

**SENT BY EMAIL: Friday 24 January 2025**

*Letter sent via post on Wednesday 22 January 2025*

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Lime Down Solar Park**

**Statutory Consultation**

**Section 42 of the Planning Act 2008 ('the 2008 Act'), Regulation 3 of the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 and Regulations 11 and 13 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 ('the 2017 Regulations')**

**Notice publicising a proposed application for a Development Consent Order ("DCO") to construct, operate, maintain and decommission a solar photovoltaic (PV) generating station, with a generating capacity of more than 50 megawatts (MW) and associated infrastructure on land in Wiltshire (Lime Down Solar Park).**

Notice is hereby given that Lime Down Solar Park Limited (Company registration number 13211532) of Unit 25.7 Coda Studios, 189 Munster Road, London, England SW6 6AW (the Applicant), proposes to apply to the Secretary of State (SoS) for Energy Security and Net Zero under Section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 for a Development Consent Order for the Lime Down Solar Park (the Application).

The Lime Down Solar Park will cover a combined area of approximately 2,835 hectares and will consist of the following sites:

- Lime Down A, B, C, D, E: five solar array sites located in Wiltshire currently comprising 878 hectares which lie to the north of the M4, southwest of Malmesbury, between the villages of Alderton, Luckington, Sherston, Foxley, Norton, Corston, Startley, Upper Seagry, Lower Stanton St Quintin and Hullavington.
- The solar array sites will include solar panels, conversion units, inverters, and up to five 33 kV substations located in Lime Down A to E and up to three 132 kV substations located in Lime Down A, C and E. There will be one 400 kV substation located within Lime Down D.
- One or two Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) areas, both of which will be located within Lime Down D.
- A cable route search area has been identified for the underground electricity cables connecting the Lime Down A to E solar array sites, substations, and the BESS to the national grid at the existing Melksham Substation, currently comprising 1,947 hectares.

- Associated infrastructure, mitigation and enhancement measures, and other ancillary works, for example, fencing, security, local grid connections, temporary access roads, permanent means of access, highway works, temporary works compounds and work sites.

Lime Down Solar Park is located entirely within the administrative boundary of Wiltshire Council. The solar PV sites are located across several parishes:

- Lime Down A is located within the civil parish of Sherston approximately 735 metres to the southeast of Sherston;
- Lime Down B is located within the civil parish of Norton approximately 3.9km to the west of Malmesbury;
- Lime Down C is located within the civil parishes of Sherston, Luckington, Hullavington, and Norton approximately 3.3km to the south of Sherston;
- Lime Down D, which incorporate the proposed BESS areas, is located in the civil parishes of Norton and Hullavington approximately 4km to the southwest of Malmesbury; and
- Lime Down E is located within the civil parish of St Paul Malmesbury Without approximately 4.4km to the south of Malmesbury.

The proposed DCO will, among other things, authorise:

- Construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of the solar PV electricity generating station and associated development including grid connection and energy storage facility;
- Compulsory acquisition of land, including interests in land, rights over land and imposition of restrictions, powers to override, suspend or extinguish rights over land and powers for the temporary use of land;
- The application, modification and/or disapplication of legislation including legislation relating to compulsory purchase and landlord and tenant; and
- Such ancillary, incidental and consequential provisions, licenses, property rights, permits and consents as are necessary and/or convenient.

Lime Down Solar Park is an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) development for the purposes of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017. This means that the proposed works constitute development for which an EIA is required and the proposed application for a DCO will therefore be accompanied by an Environmental Statement. The Environmental Statement will provide a detailed description of Lime Down Solar Park and its likely significant environmental effects. Information compiled so far about Lime Down Solar Park's likely significant environmental effects is set out for consultation in a Preliminary Environmental Information Report (the PEIR) and summarised in a Non-Technical Summary (NTS).

### **Consultation on Lime Down Solar Park**

Lime Down Solar Park is currently in the pre-application stage of the DCO application process. As such, the Applicant is required to carry out consultation on

the proposed DCO application before it is submitted. Your feedback as part of this consultation will be considered before the DCO application is finalised and will also be reported to the Planning Inspectorate when the DCO application is submitted. Any representations you have already made will also be reported.

We are writing to you as you have been identified as a consultee for the purpose of section 42(1)(a) of the 2008 Act as a prescribed person(s).

