



Meeting note

Project name	North Lincolnshire Green Energy Park
File reference	EN010116
Status	Final
Author	The Planning Inspectorate
Date	14 January 2021
Meeting with	North Lincolnshire Green Energy Park Applicant Team
Venue	Virtual
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.

Progress to date

The Applicant provided an update on the development of the scheme to date. The Applicant has developed the scheme further based on previous feedback from PINS since the submission of the scoping report. The Applicant is planning for worst case scenario of the Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF), changing from 650000 tonnes of to 760000 tonnes per annum.

The Applicant confirmed that it is working with North Lincolnshire Council to provide enough business heat and power to support commercial and community offtakes within North Lincolnshire.

The Applicant intends to work with Drax Bioenergy and Carbon Capture Storage project and Keadby 3 to achieve Carbon Capture readiness.

Project design update

The Applicant confirmed that it is working against the NIC (National Infrastructure Commission) design principles to achieve the design of the development. These include: climate, people, place and value.

Red line boundary

The Applicant intends to take a precautionary approach to defining the red line boundary, to account for future iterations and act as a contingency. The Applicant will

refer to the Scoping Opinion if there are substantive changes to be made to the red line boundary.

Consenting programme

- Non-statutory consultation completed in July 2020;
- EIA Scoping in September 2020;
- Statutory Consultation in Q2 2021;
- Submission of DCO application in Q4 2021.

Scoping Opinion

The Applicant intends to include assessments on human health, waste and major accidents and disasters in the Scoping Opinion. The Applicant confirmed that the design has progressed significantly which will allow more detail to be included in the PEIR.

The Inspectorate advised that it may be possible to scope out air quality and rail noise if evidence is produced to justify this and statutory bodies agree.

The Applicant queried the Inspectorate's Scoping Opinion recommendation related to the spatial scope of the HRA, where the Inspectorate requested that the HRA include a 30km radius for SACs where bats are a qualifying feature. The Inspectorate can now confirm that this ecology requirement is based on the DMRB LA 115 Habitats Regulations assessment guidance.

Flood Risk

The Applicant is working towards detailed flood modelling to inform the layout of the scheme, using hydrodynamic modelling. The scheme has been designed to comprehensively and effectively respond to flood risk scenarios.

Navigational Risk Assessment

The Applicant confirmed that the Navigational Risk Assessment has now been incorporated into the transport assessment to address issues associated with the increase in vessel movements along the river.

Cumulative Development

The Applicant stated that no TCPA projects that were included in the section 35 request will be considered in the cumulative assessment because the applications will be submitted after the DCO application. The Inspectorate referred to other nationally significant infrastructure projects on the National Infrastructure website, that are in the vicinity of the NLGEP. For example, Drax BECCs, Keadby 3 and Humber Low Carbon Pipelines.

Feedback on recent submission of an Energy from Waste (EfW) project

The Inspectorate advised the Applicant on the recent withdrawal of an application for an energy from waste facility and the issues the Inspectorate identified during the statutory acceptance period. The application required dredging beyond the mean high water mark

which could affect Crown land, and did not include a mention of works in the Crown land, which created a lack of confidence on the engagement with the Crown Estate. The Applicant confirmed that the quayside will not be extended in response to flood modelling it has completed, and therefore no dredging is required. The Inspectorate advised that any flood modelling is made clear in the application and that any engagement regarding Crown land is included in application.

In the withdrawn application the Inspectorate identified uncertainty regarding mitigation and compensation in the HRA Report, which did not provide confidence that the proposed mitigation is deliverable or capable of being examined within the statutory timetable.

Reflecting upon the funding statement for the withdrawn EfW application, the Inspectorate advised that the funding statement must provide confidence and comfort for funding of compulsory purchase, this can be achieved by providing details of the shareholders involved and confirmation of their agreement and commitment to fund the costs of the Compulsory Acquisition. The Inspectorate directed the Applicant to the Thurrock application for an example of a recent funding statement that had been accepted.

AoB

The Applicant enquired about the updates to the Energy National Policy Statement (NPS). The Inspectorate confirmed that the 2021 review of the NPS has begun with the aim of completion by the end of 2021. In the meantime, the existing Energy NPSs will remain in force. As part of the review process, consultation draft NPSs would be published by BEIS.

The Inspectorate confirmed that statutory consultation will most likely be virtual. However, the Applicant was advised to draft the Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) in a way that it could be flexible in response to Government advice and restrictions and to therefore plan for the potential for physical consultation. The Applicant was advised to reflect on discussions of CCR (Carbon Capture Ready) in the application documentation if they were in discussions with CCR developers. The Applicant wishes to be CCR ready in order to meet the challenges and opportunities of proposed CCR infrastructure in the area.

The Inspectorate enquired about level of engagement from the non-statutory consultation which occurred in Summer 2020. The Applicant confirmed that telephone surgeries were held which were both successful and useful. The non-statutory consultation comprised of 40 written responses, mainly from people in the local area.

The Inspectorate advised the Applicant to procure an audiovisual (AV) company sooner rather than later for any form of virtual event to avoid clashing with other developments. The Inspectorate confirmed it will provide the Applicant with the Service Level Agreement to help inform the procurement of an AV company.

The following actions were agreed:

- Arrange next meeting for after the start of statutory consultation.

- PINS to provide Service Level Agreement for virtual events.