

Whitestone Net Zero Ltd

Application for a Development Consent Order for the proposed Whitestone Solar Farm (Application Reference: EN0110020)

Notification of Preliminary Meeting, Open Floor Hearing and Issue Specific Hearings Under Sections 91, 93 and 94 of the Planning Act 2008 and Rule 13(6) of the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 (as amended)

Notice is hereby given that, at the dates, times and locations set out below, the following Hearings will be held by the Examining Authority (on behalf of the Secretary of State (the “Secretary of State”)) for the examination of the application made by WHITESTONE NET ZERO LTD (company number: 15826972) of The Long Barn Manor Courtyard, Stratton-On-The-Fosse, Radstock, England, BA3 4QF (the “Applicant”) for a Development Consent Order under Sections 14(1)(a), 15(2) and 37 of the Planning Act 2008 (“the Application”).

The Application is for development consent for the proposed Whitestone Solar Farm (“the Proposed Development”) which is a renewable energy project situated within the administrative areas of the City of Doncaster Council, Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council, North East Derbyshire District Council and Derbyshire County Council and comprises an area of approximately 1,488 hectares. Further details of the project are provided below.

The Application (Reference No. EN0110020) was submitted to the Secretary of State via the Planning Inspectorate on 11 June 2026 and was accepted for examination on 3 July 2026. The Examining Authority was appointed on 15 September 2026 to examine the Application. The Examination will begin at the close of the Preliminary Meeting on Tuesday 10 November 2026.

Hearing	Date	Time	Venue
Preliminary Meeting	Tuesday 10 November 2026 (AM)	Registration and seating available at venue from: 9:30am Virtual registration process from: 9:30am Preliminary meeting starts: 10:00am	1925 Suite, Asseal New York Stadium, New York Way, Rotherham, S60 1FJ and By virtual means using Microsoft Teams
Open Floor Hearing (OFH1)	Tuesday 10 November 2026 (PM)	Registration and seating available at venue from: 13:30pm Virtual registration process from: 13:30pm Hearing starts: 14:00pm	1925 Suite, Asseal New York Stadium, New York Way, Rotherham, S60 1FJ and By virtual means using Microsoft Teams



Hearing	Date	Time	Venue
Issue Specific Hearings (ISH1)	Wednesday 11 November 2026 (AM)	Registration and seating available at venue from: 9:30am Virtual registration process from: 9:30am Hearing starts: 10:00am	1925 Suite, Asseal New York Stadium, New York Way, Rotherham, S60 1FJ and By virtual means using Microsoft Teams
Issue Specific Hearings (ISH2)	Thursday 12 November 2026 (AM)	Registration and seating available at venue from: 9:30am Virtual registration process from: 9:30am Hearing starts: 10:00am	1925 Suite, Asseal New York Stadium, New York Way, Rotherham, S60 1FJ and By virtual means using Microsoft Teams

Details regarding attending and speaking at the Hearings are set out in the Examining Authority's Rule 6 letter available via the Whitestone Solar Farm page of the Planning Inspectorate's website: <https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN0110020>.

Interested Parties wishing to speak at the Hearings listed above should notify the Planning Inspectorate in writing by completing the event participation form via the website link above by **23:59pm Tuesday 27 October 2026**. If you require assistance to register your attendance, please contact the Planning Inspectorate by calling 0303 444 5000 or by emailing whitestonesolarfarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk, quoting the Application's reference number: EN0110020.

The Hearings will also be held as virtual events, and it will be possible to join them via any standard internet browser or alternatively by telephone dial-in. Full instructions on how to join online or by telephone will be provided in advance to those who have pre-registered.

Please note that Hearings will be recorded, and the recordings will be published on the Whitestone Solar Farm page of the Planning Inspectorate's website as soon as practicable after each Hearing has taken place.

Further information regarding the Hearings, the examination of the Application, the full timetable, how and when to register to speak at the Hearings, and how and when to make written submissions will also be available on the Whitestone Solar Farm page of the Planning Inspectorate's website (link above), or by contacting the Planning Inspectorate (details above).



Summary of the Proposed Development

The Proposed Development would be located across three main land areas east of Sheffield, South Yorkshire, within the administrative areas of the City of Doncaster Council and Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council. The southern extent of the Proposed Order Limits crosses into the administrative area of North East Derbyshire District Council within Derbyshire County Council. Whitestone 1 is proposed to the south of Conisbrough, Whitestone 2 to the east of Brinsworth, and Whitestone 3 to the west and north of Harthill. The Proposed Development would cover an area of approximately 1,488 hectares ("the Order Limits"). A map showing the location of the Proposed Development can be viewed on the National Infrastructure Planning website at the following link: <https://nsip-documents.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/published-documents/EN0110020-000080-2.1%20Location%20Plan.pdf>

The Proposed Development comprises the construction, operation (including maintenance), and decommissioning of solar photovoltaic (PV) development and energy storage, together with associated infrastructure and an underground cable connection to the National Grid Long Lane Substation.

The Application is required because the Proposed Development is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project as it would have a generating capacity in excess of 100MW under The Infrastructure Planning (Onshore Wind and Solar Generation) Order 2025. As such, the decision whether to grant development consent will be made by the Secretary of State.

The DCO, if granted, would authorise the compulsory acquisition of land, interests in land and rights over land, and the powers to use land permanently and temporarily. The DCO would also authorise alterations to the layout of streets, the construction of accesses to the Proposed Development, the temporary closure, enhancement of public rights of way and creation of permissive paths, street works, removal of hedgerows, and the application, disapplication and modification of legislation.

Environmental Impact Assessment

The Proposed Development is Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) development, as defined by the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 and accordingly an Environmental Statement (ES) accompanies the Application.

Application form and accompanying documents:

The Application form and the accompanying documents, plans and maps, including the ES, non-technical summary of the ES and draft DCO, are available to view electronically and download, free of charge, under the 'Documents' tab on the Whitestone Solar Farm page of the Planning Inspectorate's National Infrastructure Planning website: <https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN0110020/documents>.



The Application documents will be available to view online at least until the Secretary of State makes its decision whether or not to grant the Development Consent Order.

If you require an electronic copy of the Application documents to be supplied on a USB stick, this can be provided free of charge. Please use the contact details for the Applicant in this notice to request a USB stick. You can also contact the Applicant using these contact details if you have any enquiries in relation to the Application form and its accompanying documents, plans and maps.

The Application documents can be made available in hard copy format subject to a fee of:

- Consultation Report, Planning Statement and Statement of Need - £750;
- Environmental Statement, Chapters and Appendices - £1,500; and
- Total cost for all documents (including files, covers and spines) - £5,000.

The Applicant will also consider any reasonable requests for bespoke or hard copy documents and will accommodate such requests where it is feasible to do so and for which a reasonable charge may apply. In relation to any request, please contact the Applicant using the contact details in this notice.

Applicant's contact details

For further information about the Application, or to request copies of documents, the Applicant can be contacted by using the following details:

- Freephone: 0800 688 9936 (9am-5pm Mon-Fri)
- Email: info@whitestonesolarfarm.co.uk
- Freepost: Whitestone Solar Farm, FREEPOST SEC Newgate UK LOCAL (no stamp needed)

Any details you provide to the Applicant via telephone or e-mail will be subject to its privacy policy linked here: <https://whitestonesolarfarm.co.uk/privacy-policy-2/> and will be treated confidentially and processed and handled in accordance with the relevant data protection legislation.

Whitestone Net Zero Ltd
