

Stallingborough Combined Cycle Gas Turbine (CCGT) Generating Plant and Carbon Capture Plant (CCP) – EN010161

RWE Generation UK plc

Section 51 Advice Log

Version: 26 February 2026

There is a statutory duty under [section 51 \(s51\) of the Planning Act 2008](#) for the Planning Inspectorate to record the advice that it gives in relation to an application or potential application, and to make this publicly available.

This document comprises a record of the advice that has been provided by the Inspectorate to the applicant (RWE Generation UK plc) and their consultants during the pre-application stage. It will be updated by the Inspectorate after every interaction with the applicant during which s51 has been provided. The applicant will always be given the opportunity to comment on the Inspectorate's draft record of advice before it is published.

The applicant will use this Advice Log as the basis for demonstrating regard to section 51 advice within the application.

Stallingborough Combined Cycle Gas Turbine (CCGT) Generating Plant and Carbon Capture Plant (CCP) s51 Advice Log - Index	
Date of Advice	Advice overview
Meeting date: 31 October 202	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Welcome and introductions (All). 2. Planning Inspectorate's Standard Pre-Application Service (PINS). 3. Project update (Applicant) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Update on the project programme. b) Overview of activities since the previous meeting. c) Update on engagement with stakeholders. 4. Indicative Natural Gas Pipeline and Electrical Grid Connection Corridors (Applicant). 5. Next steps (All). 6. AOB (including date for the next meeting) (All).
Email advice date: 31 October 2024	Review of Programme document
Meeting date: 16 July 2025	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Welcome and introductions (All). 2. Planning Inspectorate's Pre-application Services 3. General Project Update 4. Activities Update: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Survey Updates b) Route Corridors Update c) Engagement with Landowners Update and Compulsory Acquisition update d) Engagement with Statutory Consultees Update e) Site Boundary Update 5. Programme update and next steps 6. Any other business and date for next meeting
Email advice date: 24 October 2025	Pre-application prospectus update

Meeting date: 05 November 2025	Project Update Meeting
Meeting date: 26 February 2026	Project Update Meeting

Stallingborough Combined Cycle Gas Turbine (CCGT) Generating Plant and Carbon Capture Plant (CCP) - s51 Advice Library

Topic	Meeting date: 31 October 2024
Planning Inspectorate's Standard Pre- Application Service	<p>The Inspectorate outlined that the new pre-application service commenced on 1 October 2024. One of the key changes is a move from meeting notes to an advice log.</p> <p>Invoices are sent twice a year which is a fixed rate. They are sent out in April and October and cover the forthcoming 6 months. These are shown on the Inspectorate's website Nationally significant infrastructure projects: application fees - GOV.UK. Invoices do not set out the hours working on a case, but the accompanying cover would set out the number of chargeable days.</p> <p>For the standard service there would be a maximum of six project update meetings per annum, not including evidence plan meetings. The Programme Document should outline when the key meetings would be likely to take place and outline when key resources would be likely to be needed.</p> <p>The Inspectorate advised on the process for draft document review in line with the pre-application prospectus, including Inspector review of the Development Consent Order (DCO) and Explanatory Memorandum. The Adequacy of Consultation milestone was intended to de-risk the Acceptance process, allowing the Applicant time to resolve any issues prior to submission. This would be submitted approximately three months before the submission of the Application. The aim of the new service was to de-risk the acceptance and the following stages and to provide more certainty of timescales.</p>

	<p>Feedback on the Programme Document was discussed. The detail is shown below.</p> <p>The Applicant asked whether the same Inspector(s) could be appointed to an Examining Authority if they have given advice during the pre-application stage. The Inspectorate advised that amendments to The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 and The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009, do not prevent this, however the Inspectorate would need to consider reputational risks in doing so.</p>
Project update	<p>The Inspectorate advised that it would be helpful at future meetings to have an update of negotiations with landowners and overview of Compulsory Acquisition powers likely to be sought in the Development Consent Order.</p> <p>The Inspectorate queried if host authorities (North Lincolnshire Council and North East Lincolnshire Council) had responded either formally or informally to the non-statutory consultation and whether there was any direct feedback on the consultation approach. The Applicant advised that neither North East Lincolnshire Council nor North Lincolnshire Council had responded formally. The Applicant advised that an Expert Topic Group meeting was held with host and neighbouring local authorities on 15 August 2024 at which the Applicant detailed the key themes of feedback received from non-statutory consultation activities. The Non-Statutory Consultation Report has been shared with host authorities, the Inspectorate and is available on the Applicant's project website.</p> <p>The Inspectorate advised the Applicant to draft and update the Consultation Report to include any additional measures that have been put in place to identify and engage hard to reach groups. It would also be useful to highlight if any consultation responses were received from persons under 18, for GDPR purposes.</p>
Next Meeting	Likely to be February 2025, to be arranged with the Applicant.
AOB	<p>The Inspectorate signposted the Applicant to review the new good design advice page launched on the 23 October 2024; Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: Advice on Good Design</p> <p>The Inspectorate advised that National Policy Statement EN-1 outlines the Critical National Priority infrastructure but also requires applicants to clearly demonstrate application of the mitigation hierarchy.</p>

