



Meeting note

File reference	EN010093 - Riverside Energy Park
Status	Final
Author	Ewa Sherman
Date	2 November 2017
Meeting with	Cory Riverside Energy
Venue	Temple Quay House, Bristol
Attendees	The Planning Inspectorate: Chris White - Infrastructure Planning Lead Tracey Williams - Case Manager Ewa Sherman - Case Officer David Price - EIA and Land Rights Manager Applicant Richard Wilkinson - Head of Planning and Development (Cory Riverside Energy) Rob Gully - Project Manager, Riverside Energy Park (Cory Riverside Energy) Natalie Maletras - DCO Planning, Consultation and EIA consultants (Peter Brett Associates) Emma Harling-Phillips - DCO Legal advisors (Pinsent Masons)
Meeting objectives	Inception Meeting
Circulation	All attendees

Summary of key points discussed and advice given:

Welcome and Introductions

The Applicant and the Planning Inspectorate (the Inspectorate) team introduced themselves and their respective roles. The Inspectorate outlined its openness policy and ensured that those present understood that any issues discussed and advice given would be recorded and placed on the Inspectorate's website under section 51 of the Planning Act 2008 (PA2008). Further to this, it was made clear that any advice given did not constitute legal advice upon which the Applicant (or others) can rely.

Project

The Applicant is Cory Environmental Holdings Limited (trading as Cory Riverside Energy (CRE)).

The Applicant is proposing to submit a Development Consent Order (DCO) for Riverside Energy Park which is proposed to be located on land adjoining the existing

Riverside Resource Recovery Facility (RRRF) at the Belvedere site in London Borough of Bexley (LBB).

The proposed integrated Energy Park development would include an Energy Recovery Facility, battery storage, an anaerobic digestion facility and solar panels, with the combined generating capacity of up to 96 MW. The proposed development will be CHP (Combined Heat and Power) ready.

Currently the draft scoping boundary includes two potential electric cable routes, north-west to the Barking Power Station substation and south-east towards the Littlebrook Power Station substation, near Dartford Tunnel. Only one connection will be required. The Applicant confirmed that the preferred grid connection will be confirmed by UK Power Networks who will make a final decision based on the practical constraints, technical considerations and their statutory obligations. The Inspectorate advised that it takes a precautionary approach when issuing the Scoping Opinion, therefore the Applicant should be aware that two connection routes will need to be assessed for the purpose of their Scoping Report. The Inspectorate advised that it is currently updating [Advice note Seven](#) in relation to the Environmental Impact Assessment: Preliminary Environmental Information, Screening and Scoping.

The Applicant explained the principles of the project's proposed design and site layout. The Applicant owns and operates the existing RRRF, and confirmed that it will continue to operate (and not be decommissioned nor altered). The proposed development would operate as a separate facility, although some elements of shared infrastructure would remain in place.

No new permanent access routes or off-site facilities are envisaged, and the Applicant intends to use the existing jetty / wharf on the River Thames. The Inspectorate enquired whether a Deemed Marine Licence would be included in the DCO. The Applicant stated that river options were still being considered, but if required it will form part of the DCO for the temporary works required during the construction phase of the project.

The consultation programme has been developed and the Applicant is scheduling meetings with the local authorities (LAs) and key statutory bodies. The Applicant will engage in discussions with the following Local Authorities: London Borough of Bexley (host authority), Borough of Barking and Dagenham Council, Royal Borough of Greenwich, and Borough of Dartford. The Greater London Authority (GLA) and the Port of London Authority (PLA) will also be consulted together with local stakeholders.

Land on the offsite electrical cable route connection is not controlled by the Applicant and therefore compulsory acquisition may be sought in the application if agreement cannot be reached. The Applicant isn't aware of any Crown land or special category land but is making diligent inquiries. At the moment the draft scoping boundary covers a conservative area which is being scoped.

Practical arrangements

The Applicant set out their consultation programme, including provisional timings for requesting a scoping opinion, starting consultation on a draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC), statutory (s42) consultation and submission of the DCO application. The EIA Scoping Report is due to be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate in November 2017.

The Inspectorate advised the Applicant to consider allowing time for a review of the draft documents. A full review of draft documents by the Inspectorate takes about 6 to 8 weeks, but this depends on the number of documents and the particular issues raised. The Applicant confirmed their intention to use this service.

Specific decisions / follow up required

- A visit to the site will be arranged for the members of the Inspectorate's Environmental Services Team during the early scoping stage for the project.
- The Applicant and the Inspectorate agreed to hold project update meetings / teleconferences around the key milestones during the pre-application period such as following the issue of a Scoping Opinion.
- The Inspectorate to request from the Applicant the necessary information to set up the project page on the National Infrastructure Planning website.