This consultation also includes:

- Consultation with any persons with an interest in the land affected by the Lime Down Solar Park (under section 42 and section 44 of the 2008 Act);
- Consultation with prescribed bodies, host, and neighbouring authorities (under section 42 of the 2008 Act);
- Consultation with the local community in the vicinity of Lime Down Solar Park (under section 47 of the 2008 Act); and
- General public consultation on Lime Down Solar Park (under section 48 of the 2008 Act).

The consultation will run from **29 January 2025 until 23:59 on 19 March 2025**.

In addition, section 48 of the 2008 Act and Regulation 13 of the 2017 Regulations require the Applicant to publicise its proposed DCO application. A formal section 48 notice publicising the proposed application is therefore enclosed with this letter and sets out further details regarding the consultation.

### **Consultation materials**

The Applicant has prepared a PEIR, which has been informed by the Scoping Opinion issued by the Planning Inspectorate and reports the results of the EIA that has been carried out to date. The PEIR forms the basis of this consultation and also includes a non-technical summary. The purpose of the PEIR is to enable consultees to understand the likely environmental effects of Lime Down Solar Park and to help inform consultation responses. It should be noted that the EIA is an ongoing process, and the design of Lime Down Solar Park will continue to evolve during the pre-application stage.

A copy of the PEIR, together with the PEIR NTS, the Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC), and other consultation documents, plans and maps explaining the statutory consultation process and details of the nature and location of Lime Down Solar Park can be found on the Applicant's website in the document library at [www.limedownsolar.co.uk](http://www.limedownsolar.co.uk). These documents will be free to read and download from the Applicant's website from 29 January 2025 to 19 March 2025.

Hard copies of the SoCC, PEIR, PEIR NTS, maps and plans will be available for inspection free of charge from 29 January until 19 March 2025 at a number of community access points. Details of these locations, how to request these

documents and any related charges are set out in the enclosed section 48 notice. Hard copies of the Consultation Leaflet, Project Information Booklet and the Consultation Feedback Form will be available to take away free of charge.

### **Consultation events**

The Applicant will hold multiple in-person and online information events throughout the consultation period. Details of these events are listed in the enclosed section 48 notice. If you would like to attend an online webinar, details of how to register to attend can be found on <https://www.limedownsolar.co.uk/>.

### **How to respond to this consultation**

#### **Any person may comment on the DCO application.**

When providing your response, please include your name and contact details (postal or email address) and confirm the nature of your interest in the DCO application. Completed responses must be submitted:

- a) By email to [info@limedownsolar.co.uk](mailto:info@limedownsolar.co.uk); or
- b) In writing to FREEPOST LIME DOWN SOLAR (no stamp or further details required).

#### **Responses must be received no later than 23:59 on 19 March 2025.**

The Applicant will consider all responses received on or before this date. Responses received after this time may not be considered.

Responses and representations will form the basis of a Consultation Report, which will be submitted as part of the DCO application.

Responses may be made public or made available to the SoS, the Planning Inspectorate, and other relevant statutory bodies, in accordance with the requirements of the 2008 Act and data protection legislation. Personal details will be kept confidential where possible and only used for purposes in connection with the statutory consultation, the DCO process and further development of Lime Down Solar Park. You do not have to provide any personal information, but this information will help the Applicant to understand the range of responses and enable the Applicant to send you further information relating to the Lime Down Solar Park.

Your views are also likely to be recorded or paraphrased in the Consultation Report which will be submitted with the DCO application. Please refer to our Privacy Notice for more details: <https://www.limedownsolar.co.uk/privacy-policy>

**Further information**

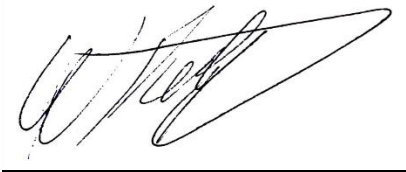
If you would like further information about this letter, the consultation, or the Lime Down Solar Park, please contact the Applicant project team by using one of the contact methods provided below:

**Emailing:** [info@limedownsolar.co.uk](mailto:info@limedownsolar.co.uk)

**Calling our Freephone:** [0808 175 6656](tel:08081756656)

**Visiting our website at:** <https://www.limedownsolar.co.uk/>.

Yours faithfully,



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Will Threlfall  
Project Manager  
On behalf of Lime Down Solar Park Limited