

Meeting Note

File reference	EN010044 - Biomass Power Station, Roosecote, Barrow
Status	Final Version
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Meeting with	Centrica Energy
Meeting date	27 September 2011
Attendees (IPC)	Simone Wilding (Case Leader) Chris White (Case Officer) Jolyon Wootton (Assistant Case Officer)
Attendees (non IPC)	Tony Jarvis (Centrica Energy) Mark Manley (Centrica Energy) Ben Walker (Centrica Energy) Christopher LeCointe (RPS) Dr Keith Jones (RPS) Ian Jeffcoat (Poyry Energy Ltd) Stephen Collins (Eversheds)
Location	IPC Offices, Temple Quay House, Bristol

Meeting purpose	Introduction to the Planning Act 2008 regime and the proposed Roosecote Biomass Power Station scheme.
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Summary of key points discussed and advice given	<p>The IPC advised on its openness policy, that any advice given will be recorded and placed on the IPC's website under s51 of the Planning Act 2008 (PA 2008) and also to note that any advice given does not constitute legal advice upon which applicants (or others) can rely. The IPC also highlighted that PA 2008 prevents the IPC from discussing the merits of a specific project with any party.</p> <p><u><i>Overview of the IPC and the Development Consent Process</i></u> The IPC explained its role and the PA 2008 regime with the attached presentation.</p> <p>The IPC further explained that during pre-application it offers to provide non-binding feedback on technical aspects of the draft application documents, but not on the merits of the proposal. The IPC encourages promoters to submit a draft DCO as early as possible to ensure adequate time for a response; or at least 6 weeks before submission. The IPC added that there is limited scope to deviate or make amendments to an application post Acceptance, as there are no procedures in place for dealing with a material change to an application.</p>
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For assistance in the preparation of application documents, IPC referred to Advice Note 6 and the s55 Checklist, as well as IPC Guidance Note 1, which is a statutory document that supplements CLG Guidance and secondary legislation. <http://infrastructure.independent.gov.uk/legislation-and-advice/our-guidance-and-advice/>

Subject to IPC resources, outreach events near to the proposed development can be arranged during pre-application. Such events are intended to inform stakeholders about the application process and how to make representations to the Commission if an application is accepted for Examination.

Project overview and preliminary program

Centrica and their consultants, RPS and Poyry, gave an overview of the proposed development, a new dedicated Biomass Power Station with a net output of up to 80 MW and fuelled predominantly by virgin wood chip and wood pellet. Recycled/waste wood is also likely to be used. The project is sited at its existing gas-fired power station in Roosecote. Centrica view the proposal as part of their ongoing programme of developing low-carbon technologies. Centrica anticipates that it will be able to utilise the existing electricity connection for exporting energy from Roosecote.

The developer explained that the options for transporting feedstock to the site were expected to be predominantly by sea and rail, with possible extensions to the rail line required to facilitate delivery from the port to the proposed site. Centrica anticipate reusing the principal road access routes though other additional access options may need to be considered.

The feasibility of the plant being combined heat and power (CHP) is being considered and will be set out in a study to be submitted with the application.

A scoping report is currently being finalised. Centrica anticipate making a formal Scoping Request to the IPC in October 2011 and at the same time undertaking informal consultation with many of the statutory and non statutory consultees. Given the tight statutory deadline for providing a scoping opinion (42 days), the IPC requested the 'red-line boundary' on which the scoping opinion is sought to be submitted two weeks in advance of the formal scoping request. This is to enable the IPC to prepare the list of consultees to whom the scoping report will need to be sent requesting a consultation response.

Centrica anticipate formal s42, s47 and s48 consultation to take place between January and March 2012 and to submit the application to the IPC in May 2012.

Specific decisions/ follow up required?	
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Circulation List	Attendees