

Meeting note

Project name	Thurrock Flexible Generation Plant (TFGP)
File reference	EN010092
Status	Final
Author	The Planning Inspectorate
Date	31 January 2019
Meeting with	Thurrock Power Ltd
Venue	Temple Quay House, Bristol
Meeting objectives	Project Update
Circulation	All attendees

Summary of key points discussed and advice given

The Planning Inspectorate (the Inspectorate) advised that a note of the meeting would be taken and published on its website in accordance with section 51 of the Planning Act 2008 (the PA2008). Any advice given under section 51 would not constitute legal advice upon which applicants (or others) could rely.

Project update

Statutory consultation was undertaken between 16 October and 14 November 2018. Four public events were held with approximately 60-70 people attending the events. It was noted that the Lower Thames Crossing project was also carrying out consultation during a similar period. One of the key issues raised during the consultation was the cumulative air quality impact with other projects proposed in the area, although the Applicant stated that much feedback was also received in favour of the project. The Applicant also considered that the significance of landscape and visual effect from the project in views from south of the river is unlikely to be changed by no longer being screened by the proposed Tilbury Energy Centre (for which a decision has been taken to freeze the project). During the construction of the gas pipeline corridor it will be necessary to stop up a public footpath, and discussions are taking place with the local authority on this issue.

The Applicant informed the Inspectorate that it has altered the redline boundary and project description since the project was originally scoped in September 2018. This included the removal of the cooling water pipeline option to the River Thames. The Applicant confirmed that none of the statutory bodies had raised concerns over the changes. The Inspectorate advised the Applicant to include clear justifications in its application documents for the changes. The Applicant was also advised to ensure that the baseline studies and potential impacts considered in the Environmental Statement cover the new areas of land take and changes to the Proposed Development made post-scoping.

The Applicant was advised to include archaeological issues in its Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) with Thurrock Council. The Applicant stated that the Thurrock Local Plan

was currently at the Issues and Options stage. Thurrock Council intends to clarify its Green Belt position in the Local Impact Report.

The Applicant noted that it is in discussions with the Environment Agency regarding eel surveys.

The Applicant intends to submit the application Q2 2019.

Statements of Common Ground (SoCG)

The Applicant informed the Inspectorate that it would not seek a SoCG with National Grid Gas as they had already secured 300MW of the project's gas supply through a PARCA Agreement.

The Applicant has an agreed SoCGs with National Grid Electricity Transmission – dated January 2018; it is negotiating SoCG's with Thurrock Council; Network Rail; Natural England; Lower Thames Crossing; Historic England; and the Environment Agency. The Applicant intends to also seek a SoCG with Highways England. The Applicant was advised to also consider a SoCG with neighbouring Local Authorities regarding visual impacts from the project.

Compulsory Acquisition

The Applicant confirmed landowner discussions were progressing well. The Applicant was advised to keep records of all land rights negotiations as the Examining Authority is likely to request this information during the Examination.

Any Other Business

The Applicant intends to include Tilbury Energy Centre as a 'Tier 3' project (as defined in [PINS Advice Note 17](#)) in its cumulative effects assessment, given the decision to freeze that project.

Specific decision/Follow up required

- The Inspectorate to update the submission date on the project page.
- The Applicant will advise if it intends to send any draft documents to the Inspectorate for review.