come to the White Arch Residential park to look at the, the the facilities there and the access.

00:59:47:24 - 00:59:52:02

There will be there will be provisions within the timetable to. To undertake that. Yes.

00:59:52:04 - 01:00:01:18

Well, I'm now just going to have to leave because I'm now having to register for the open forum this afternoon. So I'm now going to have to leave this meeting, I'm afraid.

01:00:01:20 - 01:00:03:05

But thank you for your input.

01:00:03:07 - 01:00:05:08

Thank you for listening to me.

01:00:05:10 - 01:00:06:03

Thank you.

01:00:10:17 - 01:00:13:21

Theo, please. Um. Raised.

01:00:15:11 - 01:00:16:12

Uh. Hello, Carol.

01:00:16:14 - 01:00:16:29

Okay.



01:00:17:01 - 01:00:19:08

Thank resident. Um, my.

01:00:19:10 - 01:00:20:02

Point is.

01:00:20:04 - 01:00:20:19

Um.

01:00:20:21 - 01:00:21:23

Supporting Marianne.

01:00:21:25 - 01:00:22:16

Fellows point.

01:00:22:18 - 01:00:23:03

Really?

01:00:23:05 - 01:01:01:18

It's about public communication of plans and the difficulties that lay people like myself who am just a resident. Um, there is a vast amount of information on the site, and I have looked at all the diagrams, but it would be really, really helpful, a simple suggestion. Um, is there a is there a model or a plan diagram that could show the the finished look, either in 3D or some other way, or some other modeling form so that people can see actually where the where the elements of the of the development are in relation to local landmarks.

01:01:01:28 - 01:01:22:15

Um, and uh, you know, really, really it's very unhelpful that, that, that it doesn't it's quite difficult to interpret the diagrams. And of course, they're all they're all done in sections, but they're not put in any kind of context where local people can actually get a visual overview of what the whole thing's actually going to look like on the ground.

01:01:24:14 - 01:01:55:11

Understood. Thank you. And we have, um, made quite a few comments today with regards to encouraging the applicant to make sure that they are engaging and consulting properly with the local communities. So, um, hopefully that will be something that we can remedy going forward. Um, with regards to specific visuals and how things will look on the ground. Um, there are some summary documents included within the ES, for example, uh, landscape visual photo montages.

01:01:55:22 - 01:02:14:23

Um, and there are also some packages of some quite overarching, um, works plans and layouts plans which may assist. But um, hopefully, hopefully you'll be able to get to the bottom of that and the applicant can potentially submit something. Additionally, if that is appropriate further down the examination.

01:02:14:25 - 01:02:23:07

And is there a document reference to that? Because as as I've said, there's a vast number of documents on there, probably all very interesting, but it's hard to sift through.

01:02:23:09 - 01:02:27:18

Yeah. So it's not something that I have for the tip of my fingers at the moment, unfortunately.

01:02:27:20 - 01:03:01:28

But, um, okay, I'll, I'll submit a request in writing for that. Um, but with regard to an earlier comment from, I think it was, um, Peter Lorenzo from Save Minster Marsh's., It is true that there has been very little outreach about this project, which is huge, and it's going to have a massive impact from the Kent side and of course, from the Suffolk side. The only way that I've ever found out about any of it without directly looking for it is through Southminster Marshes Social. Um, social media communications and then following it up with Kent Wildlife Trust.

01:03:02:00 - 01:03:29:28

So even though I've submitted a relevant representation, um, I wasn't informed, for example, about the proposed changes. And I think it would be very helpful that at least if anyone who's made a relevant representation was directly contacted. Um, although of course, we can sift through and keep checking on the website, but it wouldn't be of any harm. Um, as you've got our emails to actually email us and alert us to anything that's coming up or that's changed.

01:03:30:00 - 01:03:53:09

Thank you. Well, we have signposted to the applicant, um, the matter with respect to adequately consulting with regards to the change request. Um, if you have any more general concerns and issues with regards to, um, harvesting information that you need to see. Um, I would suggest that you potentially reach out to my case team colleagues in the first instance and see if they can help you.

01:03:53:15 - 01:03:55:09

Okay. Well, do thank you very much.