	<p>The Inspectorate highlighted the volume of NSIPs in the Lincolnshire area and the impact on Local Authority capacity to engage in various stages of consultation. It advised to be mindful of other project consultation timings when developing its pre-application programme. The Applicant noted this and advised that a draft Planning Performance Agreement has been shared with North East Lincolnshire Council (NELC) to support the additional demands on NELC’s resources.</p> <p>The Applicant advised it would seek to coordinate with land owners when requesting access for surveys where possible and aim to share information to avoid repeated requests for access.</p> <p>The Inspectorate advised that concerns had been raised by Local Planning Authorities (LPA) around archaeological sensitivities and scope of survey effort in relation to other NSIPs in the Lincolnshire area. The Applicant was advised to make effort to agree the scope of the survey effort with the LPAs during the pre-application stage.</p>
Topic	Review of programme document: 31 October 2024
Expert Topic Groups	It would be helpful to include timescales for when the Applicant considers these to be helpful/necessary.
Project Update Meetings with the Inspectorate	It would be helpful to include timescales for when the Applicant considers these to be helpful/necessary.
Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC)	It would be helpful if the programme for preparation of the SoCC, consultation on the SoCC and consideration of any feedback, is separated.
General	<p>The Applicant should consider separating the draft document review from the targeted consultation in the programme timeline, so these do not run in parallel. The Inspectorate advises that draft document review should follow any targeted consultation, as the more complete the documents are when provided to us, the more thorough our advice can be. However this needs to be balanced against seeking advice on key elements sufficiently early to frame and shape project development.</p>
Draft document review	<p>This is currently listed in the Programme Document as “Q3 2026”. This will need to be refined to ensure Inspectorate resources are available to support the review. Six weeks should be allowed for the Inspectorate to review the documents and provide feedback. The Applicant should consider the best time to provide draft documents in line with the Inspectorate's published pre-application guidance and provide advanced notice to the Inspectorate of its intention.</p>

	There should be sufficient time after PINS feedback for the Applicant to address comments before the submission of the application.
Topic	Meeting date: 16 July 2024
Planning Inspectorate's Pre-application Services	<p>The Inspectorate requested the applicant provide clean and track change versions of the updated version of the programme document to easily help identify the changes made.</p> <p>The Inspectorate advised that when drafting the consultation report, consideration should be given regarding how to demonstrate regard to statutory guidance under s50 of the PA2008. Tables can be a useful way to outline compliance.</p>
<p>Activities Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Survey Updates b. Route Corridors Update c. Engagement with Landowners Update and Compulsory Acquisition update d. Engagement with Statutory Consultees Update e. Site Boundary Update 	<p>Noting the location of the proposed development relative to designated sites, the Inspectorate advised it would be important to work towards agreement with Natural England and other relevant bodies on the scope, extent and timing of the baseline surveys for birds and other ecological receptors, before the submission of the DCO application. Any such agreements should be evidenced as part of the application documentation. Reaching agreement on these matters during the pre-application stage could assist a smoother examination in due course.</p> <p>The Inspectorate advised on the importance of early discussions with The Crown Estate to obtain agreements for crown land.</p> <p>The Inspectorate highlighted that in the advice note Preparing Applications for Linear Projects, it highlights the usefulness of diagrams in the DCO application to demonstrate why certain widths of land are needed so land use and acquisition is justified to help the public/ Examining Authority (ExA) visualise the proposals.</p> <p>The Inspectorate highlighted the importance of considering potential interactions between the proposed water abstraction and discharge infrastructure and migratory fish qualifying features of the Humber Estuary Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and Ramsar site. The applicant confirmed it was considering all relevant qualifying features of the Humber Estuary SAC, Special Protection Area and Ramsar site in preparing its application.</p>
Programme update and next steps	The applicant confirmed that host Local Planning Authorities (LPA's) would shortly be consulted on the draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC), in September 2025. The Inspectorate advised that when evidencing engagement in the