01:03:55:12 - 01:03:56:05

Thank you.

01:03:57:21 - 01:04:00:23

Um, Mr. Burton, I think you have your hand raised.

01:04:06:02 - 01:04:56:03

Thank you. Sir. Yes, sir. Um, briefly, just on the subject of site inspection, sir James Burton, on behalf of Suffolk Energy Action Solutions, just briefly on the subject of site inspections, uh, the panel has, um, of course, a number of suggestions set out in different documents. In fact, starting at PDA 069 from Suffolk Energy Action Solutions. Could I could I just emphasize, if I might, what we regard as the paramount importance of the panel seeing where, um, in our, um, submission, this infrastructure should be going, for example, but not, of course, limited to, um, somewhere like the Isle of Grain, um, which of course is brownfield and um, and really appropriate and closer to the demand centres.

01:04:56:05 - 01:05:38:24

But um, just, um, slightly segue away from actual physical site inspections. Could I, um, invite the panel to, to give consideration to looking virtually so Google Maps or whatever is appropriate, um, at what our colleagues in, for example, the Low Countries do where they make landfall with their, um, emerging integrated of offshore grids at places like Zeebrugge and Rotterdam, which, um, we feel will be very helpful for the panel to, to understand how what we regard as best practice is actually carried out.

01:05:38:27 - 01:05:40:22

Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Burton.

01:05:45:08 - 01:06:27:14

I think that's all of the raised hands that I can see. Is there anything else that anybody wishes to raise? Um, moving on then. Um, and to an additional matter is that there's been a number of different additional submissions that we've accepted into the examination that weren't fully reflected in the rule six letter. There were six of them. There was a submission from Christopher Armistead, one from Stephen Nash and Nigel Bennett, Emma Tolley, great Glen and Parish Council and National Grid electricity transmission with regards to forest and substation updates.

01:06:28:15 - 01:07:04:19

There has also been two submissions received after procedural deadline a which were accepted as late deadline submissions. And they they. Were from the Maritime and Coastguard Agency and from National Highways. All of those additional sort of missions that I've mentioned have been published on the project page on the National infrastructure website, and they will be formally accepted in the rule six and sorry, in the rule eight letter when that is published. Any responses to those submissions should be submitted at deadline one which is the 18th of November.

01:07:05:16 - 01:07:16:00

Uh, please can I just ask at this stage, is there any procedural questions specifically that anyone wishes to raise with regards to the acceptance of those submissions?

01:07:20:07 - 01:07:32:07

I'm not seeing any hands, so at this point I will pass over to my colleague, Doctor Hunt, for the next item on the agenda item six other matters. Thank you.

01:07:34:10 - 01:07:54:26

Thank you. This agenda item allows anyone to raise any other matters relating to the procedure for examination that have not already been discussed under previous agenda items. I note that East Suffolk Council, Suffolk Energy Action Solutions and IP 17 Good Neighbor Scheme all expressed an interest in speaking under this item. Is this still the case?

01:08:09:03 - 01:08:10:12

Yes. Go ahead.

01:08:12:06 - 01:08:16:28

Mark. Westminster, East Suffolk council. Just to confirm.

01:08:17:02 - 01:08:17:17

We.

01:08:17:19 - 01:08:18:24

Don't have anything additional.

01:08:18:26 - 01:08:19:29

To our. Thank you.

01:08:20:24 - 01:08:21:15

Thank you.

01:08:25:03 - 01:08:26:03

Mr. Burton.

01:08:31:09 - 01:09:08:08

Thank you, sir. James Burton, on behalf of Suffolk Energy Action Solutions. Uh, so the, the, um, I believe the only item, um, in our rule six response letter that didn't quite sensibly fit into anything on the actual, um, specific agenda items. Um, was, um, you're seeing we've made it's back to alignment again. We have made a specific request, and we would be grateful to the applicant if it could ensure that there are, um, cumulative visualisations at least, including Lion Lick, uh, as soon as, as soon as it is able to do so.

01:09:08:17 - 01:09:48:23

Um, I, I, I'm taking it that, um, we have sufficiently covered now, sir. Um, which issues well discussed with you, which issues should be the subject to issues? Um, and I'm not going to go into any we've not covered it specifically, but I'm not going to go into any particular detail there. Other than to emphasize that we've only suggested those that are necessary, and it's either because they're very complicated and technical, or because there's a dearth of information and quantitative information from the applicant, as is, of course, the case as regards tourism.

01:09:48:25 - 01:09:51:04

So I've just made those points. Thank you.

01:09:52:01 - 01:09:58:15

Thank you, Mr. Burton. Yes, we'll take those on to suggestion and Mr. Lorenzo.

01:10:02:11 - 01:10:38:28

Yeah. Thank you. Look, I'm awfully sorry that I blundered into the meeting when I did. That's because it's only after your break that we were able to get onto the website. And that's a result of probably the highlighting of the problem of relying on technology. Um, as a result of not being able to attend the first half, we were not able to speak to state like that. We were also not notified of the consultation of the changes and to our knowledge, none of the residents who live opposite the hover pool were either.

01:10:39:15 - 01:10:55:22

So we'd like this just to be noted. For the record, we noticed that the two caravan owners within the order limits were invited to this meeting, but obviously they can't attend either. Um, so that's all I wanted to say at this stage. Thank you.

01:10:56:22 - 01:11:05:29

Thank you and appreciate that you've missed part of the meeting. Obviously, there will be a recording available on our website that you can watch afterwards to to catch up.

01:11:06:01 - 01:11:07:27

If I can bear to watch it. Thank you.

01:11:11:24 - 01:11:18:09

That's everyone else who's got the hand up at the moment. Is there anyone else that would like to speak, uh, or that I've missed?

01:11:23:04 - 01:11:41:00

In that case, just to note that there were a number of organizations that were named at the beginning of the meeting that weren't present, and largely, they've either chosen not to attend today's session or have actually switched to open floor hearings, hence not not appearing as at the start of the meeting.

01:11:42:27 - 01:11:43:17

Um,

01:11:45:07 - 01:11:55:27

so in that case, thank you for your comments. We'll consider the matters raised and take account of them in preparing our rule eight letter. Uh, and I'll now hand back to Miss Holmes to close the meeting.

01:11:58:06 - 01:11:59:04

Thank you.

01:11:59:08 - 01:11:59:23

And thank.

01:11:59:25 - 01:12:00:10

You all for.

01:12:00:12 - 01:12:01:02

Attending and contributing.

01:12:01:04 - 01:12:02:00

To this meeting.

01:12:02:02 - 01:12:02:17

We are.

01:12:02:19 - 01:12:03:04

Very much.

01:12:03:06 - 01:12:04:14

Looking forward to commencing the examination.

01:12:04:16 - 01:12:05:24

Of this application.

01:12:06:06 - 01:12:08:14

I would like to thank you all for your comments and assure.

01:12:08:16 - 01:12:09:01

You that.

01:12:09:03 - 01:12:10:04

We will reflect on these before.

01:12:10:06 - 01:12:10:21

Issuing.

01:12:10:22 - 01:12:41:13

Our rule eight, including where some flexibility needs will be need to be retained to respond to evidence based and local matters as they develop. May I remind you that both notes and a digital recording of the proceedings today will be made available as soon as practicable on the project page of the National Infrastructure website, and likewise will aim to issue a roll out letter with the confirmed examination timetable as soon as possible after the close of this meeting. May I also take this opportunity to remind everyone that the first open floor hearings session is scheduled for 2 p.m. this afternoon.

01:12:41:15 - 01:13:12:17

This will be a blended event. For those of you who are proposing to attend virtually, the joining conference is from 115. For those who are proposing to attend in person, the event will be held at Snape Maltings Concert Hall, which will be accessible also from 115. The event will also be available to live stream and a link for which will be found on the project page of the website. If anyone who is proposing to attend this afternoon has any questions or queries regarding the open floor hearing, then please email the case team. Details of how to do this can be found on the project page of the Planning Inspectorate website.

01:13:12:29 - 01:13:18:27

So the time is now one minute plus one, and this preliminary meeting for the Sea Link project is now closed.