	<p>consultation report, the applicant should explicitly detail any non-responders or “no comment” responses.</p> <p>The Inspectorate highlighted the requirements of the pre-application guidance for the Adequacy of Consultation Milestone (AoCM), especially that it should be a short summary statement, rather than a draft consultation report. It would also be helpful to highlight any concerns raised by local authorities in the AoCM and how the applicant has addressed those concerns. The Inspectorate as part of the review would be assessing whether the consultation was seriously adrift so having site of concerns at that stage is extremely helpful.</p>
<p>Any other business and date for next meeting</p>	<p>All agreed that late September 2025 would likely to be suitable timing for the next project update meeting but applicant will contact the Inspectorate to confirm this.</p>
<p>Topic</p>	<p>Advice date: 24 October 2025</p>
<p>Pre-application prospectus update</p>	<p>IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT UPDATES TO OUR PRE-APPLICATION SERVICES</p> <p>Following a 6-month review of our services, our Pre-application Prospectus has been updated: 2024 Pre-application Prospectus. The update log at the bottom of the page summarises the changes and clarifications that have been applied.</p> <p>As an applicant with a live project at the pre-application stage of the process, please familiarise yourself with the update and consider how it might affect your pre-application programme and interaction with our services.</p> <p>Please note in particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the establishment of land and rights negotiations tracking as a primary service feature – this means it is now expected for all applicants to develop and share a land and right negotiations tracker in 1 of 2 available templates, irrespective of the service tier they have subscribed to • clarified expectations of applicants when preparing to interact with the Inspectorate at meetings – including clarified rights for the Inspectorate to delay or refuse service where pre-meeting expectations are not upheld e.g. an updated programme document or issues

	<p>tracker is not provided, on time, to inform a meeting agenda.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new programme document template is available. Whilst there is no current requirement for your project to utilise the template, you may wish to review its content to see if you wish to make any changes to your existing document. <p>Please can I also draw your attention to paragraph 19, which includes “All meetings between the applicant and the Inspectorate must be agreed in advance through the applicant’s Programme Document. The Inspectorate expects for any materials required to inform discussion at a meeting to be provided to us at least 10 working days before the meeting is programmed to take place. As a minimum, these materials will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the agenda for the meeting, which has been agreed with the Inspectorate ○ an up-to-date Programme Document ○ an up-to-date issues tracker (note that this should be a separate document to the programme document ○ an up-to-date land and rights negotiations tracker ○ any other materials required to inform the agenda” <p>Please note that other materials should normally include a slide pack. Should the applicant provide this, please note that it could be subject to Freedom of Information requests and therefore any commercially sensitive information may wish to be removed.</p>
Topic	Advice date: 5 November 2025
General Project Update	<p>The Inspectorate asked the applicant to provide an update when the Secretary of State makes an announcement on development funding for Viking CCS in relation to how it may impact the overall programme.</p> <p>The applicant outlined that the local authorities have not yet agreed Planning Performance Agreements (PPAs). A draft was submitted for review and feedback had not yet been received however engagement is progressing. The Inspectorate requested that the applicant advise if there are any risks identified with any party’s potential ability to engage with the examination. The Inspectorate advised the applicant to consider including the decision stage in any PPA, to</p>

	<p>minimise risk to the overall programme considering the volume of projects in the area.</p>
<p>Engagement with Statutory Consultees</p>	<p>The Planning Inspectorate outlined the importance of the meetings with statutory consultees to help prioritise and narrow down issues, and to understand what the key outstanding issues are for the examination.</p> <p>The Inspectorate outlined that if the application is accepted into examination, the Examining Authority (ExA) may want early sight of any draft protective provisions and an understanding of which parties would be entering into Statements of Common Ground (SoCG).</p> <p>The Inspectorate queried the content of the Statement of Community Consultation in reference to commitments to targeted consultation. The applicant advised these would be carried out as far as relevant and proportionate and they would consult with local planning authorities in terms of the approach.</p>
<p>Approach to consultation in 2026</p>	<p>The Planning Inspectorate requested feedback on the levels of engagement using the stand in a shopping centre as part of the applicant consultation for the next meeting.</p>
<p>Strategic Mitigation Site (SMS)</p>	<p>The applicant outlined that if the designation of employment land in the local plan changed that would potentially remove the need for the Strategic Mitigation Site (SMS).</p> <p>The Inspectorate asked if the applicant would be engaging with the local plan consultation with regard to the mitigation areas that are already in the local plan. The applicant outlined that there were potential changes to the charging mechanisms for those who provide contribution, so it wasn't anything fundamental to the plan.</p>
<p>Confidential information</p>	<p>The Inspectorate advised that any confidential information within the application documents would only be redacted if there was a legal reason not to publish (such as General Data Protection Regulations or Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations). Matters that were solely commercially sensitive would not meet the Inspectorate's redaction policy. The applicant should consider extracting any confidential information from a wider report/document into a separate annex to allow the Inspectorate to redact the confidential elements but publish the remainder of the document. The applicant should alert the Inspectorate to any confidential application documents prior to submission.</p>
<p>Programme Update and Next Steps</p>	<p>The Inspectorate outlined that if the applicant intended to submit a draft s46 notification for review it should provide approximate timings for submission.</p>

<p>AOB and date of next meeting</p>	<p>The Inspectorate asked for notification when the next iteration of the Programme Document is available. The applicant agreed to this.</p> <p>The Inspectorate asked for the next meeting to have an update on the status of landowner engagement. The number of landowners and category 3 parties will be a useful indication of the potential level of compulsory acquisition required. The applicant agreed to provide this at the next meeting. The issues tracker is also very broad but an update will be provided in January.</p> <p>The applicant suggested having the next meeting in January prior to statutory consultation.</p>
<p>Topic</p>	<p>Advice date: 26 February 2026</p>
<p>General Project Update</p>	<p>The Inspectorate asked if any potential impacts were identified from the proposed local authority reorganisation. The applicant was continuing to be monitor this.</p> <p>The Inspectorate asked whether any key issues were arising from contact with the Grimsby to Walpole project team. The applicant confirmed that bi-monthly meetings were taking place with the most recent meeting providing an update on route corridor to Grimsby West substation, the preference for an underground cable route, alongside an alternative overhead line. Both options will be presented at statutory consultation. The Inspectorate suggested that it would be useful to keep this as an ongoing topic for discussion particularly if there are concerns from local stakeholders regarding capacity to engage with both examinations.</p>
<p>Activities Update</p>	<p>a) Approach to Consultation</p> <p>The Inspectorate asked whether they had identified any need for alternative formats of consultation materials. The applicant advised that the local council didn't identify a requirement of this however the consultation letter offers this option e.g. braille if requested.</p> <p>The Inspectorate confirmed that the s46 notification letter should be supplied by email, alongside a copy of the s48 notice, s42 consultation letter and either copies of the consultation documents or a link to those documents on the applicants website.</p> <p>The Inspectorate reminded the applicant to ensure it obtains evidence of publication of s48 notices so it can quickly take action to address any publication errors.</p> <p>b) Land & Rights Negotiations</p>

	<p>The applicant confirmed that no category 3 persons have been identified to date. The Inspectorate advised that it would be useful to have an updated land rights tracker following statutory consultation.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">c) Landowner Engagement</p> <p>The applicant provided an overview of the landowner engagement that has taken place to date on the Gas Pipeline and Electrical Grid Connection Route Corridors.</p>
Next Steps	<p>The Inspectorate advised that the secondary legislation and guidance for the Planning and Infrastructure Act was not expected before June 2026 and would be discussed at the next appropriate meeting. The Inspectorate advised that it would be considering any updates to existing guidance and advice following this.</p>
AOB and date of next meeting	<p>The Inspectorate queried feedback from key stakeholders regarding ecological mitigation measures. The applicant advised that feedback would be sought once the preliminary environmental information report was issued and considered.</p> <p>The Inspectorate asked whether any potential significant effects on species had been identified through surveys. An initial stage 1 habitats regulations assessment had been shared with Natural England and a meeting was scheduled to discuss further. The Inspectorate asked for a more detailed Issues Tracker to be shared later.</p> <p>The next project update meeting was anticipated to be in June 2026. The applicant would contact the Inspectorate around April to schedule this.</p>